

To Whom It May Concern;

My dog was recently involved in a biting incident. I have been advised to contest the Dangerous Dog order, as the dog was inside his own house and he was frightened and provoked.

The dog:

Gribble is an 8-year old Staffordshire-Chocolate Lab mix. He was adopted by us when he was 9 months old and has lived with us ever since. He has never exhibited aggressive behavior before this incident. He is well-known and well-liked in the neighborhood. We walk him daily and he enjoys seeing all of the children. They call his name, run up to him to pet him, and the smaller ones climb on his back. He loves the mailman, the vet, and all of the clients at the corner bar. We have a small granddaughter that he has never been aggressive towards. He gets along with, and in fact is bullied by, our Yorkshire Terrier. He is not even aggressive towards other dogs. He is well-socialized and well taken care of. He is always up to date on his shots, and behaves well in public places. He is leashed at all times and is never allowed to run loose.

The incident:

My son and his girlfriend were having a very verbally violent argument. It may have been more than that, as there was some damage to a door (I believe my son punched the door). Gribble got in between them and then apparently was hit or stepped on. He snapped at the girlfriend, she yelled at him, and he became frightened and tried to defend himself, and possibly my son as well. By the time my husband and I got home, the dog was calm and quiet and cheerful. He has not repeated this behavior. He does not show any aggression towards my son or his girlfriend.

We are confident that this was a one-time incident and that the dog was frightened out of his senses. My son and his girlfriend admit that they caused the situation and let it get out of hand. The police have advised us to write this letter and contest the Dangerous Dog order, as they too believe that the dog was provoked and is not at all dangerous.

Thank you so much for your time

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