

Canine Customer

He was a police dog. He was brought in to us because someone had slipped this poor pooch something that had quickly put an end to his career. They wanted us to perform an autopsy to find out just what it was that the dog ate that ended his life.

It seemed as if the whole police force was consumed with a determined fever to find the answers to the mystery and make the assailant pay for his actions. Clearly this dog was loved very much by his co-workers. At least, at first it seemed so.

After the autopsy, they had the answers that they needed to aggressively pursue his killer. The problem was that this beloved comrade who had given his life in the line of duty and was such a VIP when he came to us, laid in our cooler for weeks as we attempted to get someone to come take care of him.

We finally gave up and sent him off to be cremated on our own.

Which makes me wonder. Were they driven to seek justice because of their love for their fellow worker, or was it more a matter of seeking good PR for the department?

The police department gets a lot of bad PR and I'm certain that 90% of it is unfounded. This was a great opportunity to get the community behind them. Everyone loves dogs and we all certainly appreciate the work that these police dogs do for us. So when this police dog was poisoned by an inmate at the prison, it was only right that they would use this as a great chance to get the community on their side for a change.

I have no problem with that. I believe, as most people do, that when our law enforcement people can get some good PR, they ought to jump on it for all they can get.

But their love for their fallen canine should have been worth more than just leaving him here for us to dispose of. I think the poor dog deserved more than that.