

Amy Schoenfeldt
2231 S. 67th Place
West Allis, WI. 53219
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City Clerk
West Allis City Hall
7525 W. Greenfield Ave.
West Allis, WI.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing today to contest a Dangerous Dog Order, and a citation stating that I allowed my dog to run at large, and all requirements of the order and citation. I would like to provide an understanding of the situation in hopes that my dog will not be stuck with this shameful label of being dangerous because she has never shown aggression to any person or dog, not even once, since the day I purchased her at 8 weeks old.

On 05-19-2018, my dog Lolah and my significant other's dog, Rocky, were in my fence-in yard. The gate was latched shut, and I always have beware of dog signage on both gate doors for safety, even though my dog has never shown aggression toward any person or animal before. The dogs are not able to get out of my yard unless someone opens the door and lets them out because my fence is occlusive around my yard, and they are not able to jump high enough to get even close to making it over. I also usually sit out there with them to keep an eye on them.

The night of the incident, I was sitting out with the dogs, and my significant other's sons, when my immediate next-door neighbor asked if I could go and get my significant other from inside the house since they had invited us all over for a barbeque and the food was done. While I was upstairs to get him, my neighbor came over to get the boys so they could start making their plates, and when he did, the dogs got let out of the gate. Because my neighbor's next-door neighbor had her young dog outside, Lolah and Rocky were said to run over there and per her report to the police officer, "the white pit bull" was nipping at her dog, and she told the officer she the dog's name was Lola. The dog did not suffer any serious injury from my understanding per the other dog owner's own report, though I was not present to witness anything myself. The dog did not require any medical attention, and no skin was broken, nor was he made to bleed because of the nipping.

When I was speaking with the officer, I tried to explain to him that Lolah is not the white pit bull, she is the black one with only a small amount of white on her body, and that Rocky was the white pit bull with only the small amount of black on his body. I can provide pictures of the dogs as evidence, or even bring Lolah in so that you can see her color, along with the order I was issued that states "white pit bull." However, he wrote down exactly her words instead of accepting my information regarding the misunderstanding.

The following are my reasons for contesting the dangerous dog order for my dog Lolah:

1. The order contains the wrong information about which dog the incident occurred with because one dog is mostly black and the other is mostly white, and Lolah is the mostly black pit bull.
2. My gates contained proper signage that dogs are on the property prior to the incident.
3. The dogs did not escape from the yard, nor did anyone who lives on my property allow them to escape or purposely run at large, but instead they were let out by a neighbor which is what even allowed contact of the animals in the first place since the dogs are not able to get out of the yard when both gates are closed and latched.
4. Lolah is a pit bull, and pit bulls love to play rough with each other. She has never showed aggression or caused harm to any dog or person prior to this event, and neither has Rocky. I believe that Rocky was trying to play rough with the dog since he nipped it rather than biting it, because that is what Lolah & Rocky do to each other when they play with each other. They have never shown true aggression toward each other or fought, but they do play rough in that way. And knowing this to be a fact, I usually only allow them to play with other pit bulls or dogs of other breeds that they know very well for safety and prevention of any incidents that could happen just as an even further preventative measure.
5. I have always had home owner's insurance with liability, and my insurer is aware that I have 2 pit bulls that reside at my house because I try to be as responsible of a pet owner as possible, though I only own Lolah personally.
6. Also, the letter sent to me by the West Allis Police Department states that the event occurred on 04/11/2018, but the date it occurred and in which I was issued the Dangerous Dog Order and citation was actually on 05/19/2018.
7. Both Rocky & Lolah are currently registered, which both took place at MADACC Milwaukee location, and should be on file. I was not aware that it did not cover West Allis registration since I thought West Allis was in Milwaukee County. If I am required to re-register them with the City of West Allis, I am more than willing to do so if I may be granted an extension.

8. Neither are spayed or neutered, but I planned to do so to Lolah on my own anyway and my significant other agreed to neuter/spay Rocky as well. If this is ordered, I am very willing to comply if allowed a time extension to complete this order.
9. I am willing to go to any length to prove my dog is not aggressive, including have her assessed by a person trained to do so, even around a dog she has never met before because I am that confident that she will be found not aggressive or dangerous.

Please have mercy when deciding regarding this order because I truly think its all a huge misunderstanding to begin with. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Amy Schoenfeldt