

Here is Lt. Matson and his retired K9 partner Chris. K-9 Chris is one of Snellville's original K-9's and Lt. Matson's first partner. He served Snellville for over 10 yrs, from 2004 until his retirement in 2015. Chris specialized in drug detection and tracking and responsible for countless arrests, making the people of Snellville safer. He now lives at home with Lt. Matson and his family and his new working dog, K-9 Jax. This handsome 14 yr old boy was healthy and happy, until Fall 2016 when he was diagnosed with and treated for cancer. Surgery went well, and Chris was back on his paws (and the sofa) soon. Unfortunately, his cancer showed back up this January requiring additional surgery and then chemotherapy. Chris got some great help from the folks at Gwinnett Animal Hospital (GAH) in Snellville on the surgery making the cost of chemo at UGA's vet school a possibility for Lt. Matson and his family. We are very thankful for the relationship Lt. Matson has with GAH, but this type of relationship is certainly not the norm when it comes to retired police dogs. More often than not, medical expenses end up being more than the former handler and/or adopted family can afford, and the retired dogs that have protected and served us end up being put to sleep. Fortunately, Chris is going home for more time with his family and great times remembering work with his buddy and partner Lt. Matson.