Proposed revised standards, ASRC operational dog handler.

A. The handler has completed the requirements for ASRC Field Team Member.
B. The handler has received training in canine first aid that satisfies VA DES requirements.
C. The handler-dog team has passed written and practical tests as stipulated by the VA DES.
D. The handler has demonstrated practical competence in the following navigational skills:
   1. Chooses appropriate tactics for navigating for an air-scenting canine search.
   2. Keeps an accurate grid on a canine area search, ensuring consistent and adequate coverage of the entire area.
   3. Estimates POD accurately based on grid coverage, conditions and terrain
   4. Can adjust tactics when appropriate, in response to:
      a. Command request for coverage to a specific POD
      b. Changes in weather, air movement, terrain, obstacles and hazards
      c. Team condition and morale, particularly canine condition and morale
      d. Clues, including scent clues
   5. Marks and reports clues and alerts accurately on the task map
   6. Identifies any areas not covered to the target POD, and suggests tactics for doing so
   7. Guides an evacuation team to his position by a safe and efficient route.
   8. Works with a navigator, but maintains a consciousness of his position and is able to resume navigation and reconstruct the route followed at all times. [Keith -- help me out with the wording of this one]

E. The handler has demonstrated competence in the following field team management skills:
   1. Briefs and debriefs a field team of no more than three additional human members on the subject profile and the task assignment, including the specific requirements of canine search
   2. Briefs and debriefs accurately and succinctly with Incident Staff
   3. Delegates field team tasks such as communications, navigation, and medical responsibilities appropriately
   4. Monitors the condition of his team and keeps it on task
   5. Refuses assignments or team members when team safety or level of training dictates.