



9217 W Expressway, Oklahoma City, OK 73099

[www.myk9u.com/](http://www.myk9u.com/)

Angel Soriano

**405-231-HEEL**

## ***Locating Your Missing Dog***

Dogs, unfortunately, may at times find themselves lost due to unfortunate escapes. Their natural prey drive will cause them want to wonder if they have the opportunity.

To find your dog, you must first understand that dogs are inherently searchers. A lost dog will typically try to find his way home. If he is not able to *visually* find his way home, he will then use his *hearing* to explore and try to hear familiar sounds. Last, if that does not work, he will then use his great nose to *sniff* his way home. Although we have forever been told how great a dog's nose is, most dogs are inherently lazy (like us), and will attempt to do the job the easiest way possible. Their work priority will mostly be visual-hearing-scent, unless he is trained to use his nose (as in a trained sniff dog).

Most lost dogs must get their PLAY out of the way first. If you try to get him before play is over, he will not have any interest, since running the neighborhood is much more fun than anything you have to offer. This is when treat training fails miserably; most dogs are smart enough to know that the treat you are offering will always be there, however, the fun they are having running the neighborhood can only be done NOW, and that they shall !!!

Here's a detailed checklist to execute if your dog is missing:

- Inform your neighbors immediately that your dog is missing – give them a picture.
- Call all of the dog shelters in the area and file a missing dog report. Also ask if they have picked up your dog. Here are some of our local numbers:
  - OKC Animal Control: 405-297-2255
  - Yukon Animal Control: 405-354-6312
  - Bethany Animal Control: 405-789-3431
  - Warr Acres Animal Control: 405-789-9025
  - El Reno Animal Control: 405-262-4070
  - Edmond Animal Control: 405-216-7615
  - Piedmont Animal Control: 405-373-1334
  - Call your local Police Department
  - Call your local Fire Department
- Make fliers that include the date lost, name of dog, description, any unique markings, a picture and your phone number. Include a reward offer.
- Organize a search party. Call friends, neighbors, and family. Get everyone looking with a picture of “Fido”. Make sure that everyone has a common phone to call back to, and call it the “command center”. Give clear instructions to every person searching. This is NOT social hour, this is a SEARCH party, and they need to be searching every street in a 1-2 mile circumference.



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- When you get calls, go to the location and look for the dog. If not found, mark a map. When you get a second call, go to the locations and look for the dog. If not found, mark the map again. When you get a third call, go to the locations and look for the dog. If not found, mark the map one more time. Now that you have three data points, you are able to triangulate. Dogs will typically travel back and forth over their own scent, in an effort to find home. Go to the triangulated area and find a water or shelter source and place his bedding and some food near a shelter or water source. Come back often to check. Also, data suggests that most dogs given a choice will go to the right (don't know why); so if he is going in circles within these three points, there is a good chance he is walking or running in a **clockwise** direction (unless spooked). You should then walk between these same locations **counterclockwise** to speed up your search.
- Visit your local shelter daily, and ask to see the new arrivals. They will be happy to show you.
- Put fliers up around your neighborhood, shopping centers, veterinarian offices, pet shops, and anywhere else, including your old neighborhood if you've recently moved.
- Email or drop off flyers at K9 University. We'll put them up and mention it to our classes. We have nearly 20,000 followers counting all of our social channels.
- We're in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, step up and use social media tools:
  - <http://oklahomacity.craigslist.org/rnr/>
  - <http://twitter.com/>
  - <http://www.facebook.com/>
  - <http://lostmydoggie.com/>
- DO NOT** use any of the hundreds of other web based national sites. They are only there to track lost animals, and to provide a referral network. Don't expect them to find your precious dog.
- Use newspapers by checking the Lost/Found section, then, add your dog to the list.

Don't give up easily on finding your dogs. We have documented stories of dogs being found after several months and years of having been lost.

Good luck, and always inform K9 University of a lost dog. We will post it within our circle of doggy friends.