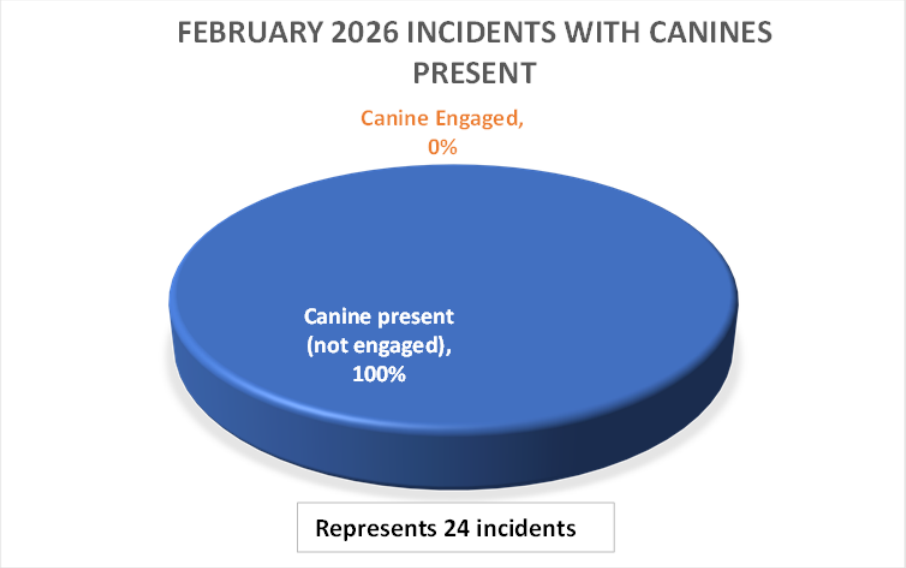
Patrol Canine Presence and Engagement in VADOC Facilities During February 2026

VADOC Research - Strategic Planning Unit 2026

Patrol Canine Presence and Engagement

VADOC utilizes patrol canines to deter inmate violence at its six facilities with the highest security levels. As the chart below shows, the mere presence of canines in a DOC facility deters inmates from engaging in behavior that requires force to be used by staff.

- Of the 24 incidents in February 2026 in which canines were present, none involved the canine actually being engaged.
- In all 24 (100%) of the incidents with a canine present, the canine did not engage (deterrent).