

Katie and Jared Baroni
8515 W Mc Myron St
West Allis, WI 53214

City Clerk of West Allis
7525 W Greenfield Ave
West Allis, WI 53214

RECEIVED

JUL 25 2017

CITY OF WEST ALLIS
CITY CLERK

Dear City Clerk of West Allis,

We are writing this letter on behalf of our dog, Rylee, that has recently been deemed a "dangerous dog" by the city of West Allis. The purpose of this letter is to contest this determination, as we believe that it is inaccurate and unfair due to the fact that Rylee has never been involved in a scuffle with any other dog or human in the time that she has been a part of our family. In this isolated incident, she snuck out of the door behind Jared (holding two infants, terrible timing) who had no knowledge of her intentions. This was the only reason she unfortunately had access to a dog that is known in our neighborhood to not be very friendly. The male owner of this dog also openly admitted to Jared that his dog has been involved in numerous altercations with other dogs. His excuse was that his dog is usually pretty defenseless due to being smaller in size compared to most other dogs. If you were to ask any of our neighbors about Rylee, they would tell you that she is a very friendly dog. We strongly believe that the other dog acted in an attempt to protect its owner and that Rylee's actions were nothing but a reaction. In no way, shape, or form is there any way Rylee bit Susan intentionally, if at all. Susan did not realize she was bitten until she got back to her house and calmed down. There is no way to prove Rylee bit her, as both dogs were involved in the exchange. Rylee has NEVER shown any sort of aggression toward any dog, and ESPECIALLY never a human.

We can assure you that there is no possible way that we would allow a dangerous dog to live in our home as we have a son who will be turning one year old next month. Our friends/family would also never bring their children or their dogs to our home if she were dangerous. I wish you could have the pleasure of knowing the sweet and cuddly dog that we interact with on a daily basis.

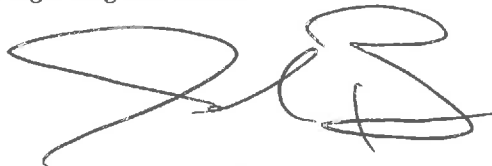
Jared went on vacation back in February with our son and we decided to take Rylee to daycare (also a dog training facility), as she is not used to being alone all day since Jared works third shift. Attached you will find a copy of the assessment completed by one of the employees of this daycare. You will also find a picture of her report card that Katie was given after Rylee's first day of attendance. We hope you find this evidence compelling in contest to your labeling her as "dangerous." You will also find letters from various family members and friends that have interacted with Rylee in the time that she has been a part of our family attached. Finally, we have included a collage of pictures that we feel represent an accurate depiction of Rylee's true demeanor. Our intention is that you find these testimonies and pictures to be in support of our contest.

Our hearts and the hearts of so many people that know Rylee's true nature are broken by the fact that she is being unfairly labeled due to a simple mistake. We are deeply sorry for what occurred and have verbally agreed to reimburse Susan and her husband and any expenses that they have incurred as a result. We sincerely hope that you are able to take our appeal into consideration as we can assure you that "dangerous" is the last word that we or anyone else who knows Rylee would use to describe her. Please feel free to contact us at any time regarding this matter.

Respectfully,



Katie Baroni
414-840-3035
kmachado1027@yahoo.com



Jared Baroni
414-238-1887
baronij5@gmail.com



Jared Baroni <baronij5@gmail.com>

Fwd: Behavior Assessment for Rylee

Katie Baroni <kmachado1027@yahoo.com>
To: Jared Baroni <baronij5@gmail.com>

Sun, Jul 23, 2017 at 2:25 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: July 22, 2017 at 5:43:09 PM CDT
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Behavior Assessment for Rylee

Hello,

We spoke on the phone yesterday about the behavior assessment your dog received prior to attending daycare. This assessment is a brief and general assessment of the dogs ability to be handled away from its owner and its comfort with meeting other dogs and in groups of dogs. This dog attended daycare through our Groupon promotion for only three days 2/6/17, 2/7/17, 2/8/17. If you are interested we can provide a reassessment, as is required when dogs return to daycare after six months, as dogs are unpredictable and behavior can vary depending on its experiences and history.

Attached is a pdf of the behavior assessment performed 1/31/17

Take care,
Abbie

 **img20170722_17374937.pdf**
3293K

To the West Allis Clerk:

Our names are Pin and Nathan. We have known the Baroni family for over a year now. They are a great and loving family with a big heart. The family has rescued two dogs. When we first met Rylee, she was always very energetic and playful like any puppy would be. When Pin just moved in with them, she wasn't that close with Rylee yet, but she never attacked or attempted to attack her. Over time she became very cuddly and snuggly with her. As the year went by, Rylee became a very mature and calm dog. She always listened and didn't bark as much anymore as well. When the Baroni family adopted their new puppy, Ramsey; Rylee never once snapped or attacked the puppy. Even when Ramsey tried to attack Rylee in a playful manner, Rylee still did not retaliate. As for the two of us, we strongly believe that the whole situation was an accident. If almost anyone's young dog slipped out of your hands or sight, you would expect it to run to the nearest person or animal. This is a normal way of behavior for almost any dog. This is why we know it was an accident and not intentional.

Sincerely.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nathan Helwer".A handwritten signature in cursive script that appears to read "Pin".

Pin Phansri and Nathan Helwer

July 21, 2017

Attn: West Allis City Clerk
City of West Allis
7525 W. Greenfield Avenue
West Allis, WI 53214

RE: Katie and Jared Baroni
8515 W. McMyron Street
West Allis, WI 53214

Dear City of West Allis Clerk,

My name is Dianne Machado and my daughter and son-in-law, Katie and Jared Baroni, are the pet owners of Rylee, a pit bull.

Rylee is a very well behaved and an obedient dog who loves being around people. She has always been very loving and gentle with me and with other people that I have seen her around, especially with my one year old grandson, T.J., Katie and Jared's son.

Katie and Jared also owned a dog named Chauncey, who sadly passed away in October of 2016. Rylee was not aggressive with Chauncey, but was rather submissive with him. Chauncey and Rylee got along great and played very well together.

Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (414)840-3032.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Dianne Machado

PETU

Date: 2/8/17

Student: Rylie

Best Friend(s) of the day: emma
reese hamish

Favorite Poochfessor: Shayla/Jordan

Lunch:

Snack:

Nap: yes

ne out(s):



Activities:

Rylie had an awesome 1st
day, she played so much
had a blast with her
new friends

General Behavior & Mood:

Playful

Social

Cuddly

Energetic

Lounged Around

Talkative



Ryder

Parent Name Bryan

Dog's Name Steph

Breed Pit bull

Age 1 1/2

Behavior / Reactivity	Green	Yellow	Red
<u>Introduction into play area</u> Approach play area- wait- observe. Open door to play area. Observe dog's behavior, crouch down, and talk to the dog in a calm voice.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approaches in a friendly manner. <input type="checkbox"/> Soft/Friendly <input type="checkbox"/> Relaxed, playful.	<input type="checkbox"/> Excitable response to presence. <input type="checkbox"/> Fearful regression with no aggression, cautious/tense/still <input type="checkbox"/> Defensive reactions: lunging and regressing.	<input type="checkbox"/> Lunges to attack: baring teeth, growling <input type="checkbox"/> Hackles up, stiff posture, eyes glaring
<u>Possession</u> Use a toy or ball with a rope attached to the end. Once dog is engaged, attempt to remove toy by use of the rope. Offer the dog a treat in exchange for the toy.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gives up easily, overall playful attitude <input type="checkbox"/> Slight resistance to toy removal, but gives in with slight correction/ show no interest in toy <input type="checkbox"/> Dog takes toy and hides/plays keep-away.	<input type="checkbox"/> Possessive over toy/ strong resistance/ no aggression <input type="checkbox"/> Threatens to retain—no follow through <input type="checkbox"/> Playful growling/engaging	<input type="checkbox"/> Growls, freeze, snaps when approaching Becomes aggressive with follow through—injurious.
<u>Touch / Handling</u> Gently touch head & body. Touch backside and underneath dog—front and back. Apply slight pressure to shoulders, back and hips. Stroke tail & hold for a brief moment. Rub ears & cover one eye. Approach dog from the rear.	<input type="checkbox"/> Softens with petting, engages tester. Licks, nuzzles, seeks attention, and rolls onto back <input type="checkbox"/> Moves away in neutral manner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepts but not seek additional	<input type="checkbox"/> Over stimulated, gets mouthy—follows hand <input type="checkbox"/> Skittish, avoidant/ hind quarter/ tail sensitivity <input type="checkbox"/> Actively avoidant/ extremely stiff or overly jumpy when touched	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aggresses with follow through—injurious
<u>Food</u> Offer dog a treat allow dog to take it. Offer another treat, as he begins to bite, gentle remove/pull back treat. Drop a treat on ground, when dog sees it cover it with your foot. When dog is eating treat begin	<input type="checkbox"/> Indifferent or friendly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Confused (looks up at you) <input type="checkbox"/> Dog is assertive (digs at treat), gets pushy for treat/ follows with focus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Growls <input type="checkbox"/> Hoards/stills <input type="checkbox"/> Threatens to retain—no follow through	<input type="checkbox"/> Aggresses with follow through—injurious

some mild general handling.			
<u>Correction</u> Walk dog near other people and distractions. Let the dog sniff or become interested in something for a few moments & then give a slight tug on the leash & a verbal redirection.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Easily redirects top handler/ compliant <input type="checkbox"/> Slow to correct, but follows. Needs second or multiple correction(s). <input type="checkbox"/> Ignore handler, correction, and continues	<input type="checkbox"/> Drops in fear, defensive <input type="checkbox"/> Becomes unresponsive <input type="checkbox"/> Fights against correction and becomes stubborn to comply	<input type="checkbox"/> Redirects aggressively toward handler and attempts to or bite.
<u>Dominance</u> Push down on a dog's shoulders using hands & or forearm. Maintain pressure for a moment.	<input type="checkbox"/> Melts under slight pressure/ submits <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remains neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Unresponsive	<input type="checkbox"/> Stiffens up in reaction <input type="checkbox"/> Turns in strong way toward handler <input type="checkbox"/> Feels uncomfortable with situation	<input type="checkbox"/> Growls/ snaps at handler in a dominant manner. Aggresses with follow through—injurious.
<u>Dog to Dog Intro</u> Start test through fence or at a distance. Walk dog being tested by a neutral dog a few times (giving praise/ reward good behavior) then allow him to go & greet the other dog. Keep leash loose. Allow sniffing for 3- 4 seconds, then separate & reintroduce.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interested/ social toward other dog/ soft body <input type="checkbox"/> Approaches neutral or playfully (play bow) <input type="checkbox"/> Uninterested in an aloof way, remains indifferent or doesn't engage	<input type="checkbox"/> Rude interaction, posturing, vocal <input type="checkbox"/> Does not read cut off signals/ growling, slight lunging, and hackles up <input type="checkbox"/> Aggresses with any interaction but controllable with corrections	<input type="checkbox"/> Offensive or injurious aggression to handler or other dog
<u>Dog to Dog Food Issues</u> Introduce another dog into the immediate (but not reachable) vicinity of test dog: Offer other dog a treat while ignoring test dog. Bring dogs closer together & drop treats for one dog & some for the other dog.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ignores treats while other dogs eat <input type="checkbox"/> Does not interfere when other does is eating <input type="checkbox"/> Take treats at same time from ground, not forceful	<input type="checkbox"/> Threatens to retain and pushes other for treats <input type="checkbox"/> Aggresses to retain/obtain, growls, postures <input type="checkbox"/> Leaves treat to aggress, or guards in a dominant aggressive manner	<input type="checkbox"/> Aggresses toward handler. Pursues aggression — injurious

Overall behavior

General overall observations: This is a general picture of your experience with the dog during your entire interaction with the dog.

- ☐ Relaxed, friendly, easy to handle, playful.
- ☒ No signs of stress in play area or kennels.
- ☒ Not seeking attention/ neutral / cautious, slow to engage, calm.
- ☐ Signs of stress in play area or kennels/ spinning/ pacing.
- ☐ Jumps on handler/ mouthy.
- ☐ Checked out/ shaking/ hiding/ avoids interaction/ fearful.
- ☐ Aggressively interacts, aggresses toward handler, pursues handler aggressively.

Review any concerns with parents:

OK in group ~~assessment~~ Sku intro
~~assessment~~ went well no signs of
aggression very playful puppy behavior

Parent signature: _____

Date: 1/3/17

Trainer signature: _____

Date: 1/3/17