

Savannah Doweiko
414-943-7744
9414 W. Hayes Ave.
West Allis, WI, 53227
12/14/17

To Whom It May Concern:

On December 3, 2017, the West Allis Police Department declared my pit bull/terrier mix, Ginger, a "dangerous dog". I am writing to contest this order for a couple of reasons.

The most important reason why I am contesting this order is because I did not see the dog she attacked/bit in person, nor was I shown photographic evidence of the damage. When I arrived to see Ginger with police officers, I was shocked when one officer told me she attacked another dog. She has been around other dogs and interacted with them, as well as lived with a puppy for a brief period of time with no issues or concerns. I'm assuming Ginger was defending herself which resulted in the bite on the other dog because I can't think of any other reason she would do something of that nature when she's never done it before. It's not fair for me to have to consider my dog a "dangerous dog" when the victim of the attack was not present when I arrived and I was not shown any pictures of the wounds.

Another reason I am contesting this order is because the requirements of 7.126(6) are not realistic for myself being a full-time college senior with a part-time job. Subsection (g) states that within 30 days of this order, I would have to get a microchip placed in Ginger. I do not have the time or money to do something that drastic for a dog that neighbors, family, and myself don't consider dangerous. Subsection (d) paragraph 3 states Ginger would not be allowed on my balcony or be allowed in my home with the windows and doors open with only a screen serving as a barrier. There is no reason to be that concerned about Ginger escaping the house. These rules seem unnecessary considering this is Ginger's first and only offense.

I fully understand this is the law and I'm not arguing that it should be changed in any way or form. I am simply stating that I do not consider my dog a dangerous dog and feel as if this order should be cleared. I truly hope you take my words into consideration because I know Ginger is not malicious. However, this has taught me to keep her on a leash at all times because she is a puppy with a lot of energy and I don't want her running off like that again.

Sincerely,



Savannah Doweiko

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