

## **Rick Alto**

Rick Alto is a Certified Professional Dog Trainer and a graduate of the National K9 School for Dog Trainers in Columbus, Ohio. He has been a Canine Professional for 10 years and has been a member of the International Association of Canine Professionals, (IACP) since 2012.

Rick's journey with dog training started when he was 10 years old when his Mom brought home a Standard Poodle named Samantha, who had been retired from the show ring due to a congenital hip defect. Sam needed to learn ALL the basics, to even include how to go up and down stairs and how to just "be a dog".

After a 36-year career as a Special Agent in federal law enforcement, Rick decided to "retire" and pursue his passion and fulfill his dream by entering the world of dog training full-time. As a dog trainer, he is dedicated to positive and effective training solutions that are balanced and fair for the dog. Rick is equally committed to furthering his education, so that he is able to offer the best possible training options and methods.

Rick is an AKC Canine Good Citizen and Star Puppy Evaluator, Volhard Dog Nutrition Affiliate, Behavior Modification Volunteer at the Animal Rescue League of Boston, Volunteer for the Dennis Police Department, Volunteer for Friends of Cape Wildlife and was appointed by the Town of Brewster Select Board as a member of the Brewster Dog Park Committee.

In his spare time, Rick enjoys leisurely back road rides on his Harley Davidson, honing his firearms skills at a local range, and most importantly, exploring Cape Cod beaches and nature trails with his Belgian Malinois, Tia.

Rick is excited to join the Board of Directors for the IACP and is looking forward to continuing to grow the IACP as the premier professional organization for canine professionals.