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3	DELAWARE DOG CONTROL PANEL
4	
5	
6	
7	Hearing taken before Pamela C. Herrmann,
8	(formerly Pamela C. Washington), Registered
9	Professional Reporter and Notary Public, at Sussex
10	County Council Chambers, The Circle, Georgetown,
11	Delaware, on May 12, 2014, beginning at 7:00 p.m.
12	
13	APPEARANCES:
14	On behalf of the Dog ControlPanel: ANNE CAVANAUGH, Chairperson
15	BETTY JANNUZZIO CRAIG STONESIFER
16	TARA LAUSCH
17	On behalf of Delaware Animal Care & Control: CAPTAIN SHERRI WARBURTON
18	STAFF SERGEANT DAVID HULSE
19	On behalf of Faithful Friends: Young, Conaway, Stargatt & Taylor
20	ATTN: CURTIS J. CROWTHER, ESQ.
21	
22	
23	
2 4	
25	

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25	DECISION 140

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Pamela C. Herrmann, RPR

P.O. Box 99 Milford, Delaware 19963

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1
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH:
                                             Okay, it's
 2
     7:00 o'clock, you want to get started everyone?
     is the Delaware Dog Control Panel. My name is Anne
 3
     Cavanaugh, and I'm the Chairperson for tonight.
     ask the other Panel members to introduce themselves.
 5
 6
                    MS. JANNUZZIO: Betty Jean Jannuzzio, I
 7
     represent the Delaware SPCA.
                    DR. STONESIFER: Craig Stonesifer, I'm
 9
     a veterinarian for the Brenford Animal Hospital.
                                             I'm going to
10
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH:
11
     read the proceedings and what we're hoping to
12
     accomplish, and then we'll get started.
13
                    Delaware Dog Control Panel deals with
1 4
     the Dangerous and Potentially Dangerous Dogs law.
15
     Delaware Code Title 9, Chapter 9, Subchapter II,
16
     Subsection 925(a) states that a dog who has inflicted
17
     physical injury upon a human or domestic animal,
     killed a human or domestic animal, pursued a person in
18
     an apparent attitude of attack, and/or who was used to
19
20
     facilitate animal cruelty or animal fighting is in
21
     violation of this Code and must be seized and
22
     impounded by Delaware Animal Care and Control until
23
     determination as to whether the dog's actions were
     dangerous or potentially dangerous.
24
25
                    The owner of such an impounded dog may
```

abide by the findings and conclusions of Animal Care and Control as per Subsection 925 of this code. If the owner disagrees with the conclusion, he or she may request a hearing before the Dog Control Panel to present evidence as to why the actions of the dog for which it was seized should not be considered dangerous or potentially dangerous as defined by the Code.

All hearings shall be informal, open to the public, and need not conform to standard rules of evidence. Hearsay evidence shall be allowed but may not be relied upon as the sole evidence in the Panel's determination.

This hearing is not a community meeting. There will be no public comment, and you will be asked to leave if you disrupt the proceedings. This hearing will open with instructions and brief statements from each party, noting what they intend to establish. For example, we're going to establish the dog is dangerous, potentially dangerous, or not dangerous. They also should state the number of witnesses and amount of time they expect to need for their presentation.

The members of the Delaware Dog Control Panel will hear evidence and testimony concerning the incident that caused the dog to be seized in

accordance with Delaware law. The Panel may exclude any evidence which is plainly irrelevant, immaterial, cumulative or unduly repetitive.

1 4

Each witness will clearly state and spell if requested their full name for the record and be sworn in prior to testimony. Following opening statements, each party shall produce witnesses and evidence on their own behalf, and have the opportunity to cross-examine witnesses. The Panel may examine the witness after testimony, cross-examination, and reserve the right to recall a witness to answer additional questions or clarify testimony.

After brief closing statements from both parties, deliberations of the Panel will be conducted in executive session. At that time, the Panel will determine based upon the preponderance of evidence and testimony provided during the hearing whether the dog's actions for which it was seized meets the level of public hazard as defined by Delaware law.

After returning, the Panel shall announce its decision by reading the conclusion into record. After this reading, the owner will then be provided with a copy of the written notice. The decision of the Panel is final.

```
1
                    MR. CROWTHER: May I be heard, Madam
 2
     Chairman?
 3
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: I'm sorry?
                    MR. CROWTHER: May I be heard for a
 5
     moment?
 6
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Usually we
 7
     start with opening statements from Animal Control.
                    MR. CROWTHER: I don't believe there's
 9
     a quorum here that's proper under the code. Miss
10
     Jannuzzio is your alternate; there's not three
11
     separate representatives from three divisible groups
12
     on the dog panel.
13
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: I don't believe
1 4
     that's necessary.
15
                    MR. CROWTHER: There has to be three
16
     for a quorum of the five. Miss Jannuzzio is your
17
     alternative. If you weren't here, she could be here,
18
     but you're here and that means this system is not with
19
     the five -- or three separate representatives.
20
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: I don't believe
21
     that's necessary. I believe that any of the members
22
     of the Panel, as long as there are three, can hold a
2.3
     hearing.
24
                    MR. CROWTHER: I ask that the record be
25
     noted that I objected to the quorum, that it does not
```

exist and this meeting is invalid.

1 4

CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Okay, so now we have opening statements by Animal Control.

members, ladies and gentlemen. Tonight we're going to talk about a series of unfortunate and tragic events.

What I mean by unfortunate events are when Tacia

McIlvaine called Delaware Animal Care and Control to report two elderly homeless women who had three dogs in the back of a pickup truck at a motel. Unfortunate that the responding officer attempting to locate them was unsuccessful, however Tacia McIlvaine was and she took responsibility of Ricky and Lady Jane. You'll then hear how Tacia McIlvaine contacted Kathy Hughes, asking her to keep Ricky and Lady Jane for one evening, and how that one evening turned into four weeks.

You will hear from Kathy Hughes and Cindy Myers that when they took the two dogs over to Lisa St. Clair's place for evaluation, there was a miscommunication, and how she was not prepared for their arrival as she was outside with her dogs. Her senior lab, Daisy, who is deaf, did not hear her call to come inside. Kathy Hughes will tell you that Ricky launched himself from her SUV and, with no hesitation

Warburton

in an apparent attitude of attack, and latched onto Daisy's neck.

1 4

You will hear from Lisa St. Clair how she grabbed Ricky's collar, pulling him away and tightening his collar, restricting his air while her dog was screaming. You will hear from Kathy Hughes that she attempted numerous times after the attack to contact Tacia McIlvaine, leaving her messages about the attack and how she can no longer keep the pair.

Finally, Hughes puts Ricky and Lady

Jane in Tacia McIlvaine's shed with bedding, food, and

water because she could no longer care for them. A

series of unfortunate events indeed.

spring day, a woman is gingerly taking her small furry white dog out of her vehicle. Little Banks, who has Lyme's disease, is particular about who grooms him, and Todd Clyde is so gentle that she drives from Maryland to Delaware to have him groom her dog. You see her walking Banks toward the salon where she walks past a younger man who is taking a black and white pitbull with tan markings past her. You see her and Banks moving forward when a white and black blur speeds towards the woman and her dog. The woman looks down as her dog screams in pain as the bigger dog

Warburton 9

grabs the smaller dog with no hesitation and in an apparent attitude of attack, and in a violent manner starts shaking him back and forth.

You see a man appear, striking the bigger dog on the head of with wooden pole to no avail. The bigger dog finally releases the little dog and the man scoops up the bleeding dog and rushes him inside the building and then to the vet. Ricky is transported to Faithful Friends where Ricky and Lady Jane were turned over to Faithful Friends without full disclosure of Ricky's aggression.

A series of tragic unfortunate events, ladies and gentlemen. These events are supported by facts. And the facts, as facts sometimes are, will be sad. They will literally break our hearts, as sad facts sometimes do. And facts, unlike opinions, do not vary.

attacked a senior lab who was on her owner's property, unprovoked. It's a fact that Ricky pursued and attacked a senior Lhasa Apso who was merely walking past him. It's a fact that Ricky has inflicted serious physical injury upon a domestic animal in the immediate control of its owner, and it's a fact now that Banks has passed.

Warburton 10

My name is Captain Sherri Warburton, and together with my co-counsel, Field Sergeant David Hulse, it's our honor to stand here before you representing Delaware Animal Care and Control on behalf of Banks and Daisy.

1 4

2.3

The testimony you will hear tonight will prove Ricky, a black and white with tan markings American pitbull terrier, is a dangerous animal and should be deemed dangerous in accord with Delaware Title 9, Chapter 9, Subsection 2. Delaware Animal Care and Control requests about 90 minutes to call up to eight witnesses. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Thank you.

MR. CROWTHER: What you're going to find when you hear the testimony is what they didn't tell you, what they won't tell you on their direct.

But when they're crossed, you're going find out this information seems to all have come about after

March 18th. That these so-called witnesses made contrary statements before March 18th. Why? You ask.

Why would they do that?

Well, that's because this case started back when First State Animal Control was called, and they didn't report. They were called because two animals were suffering in the back of a pickup truck

Crowther 11

1 in cages covered by a tarp with no food. They didn't 2 show up. They were called again. Well, the person who had the original report isn't here, they'll get 3 4 back to you later. But they don't. So someone goes and does their job for 5 6 them, and what do they do after that? They complained to Animal Control about not doing their jobs. 7 Suddenly, on March 18th, focus is on that person. 8 9 Now, my client is Faithful Friends. My client did not 10 get involved at all until after February of 2014 because they were asked if they could take these dogs; 11 12 they had no space at the time, but they were building new space. And they said well, when we have space 13 available, when our construction is complete, we'll 14 15 let you know. 16 Well, the time came, and the space 17 became available, and Faithful Friends said you can bring them here. And they arrived on March 18th, on 18 19 the same day and after the incident involving Banks. 20 What you will actually hear about what happened will 21 not remotely sound like what Sergeant Warburton 22 described. 23 CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Captain. MR. CROWTHER: Sorry. It won't sound 24

remotely like that. So when you're sitting here

Crowther 12

1 listening to testimony, wait until you find out what 2 they didn't say to other people, wait until you find out what they did say that's completely inconsistent, 3 4 and then ask yourselves is this really about trying to get back at one individual, going through a dog? 5 6 Because that's what it really is. CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: 7 Hetti? HETTI BROWN: Madame Chair, I'm sorry, I know this is out of order. But we do have an 9 10 additional Panel member here tonight because of some 11 of the concerns of the defendant; if you'd like to call that Panel member. I don't know if you want to 12 speak to her first or convene off to the side. 13 CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: That would be 1 4 15 good, yeah. Excuse us for one second. 16 (Whereupon, a short recess was taken.) 17 CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: So we have a new Panelist, this is Tara Lausch. Tara is an animal 18 19 behaviorist, she was part of the group of people that 20 volunteered to be on the Panel. And Betty will remain 21 but she will not vote. Does that --22 MR. CROWTHER: I need to ask for 23 Miss Lausch to be recused. Part of my case will 24 involve a group that she is a member of, Delaware 25 Animal Advocacy Guild.

```
1
                    MS. LAUSCH: I am not a member of that
 2
     group.
 3
                    MR. CROWTHER: My understanding is that
 4
     she has an affiliation with that group.
 5
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: My
 6
     understanding is that she says she does not.
 7
                    MR. CROWTHER: She says she's not a
     member; she didn't answer the question whether she was
 8
 9
     affiliated with that group.
10
                    MS. LAUSCH: I am friends with people
11
     that are in that group, but I'm not a member of that
12
     group.
13
                    MR. CROWTHER: Are any of those people
1 4
     in the room today?
15
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Is that
16
     relevant? It's not relevant.
17
                    MR. CROWTHER: Are they going to be
18
     witnesses?
19
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: I do not know.
20
     I'm just trying to get this Panel going.
2.1
                    MR. CROWTHER: Well, I need to preserve
22
     my client's rights, and that involves determining
2.3
     whether or not a member should be recused, especially
     when the member's added after the meeting is already
24
25
     convened.
```

```
1
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: As you know,
 2
     this is the first time this Panel has met in some
     time. We are not attorneys, we are volunteers who
 3
     were asked to be here as members of the community to
 4
 5
     try and make a decision about a dog. It would really
 6
     be helpful if we could proceed.
 7
                    MR. CROWTHER: Are any of the people
     that she's affiliated with going to testify?
 8
 9
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: I do not know.
10
                    MR. CROWTHER: Does she have an
11
     obligation to say if she knows them when they are
     called if she has an affiliation?
12
13
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: I suppose she
1 4
     does. But if she knows them, does that mean she has
15
     to be recused, just because she knows them? I mean
16
     we're talking about Delaware. I mean I know --
17
                    MR. CROWTHER: Knowing someone is
18
     different from having a close affiliation with them
19
     and working with them in things they do with respect
20
     to a group.
21
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: So if she knows
22
     them, she does haven't to recuse herself?
23
                    MR. CROWTHER: No, if she merely knows
24
     them.
25
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Because if
```

```
1
     that's the case, I need to recuse myself.
                     MR. CROWTHER: Absolutely right,
 2
     because you don't have a close working relationship
 3
     with that person or something that's going to happen
 4
     here where you have to establish whether or not you're
 5
 6
     impartial, that's all we're asking. I don't know who
     she knows in this group, I just know of her
 7
     affiliation with the group.
 8
 9
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: I call to the stand
10
     Staff Sergeant Palacio.
11
12
     WHEREUPON:
13
                          MARY PALACIO,
1 4
     having first been duly sworn by the court reporter,
15
     thereupon testified upon her oath as follows:
16
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
17
               0
                     Staff Sergeant Palacio, how long have
     you been with Delaware Animal Care and Control?
18
19
               Α
                     Eight years.
20
                     And do you have any animal experience
21
     prior to working with Delaware Animal Care and
22
     Control?
23
                     Yes, I was a vet tech at Rehoboth
24
     Animal Hospital for two years.
25
                     Okay. Coming to the incident that
```

```
1
     we're here for, on 4/10 you received a complaint about
 2
     two dogs that belong to a rescue that may have been
     involved in some dog attacks; could you expand on
 3
 4
     that?
                     Yes. I was notified by the director
 5
 6
     that we had an anonymous email that there was a
 7
     possible aggressive dog that may be going to be
     adopted into the community, and the dog was now at
 8
 9
     Faithful Friends and they would like us to investigate
10
     an incident that happened at Mrs. St. Clair's house
11
     with a dog that was attacked there.
12
               Q
                     This is Plaintiff's Exhibit 1. Through
13
     your investigation, is this the dog identified in the
1 4
     attacks?
15
                    Yes, that's Ricky.
               Α
16
               Q
                     Okay. And Ricky is a?
17
               Α
                    He's a male. He's neutered now, he
     wasn't neutered at the time, I don't believe, American
18
19
     pitbull terrier.
20
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Okay, I'd like to
21
     enter this into evidence Plaintiff's Exhibit 1.
22
                     (Plaintiff's Exhibit 1, marked for
23
     identification.)
24
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
25
                     Okay, so you had contacted Savannah
```

1 Animal Hospital; did they have any information on the 2 dog attack? 3 No. That was one of the pieces of Α 4 information we were given, is that the dog that was under the attack may have been taken there for 5 6 treatment. I consulted with them, and it was not taken there. They would not give me the information 7 for the owner, but they did contact Mrs. St. Clair for 8 9 me, and she did call me and we had a conversation as 10 to what happened on that attack. 11 And just quickly, what was the 12 conversation? That Kathy Hughes had come to her house 13 with two pitbulls, they were going to try to do like a 14 15 meet and greet to see if the pitbulls could be engaged 16 for their -- you know, to be adopted, to see if they 17 could get along with other animals. And there was an attack that happened on her elderly dog, Daisy was 18 attacked by Ricky. 19 Plaintiff's Exhibit 2 is another size 20 21 of Ricky, did you take this picture? 22 Yes, I did. Α 23 CAPTAIN WARBURTON: And that was

(Exhibit 2, marked for identification.)

24

25

Plaintiff's Exhibit 2.

```
1
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
 2
                     So after speaking with Kathy Hughes,
     did you go to her residence?
 3
 4
               Α
                     Mrs. St. Clair?
 5
                0
                     I'm sorry, yes, after speaking with
 6
     Miss St. Clair --
 7
               Α
                     Yes.
                     -- did you go to her residence?
 8
                Q
 9
                     Yes, I did go to her residence.
                Α
                     Okay. And can you explain what this
10
                Q
     picture is?
11
12
               Α
                     Yes, that's her driveway right outside
     her home, and that's where the location of the attack
13
14
     took place.
15
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Okay, this is
16
     Plaintiff's Exhibit 5.
17
                     (Exhibit 5, marked for identification.)
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
18
19
                     And can you explain quickly, did you
     take this picture?
20
21
                     Yes, I did.
               Α
22
                     Okay, and can you explain the details
                Q
23
     of the --
24
                     Well, that's Mrs. St. Clair right
25
     there. Actually, that is her other dog right there,
```

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Pamela C. Herrmann, RPR

P.O. Box 99 Milford, Delaware 19963

```
1
     approximately in the same location that Daisy would
 2
     have been.
                 The van is parked where the SUV was that
 3
     had the two pitbulls in it.
 4
                     Okay, and the dogs were inside of the
     SUV?
 5
 6
               Α
                     Yes, yes.
 7
                Q
                     Okay, thank you. And you took this
     picture when you were at Miss St. Clair's?
 8
 9
                Α
                     Yes.
10
                     And this is just basically a wider
                Q
11
     view --
12
               Α
                     Yes.
                     -- of the area?
13
                0
14
                     When they arrived, actually Mrs. --
                Α
     Mrs. St. Clair has invisible fence so her dogs stay
15
16
     out, and they can only go so far to the driveway. And
17
     Daisy was laying out in the front yard by the porch.
     She doesn't hear and she doesn't see well so they have
18
19
     to use hand gestures to bring her in, so she was
20
     unaware of the dogs in the van at the time.
21
                     So at the time of the attack, it sounds
22
     like Daisy was not being tethered or restrained by her
2.3
     owner?
24
                Α
                     No, no, because --
25
                     Is that against the law in Sussex
```

```
1
     County?
 2
                     No, because she's restrained by the
     invisible fence.
 3
 4
                Q
                     Okay.
                     That's her restraint.
 5
                Α
 6
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: And that was
 7
     Plaintiff's Exhibit 7.
                     (Exhibit 7, marked for identification.
 8
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
 9
10
                     And Plaintiff's Exhibit 8, whose leg is
               0
11
     that?
12
               Α
                     That's Mrs. St. Clair's leg.
                     And did you take this picture?
13
                Q
14
                     Yes, I did.
               Α
15
                     And what's the picture of?
               Q
16
                     MR. CROWTHER: Objection. The picture
17
     is what the picture is.
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
18
19
                     Is it a picture of her leg?
                Q
20
                     Yes, it's a picture of her leg.
21
                     And is she pointing to scars?
                Q
22
                     Yes, there's puncture wounds that she
23
     was bitten during the attack with Ricky and Lady Jane
24
     and her dog, Daisy.
25
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
                                          Okay, that's
```

```
1
     Plaintiff's Exhibit 8.
 2
                     (Exhibit 8, marked for identification.)
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
 3
                     When you met with Miss St. Clair, did
 4
                0
     you take a written statement from her?
 5
 6
               Α
                     Yes, I did.
                     Is this her statement?
 7
                0
                     Yes, it is.
 8
               Α
 9
                     And is that your signature at the
                Q
10
     bottom?
11
               Α
                     Yes, it is.
12
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Okay, I'd like to
     enter this into evidence.
13
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
1 4
15
                     After speaking with Miss St. Clair, did
16
     she provide the vet where she took Daisy to?
17
                Α
                     Yes, she took Daisy to Nonantum Vet
     Clinic, it's in Langburg, Pennsylvania, that's where
18
19
     Daisy has gone pretty much all her life. Being an
20
     older dog, you know, she's been taking her there so
21
     she felt it was best to take her back to the vet that
22
     knew her for treatment.
23
                     And is this the fax you received from
     Nonantum Vet Clinic?
24
25
                     Yes, I contacted them and they faxed
```

```
1
     that to me.
                     Okay. This is in the Panel's packet
 2
     and on there is a date of 12/4.
 3
 4
               Α
                     Uh-huh.
                     Does that coincide with what you
 5
 6
     learned about the dog attack --
 7
               Α
                     Yes.
                    -- on that date? After speaking with
 8
 9
     Miss St. Clair, did you also speak with anybody else
     who witnessed the attack?
10
11
                     Yeah. I had -- she had given me
12
     information of two ladies that had brought the two
13
     pitbulls to the residence, it was Kathy Hughes and
     Cindy Myers. So I contacted them and was able to meet
1 4
15
     with both of them, get statements from them and
16
     information.
17
               0
                     So you met with them physically to
     obtain their statements?
18
19
                    At their residence, yes, I did.
20
                    And with Miss Hughes, did she tell you
21
     what happened during the attack?
22
                     Yeah. She -- she actually was a little
23
     bit shocked at the way Ricky responded to the dogs
24
     because, with her, he was great. And he can be great
```

with people, but not with other dogs.

1 Q Okay. 2 Not always. And she was -- she 3 expressed to me the concern she had about how he just 4 goes off, and she wasn't prepared for that when she took him there. And I'm sure she wouldn't have if she 5 6 thought that. But she expressed that how aggressive 7 he was and how he was -- would not let go of the dog. And did you get a statement from her? 8 Q 9 Α Yes, I did. 10 Okay. Along with -- let me see this --0 11 Miss St. Clair and --12 Α Cindy Myers. -- yes, Cindy Myers, did you meet with 13 0 14 Cindy Myers as well? 15 Α Yes, I did. 16 Q Did Cindy Myers -- you took a statement 17 from her, and did anything stick out at you when you took her statement? 18 19 Yeah, she is a retired veterinarian 20 from the State of Maryland, and she knows dogs pretty 21 well, she's been around dogs a while. And she 22 expressed to me that she really felt that this was 23 truly an aggressive dog that was very unpredictable, 24 and she encouraged Miss Hughes to not keep him at her

home any more because of the liability she would

```
1
     assume by doing so. That is why she tried so hard to
 2
     get ahold of Miss McIlvaine to return the dog; she did
     not want that responsibility.
 3
                     And these are the two statements that
 4
     you took from the two women?
 5
 6
                Α
                     Yes.
 7
                Q
                     Are these your signatures at the
     bottom?
 8
 9
                     Yes. Yes, they are.
                Α
10
                     Okay, thank you.
                Q
11
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: We have two
12
     separate incidences of attacks, and if the Panel is
13
     okay, I would rather just deal with this one instead
1 4
     of recall Staff Sergeant Palacio for the second
15
     incident.
16
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH:
                                              Okay.
17
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
                                          Okay.
18
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Do you have
19
     questions?
20
                     MR. CROWTHER: Yes.
21
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
22
                     Is Palacio your married name?
                Q
23
                Α
                     Yes.
24
                     Your maiden name was Genetti?
                0
25
                     Yes, it was.
                Α
```

```
1
                     And you were the animal control officer
 2
     that was originally called to report to pick up a --
 3
                     No, I was not. I was not.
                Α
 4
                0
                     You never spoke with Miss McIlvaine?
                     I spoke with her on the phone, I took
 5
                Α
 6
     her complaint, but I was not the responding officer.
 7
                     Would it surprise you if your office
                Q
     said that you were, and that you were not available to
 8
     follow up later, would that surprise you?
 9
10
                     Yes, it would.
               Α
                     Thank you.
11
                Q
12
               Α
                     Because they would have it on the
13
     computer.
14
                     MR. CROWTHER:
                                    Thank you.
15
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Ouestions from
16
     the Panel?
17
                     (No response.)
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: You are
18
19
     excused.
20
                     THE WITNESS:
                                   Thank you.
21
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Delaware Animal
22
     Control would like to call Lisa St. Clair.
23
24
25
```

1 WHEREUPON: 2 LISA MARIE ST. CLAIR, having first been duly sworn by the court reporter, 3 4 thereupon testified upon her oath as follows: BY MR. HULSE: 5 6 Miss St. Clair, you just gave me some 7 pictures; what are they? This was Daisy when she was feeling 8 9 And then this is Daisy after -- about two 10 months after the attack, right before she passed away. 11 So this is before the attack? Q 12 Α Yes. And this was after? 13 0 1 4 This was after. Α 15 On December 4th, were you aware of the 0 16 dog Ricky coming to be shown? 17 I didn't -- there was a miscommunication, we had discussed the possibility of 18 19 doing a meet and greet because she didn't know if they 20 were good with other dogs, and she didn't know if they 21 were good with cats, and she was trying to find homes 22 for them. And I said well, I have a pack of six dogs 23 and they're great with other animals, and that if she 24 ever wanted to arrange a time where we could go not on 25 my property but to like have them meet on leash and

```
1
     stuff like that. But they arrived unexpectedly around
 2
     4:00 o'clock in the afternoon.
 3
                     Is Daisy normally one of the dogs that
 4
     you have with the meet and greet?
                    No, I would never, she's too old, in
 5
 6
     case something could happen. She's super mellow, but
     I would never take a chance.
 7
                    Are your other dogs around Daisy?
               Q
 9
               Α
                     Yeah, they're always around her.
10
                    Has she ever shown aggression towards
               0
11
     other dogs?
12
               Α
                    No. She didn't even have teeth.
                                                        She
13
     was a rescue that she didn't have teeth, she ...
1 4
                     How old was Daisy?
               0
15
                    At the time, 12. 12 years old.
               Α
16
               Q
                     Can you tell us exactly what took place
17
     that day?
                    Around 4:00 o'clock, Kathy Hughes
18
19
     arrived at my property and she was just all of a
20
     sudden on my porch. And I live like back off the road
21
     on five-and-a-half acres, I don't get unexpected
22
     quests. And --
23
                    Were you inside or outside when she
24
     arrived?
25
                     I was inside. And my dogs, half of
               Α
```

them were inside, half of them were outside, the younger ones were running around. I have an underground fence in my front area all the way around my property, and then I have an enclosed fenced yard as well.

So they typically go out the front door and greet people when someone arrives at my door. And Kathy was there, and I was like, "Kathy, what are you doing?" And she was like, "I thought this would be a good time to have Ricky and Lady Jane meet your dogs." And I was like, "This is a bad time." I was still working, I worked from home at the time.

And now I look out and there's two dogs going ballistic in the car, they're not leashed, they're not caged, they're just in the car. And Cindy Myers was in the car, and she was looking overwhelmed, and she like got out of the car. And I was like, "Don't get out of the car, I have loose dogs right now, let me get my dogs in the house."

So I got my -- like four of my dogs in the house, but Daisy and Oscar were still out. And Daisy -- Daisy had gone out the front door, and she can't hear when she's walking away. So she goes, "Oh, there's a truck down the driveway," so she goes waddling down to say hi, and she was going around the

back of the truck.

And Kathy had opened the back, and I was screaming -- I had screamed at her not to open the truck. And she opened the back to get their leashes, I guess. And at the time, Ricky just dove out of the truck and locked onto Daisy's face. And he had her totally -- he had her skin here, but he had her totally here, and he had his whole mouth was around her head she couldn't even open her mouth.

And I grabbed ahold of his choke collar, but it wasn't -- it wasn't on choke, so I was just holding him up as high as I could. And she was screaming, like this sound like you would think a human being would make, it wasn't a dog sound at all, it was just terror. And Cindy Myers tried to help me like bash his face in, and we were doing everything, I was -- I was choking him out, I was trying to kill that dog.

Q Were you using an object to bash his face in?

A No, my hand; I couldn't let go. But I was telling her to go grab a rock, I was saying grab a rock, to grab something. And then right around then -- it seemed like it went on forever and ever.

And all of a sudden, Lady Jane jumped out of the car,

because that's right when Daisy just stopped making any noise, and then I was freaking out because I thought she was dead, like, or either she was dying or she was dead.

And Lady Jane jumped out of the car, and my leg was between -- I was here, and Lady Jane just started malling my leg; from here to here, I was black and blue for three months.

And then one of the other dogs -- the dog that was out, all he did was keep barking about it. And one of the other dogs came out, and I think he must have bit Ricky from behind on his butt or something and startled him. And I think between that and me -- I had the collar completely wrapped by that point, and he couldn't have been getting any air, but he wasn't stopping until right then, and then he let go.

And I had so much adrenaline in me, I just threw him up into the car. I shoved Kathy Hughes in the back of the car with him, I didn't care if he ate her, I just wanted him off my property. So I shut the door and told them get off my property.

Q You described Daisy, what she was doing and how she was acting; how was Ricky acting at that point and any noises he may have been making?

```
1
                     He didn't make a noise when he -- he
 2
     just launched himself and was just trying to kill her.
     He was just -- he was intent on killing my dog, and I
 3
 4
     was intent on trying to kill him.
                     So he was not making any noise or
 5
 6
     anything at that point in time?
 7
               Α
                     No. He was just -- it was awful.
                     MR. HULSE: Okay, I have no further
 8
     questions.
 9
10
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
11
                     You care a lot about your dogs, right,
12
     Miss St. Clair?
13
                Α
                     I do.
14
                     You talk about them on the internet a
                0
15
     lot?
16
               Α
                     I posted when she passed away.
17
                0
                     But you talk about dogs in your life
     and what happens to them on the internet, right?
18
19
               Α
                     Well, I own a dog bakery, so on one of
20
     my Facebook pages, I do post pictures of when dogs are
21
     eating my dog treats and --
                     It's not a trick question, I'm just
22
23
     asking, you talk about your dogs on the internet?
24
                     Yeah.
                Α
25
                     It's okay, it's not a bad question,
```

1 it's okay, I mean you love your dogs. And I know that 2 Daisy died on February 12th, correct? 3 Yes. Α 0 Do you recognize that document? 4 5 Α Yes. 6 Q That's your post, right? 7 Α Yes. And that's talking, February 22nd of 8 0 9 this year, talking about Daisy and that you lost two 10 of your family members within -- well, within a couple 11 of days of each other in February of 2014. Daisy's 12 death, what was it caused by, what did she have? Daisy was an older dog, so she was -- I 13 gave her fluids once a week for kidney failure, she 14 15 was in kidney failure but she was fine. I mean she 16 had arthritis, and just all old dog things. But after 17 the attack, she just changed. I mean she was so in shock that day and she just -- it was like something 18 19 just changed in her. 20 How long prior to December had you been 21 giving your dog fluids because of kidney problems? It had just started not -- it's 22

A It had just started not -- it's probably in my vet records, but not that long, hadn't been that long. But after that, it increased in the amount that I had to give it to her, it started being

23

24

```
1
     daily.
 2
                Q
                     And it's possible her kidney failure
     just got worse, right?
 3
 4
                Α
                     Yes.
                     She wasn't bit on the kidneys, right?
 5
                Q
 6
                Α
                     No.
 7
                     MR. CROWTHER: Faithful Friends 1.
                     (Faithful Friends Exhibit 1, marked for
 8
 9
     identification.)
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
10
11
                     Do you recognize this, Miss St. Clair?
                Q
12
                Α
                     Yes.
                     That's your post?
13
                0
1 4
                Α
                     Yes.
15
                     And this is from December 5th and
                Q
16
     December 2nd, correct?
17
                Α
                     I quess.
                     Take a look at it, go ahead.
18
19
     December 5th and December 2nd, 2013, right?
20
     no mention of any injury to your dog between
21
     December 2nd and December 5th, is there?
22
                     No, I did not -- I purposely did not
23
     mention anything about that.
                     MR. CROWTHER: Faithful Friends 2.
24
25
                     (Faithful Friends Exhibit 2, marked for
```

```
1
     identification.)
 2
                     MR. CROWTHER: No further questions.
                     MR. HULSE: May I ask her a few more
 3
 4
     questions?
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Yes.
 5
     BY MR. HULSE:
 6
                     What was Daisy's behavior like before
 7
               0
     the attack?
 8
 9
                     She was like an old dog, but she was
10
     the pack leader, she was the mommy of everybody so she
11
     was a really -- just a mellow old lady.
12
                    Did she have any different behavior
13
     starting the day after the attack?
                     She had different behavior from the
1 4
               Α
15
     minute it happened. She was very -- in a lot of pain
16
     that week or so following.
17
               0
                     Did she have injuries from the attack?
                     She had puncture wounds, and she had to
18
19
     be on antibiotics.
20
                    All right. And have you ever posted
21
     any injuries to any of your animals on the internet
22
     before?
2.3
               Α
                    No. I never had anything like that.
24
                     MR. HULSE: No further questions.
25
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Any questions
```

```
1
     from --
 2
                    MR. CROWTHER: I have follow-up.
 3
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
               0
                    You do post about your animals, don't
 4
     you, Miss St. Clair? That's a March 21st posting
 5
 6
     about a disease your German Shepherd had because
     you're seeking funding for that disease, right?
 7
                    I wasn't seeking any funding.
 8
 9
               0
                    That's not you?
10
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: I'm not sure
11
     exactly what --
12
                    MR. HULSE: That's not an injury,
     that's a disease.
13
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: I'm not sure
1 4
15
     exactly what the relevance of this is to this case.
16
                    MR. CROWTHER: Oh, it will become
17
     crystal clear, I ask for some indulgence.
                    THE WITNESS: This is not my dog.
18
19
     dog had just passed away from that same disease.
20
     read about this dog, and they had a go-fund-me, so I
21
     donated money to their go-fund-me account. And if you
22
     read the post, it says, "This is one of the diseases
23
     my German Shepherd was suffering from, that and EPI.
24
     Please help these people keep their dog and treat
25
     their dog."
```

```
1
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
 2
                    You posted your dog had these diseases
     and you were trying to get some help for them, right,
 3
 4
     and this disease?
 5
                     I was not posting that, sir. I posted
 6
     information --
 7
                    MR. CROWTHER: No further questions.
                     THE WITNESS: Am I allowed to continue
 8
 9
     or no?
10
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: If you want to
11
     answer the question, go ahead.
                     THE WITNESS: All that I did was
12
13
     educate people about a disease that's -- predominantly
     German Shepherds get, and my dog had suddenly passed
1 4
     away from a horrible disease. And then I read about
15
16
     this family that was not going to be able to afford
17
     the treatment.
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: I understand.
18
19
                     THE WITNESS: And so I gave money to
20
     them, and then I just reposted it.
21
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Are there any
22
     questions from the Panel?
2.3
                     (No response.)
24
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: You are
25
     excused, thank you.
```

```
1
                     MR. HULSE: I call Miss Myers, Cynthia
 2
     Myers.
 3
     WHEREUPON:
 4
                        CYNTHIA LEE MYERS,
     having first been duly sworn by the court reporter,
 5
 6
     thereupon testified upon her oath as follows:
     BY MR. HULSE:
 7
               Q
                    Miss Myers, going back to
 8
 9
     December 4th --
10
               Α
                    Yes.
11
                     -- what were you doing that day?
12
                     Okay, I was under the misunderstanding
               Α
     that Kathy and Lisa had arranged for a meet and greet
13
1 4
     with their dogs.
15
                    Who communicated that to you?
                     I can't remember. We were at a little
16
               Α
17
     dinner the night before, and I said I would help if
     they wanted -- you know, because I'm a retired
18
     veterinarian, I thought I would see some subtle signs
19
20
     of something if there was a meet and greet where it
21
     was a controlled environment, that I could maybe help
22
     them assess if there could be any future problems.
23
                     And other than that, I was out of the
24
     decision to go there. And I was under the
25
     understanding that it was all prearranged.
                                                   All the
```

```
1
     details -- I was not involved in any of the details.
 2
     So with that in mind, I went.
 3
                    Originally, we were going to go in
 4
     Kathy's car which was a Pilot, and mine's a High
     Lander and I was -- she asked me to change cars at the
 5
 6
     last minute and asked me to drive. So I ended up
 7
     driving, even though that wasn't the original plan.
     So she got directions to where Lisa lived, and we
 9
     ended up going to her house. And I guess it was
     around 4:00 o'clock.
10
11
                    You say you have experience with
12
     animals, what kind of experience do you have?
                    I'm a veterinarian.
13
1 4
                    For how many years?
               0
15
                    I practiced for 15 years.
               Α
16
                    And I guess you were left in the
               Q
17
     vehicle alone with the dogs?
                    Yes. What happened was we arrived and
18
19
     Lisa wasn't outside. And I thought because it was
     prearranged, she would be outside, so I said to Kathy,
20
21
     please call. And Kathy said, "No, I'll go up and
22
     knock on the door."
23
                     So Lisa answers the door, and her dogs
24
     come pouring out the door. And Lady Jane and Ricky
25
     are in the back of the car, and both of them come up
```

```
to -- up to the front, they're charging to the front of my car. And I'm getting a little freaked out already because I want this to stop right now, because what has happened is they're acting -- especially Ricky was actually like getting over into the -- actually to the glass of the front door of the car, and I was concerned for my safety.
```

So I was trying to signal to Kathy to get back in the car. And I got out I think at one point, I really can't even remember the sequence, but I think I got out and I think Lisa said to get back in. Kathy got in.

And then Lisa went back in the house, and then came back out, and I don't remember if Daisy was with her at that point. And before we could stop her, Kathy opened the hatch of the car, and we were both screaming no. And Ricky just dashed out the car, and apparently Daisy was there. Lisa and I rushed and pinned him to the back bumper of my car and Lisa --

Q Before you go any further, you said he was acting very mean and everything in the car and you were scared for your life?

A I wasn't scared for my life, I was just worried about like if there was any -- I had never seen him -- I have seen him three times including that

```
1
     day, all brief periods, and he seemed fine. I never
 2
     saw any sign of aggression with him whatsoever, and
     this was the first time he was acting aggressive. It
 3
 4
     wasn't a tail waq, it wasn't excitement; it was, you
 5
     know, he saw dogs.
 6
               Q
                     So he was acting very aggressive at
     that point?
 7
                    He was acting aggressive. And I was
 8
 9
     just worried for myself at that point.
10
                    Can you describe what aggressive
11
     behavior would be like?
12
                    He was going back and forth in the car.
               Α
13
     And, you know, I was worried he was going to start
     stepping on me. He's a big dog, and I'm small, and I
14
15
     was -- and he was looking at the dogs that were with
16
     her, and it wasn't like a nice -- I can't describe it.
17
               0
                     Did he have hair standing up on his
18
     body?
19
                    No, I didn't see anything like that
               Α
20
     but --
21
                     Was he growling, was he --
               Q
22
                    He wasn't growling at all, and he never
23
     growled the entire time. He never barked, he never
24
     growled, nothing. That was the spooky part of this,
25
     he was completely silent during the attack, during
```

everything.

Q Okay. So back to where the hatch was opened, he jumped out, and then you jumped out of the car as well?

A I was out already at that point, and had screamed no, don't let him out. And Lisa and I pinned him to the back bumper. And Lisa had the front near his head, and I was at -- sort of at his abdomen and his rib cage area. And she was trying -- and Daisy was just -- this horrible screaming was going on and on, and we couldn't -- we couldn't dislodge him.

Lisa was doing everything up front, I was actually literally with my hiking boots kicking him in ribs, I was pounding on his head. And Lisa had asked me to go get something to hit him on the head, and I know that that doesn't work with pitbulls.

And I also was very concerned at this point for her safety as well as mine, and I thought if we could pin him there, at least have him pinned.

Because this was so out of the ordinary for any behavior I had seen before, I actually in my mind was concerned that we could all be in a blood bath and nobody would know it. Because we were in the woods; there were dogs out, we were in the woods, there's nobody around, and I was concerned for our safety as

1 well. 2 Q You have a statement that you wrote? 3 Α Yes. Is this your signature on that? 4 0 5 Α Yep, uh-huh. 6 Q Did you recommend anything after the 7 meet and greet? Well, after it was all over with, and 8 9 the dog was in the car, I raced back to Kathy's house 10 and pretty much said he needs to be euthanized and he 11 needs to be not at your property anymore because of 12 liability and risk to other dogs in her neighborhood. I know that she had told me she had 13 14 been walking him every day in her neighborhood, which 15 has a lot of dogs, and it was just by the grace of God 16 that nobody -- this had not happened yet, because he 17 is strong, and she would not have been able to control 18 him. As a veterinarian, animals undergoing 19 20 treatment, liver issues or anything like that, if they 21 were attacked, is that a great possibility of possibly 22 hurting that animal even further? 23 Α Absolutely, it decreases their immune 24 system, just common sense. You know, not even as a 25 veterinarian, just common sense, you know, it's going

```
1
     to impact.
 2
                     MR. HULSE: I have no further
 3
     questions.
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
 4
                     It sounds like Kathy misled you about
 5
     the entire thing on December 4th, didn't she?
 6
 7
                     She did, but it really has no bearing
                Α
     on the behavior of the dog, because whether she misled
 8
 9
     me or not, that dog was going to attack another dog.
                     And sounds --
10
                0
11
                     And it did.
                Α
12
                     It sounds like Kathy was a little bit
     reckless in letting the dogs out of the truck when in
13
     fact everyone was telling her not to, right?
1 4
15
                Α
                     Yeah.
16
                Q
                     You'd agree with that, right?
17
                Α
                     Yeah.
                     So you never actually examined Daisy,
18
                0
19
     did you, as a vet?
20
                Α
                     Nope.
21
                     You never reviewed her medical records,
22
     did you, as a vet?
2.3
                Α
                     Nope.
24
                     So basically you just threw out some
25
     opinion on something you never actually saw or read?
```

```
1
                     What are you talking about?
                Α
 2
                Q
                     The last question to you about the
 3
     injury that would be sustained if she was already
 4
     sick; you didn't see --
                     No, he asked me a general question
 5
 6
     about immunity.
                     But you don't know anything about
 7
                Q
     Daisy, right?
 8
                     No, I don't, but I do know medicine, I
 9
                Α
10
     do veterinarian medicine.
11
                     You don't know Daisy's injuries?
                     I don't know Daisy as a particular dog,
12
                Α
     but I do know about her wellness and I know about
13
1 4
     immunity.
15
                     So you were simply saying generally
                Q
16
     this could be a problem, does that summarize it?
17
                Α
                     Yep.
                     Okay. Did you once ask that a dog be
18
                0
19
     euthanized because it knocked you over?
20
                     Huh?
                Α
                     Did you once ask that a dog be
21
22
     euthanized because it knocked you over?
23
                Α
                     Oh, yeah, yeah. That was a dog,
24
     Corkie, yes.
25
                     Thank you.
                0
```

```
1
                    And it wasn't euthanized, I didn't ask
 2
     that it be --
 3
                     MR. CROWTHER: That's all the questions
 4
     I have, ma'am.
 5
                     DR. STONESIFER: You can finish your
 6
     statement if you like.
 7
                     THE WITNESS: I don't remember asking
     that it be euthanized. It knocked me over and I said
 8
 9
     that it needs to be under a very controlled -- I asked
10
     that it be evaluated for behavioral issues.
11
     BY CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH:
12
                     When you were in the car with the
               Q
13
     dogs --
1 4
                     Which has nothing to do with this.
               Α
15
                    -- did this agitated behavior start
               Q
16
     when the other dogs came out of the house, I assume?
17
               Α
                     Yes.
                     So once they saw the other dogs is when
18
19
     they started --
20
                    As a matter of fact, on the way over to
21
     the house, Lady Jane, the mother dog, and he were
22
     actually playing in the back of the car. He was very
2.3
     relaxed.
24
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Any other
25
     questions from the Panel?
```

```
1
     BY MS. JANNUZZIO:
 2
                     You said the other dog or the mother
     dog? Were these two dogs related, Lady Jane and --
 3
                Α
                     Yes, she was the mother dog and he was
 4
 5
     the son.
 6
                Q
                     Okay.
 7
                Α
                     Now, that's per what I heard from Kathy
     what she heard from Tacia.
 8
                     MS. JANNUZZIO: Okay.
 9
10
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Thank you.
11
                     THE WITNESS: You're welcome.
12
                     MR. HULSE: Dog Control would like to
13
     call Kathy Hughes.
1 4
     WHEREUPON:
15
                           KATHY HUGHES,
16
     having first been duly sworn by the court reporter,
17
     thereupon testified upon her oath as follows:
     BY MR. HULSE:
18
19
                     Kathy, December 4th.
                Q
20
                     Yes.
                Α
21
                     Do you recall that day?
                Q
22
                     I certainly do.
                Α
23
                Q
                     Okay. Did you make prior arrangements
     to meeting there?
24
25
                     I did. I'd just like to make a short
```

```
1
     statement about that. There were -- they say there
 2
     were no prior arrangements; there were. I don't even
     go to my neighbor's house without calling first.
 3
     were supposed to be there at 4:00 o'clock. In fact, I
 4
 5
     have a text where Cindy says, you know, something
 6
     about 3:30 picking them up and so forth.
 7
                    But the reality of the situation is
     whether there was a prearrangement or not, there are
 8
 9
     certain facts that occurred. So the fact is is that
10
     those dogs were supposed to be at my house for one
11
     night. I was told -- Tacia McIlvaine called me up --
12
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Can I interrupt
     for one minute?
13
1 4
                    THE WITNESS: Yes.
15
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: It's all very
16
     interesting, and I know there's a lot of background
17
     here, but we have a lot of material to get through.
18
     So I'm sorry, but we really need to stay focused on
     this incident that happened, and all the other
19
20
     miscommunication is really not involved.
21
                    THE WITNESS: Right, and that's why I
22
     don't want to go into who shot John, it's absolutely
23
     irrelevant at this point.
```

FIRST STATE REPORTING SERVICE (302) 424-4541

Pamela C. Herrmann, RPR

P.O. Box 99 Milford, Delaware 19963

CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH:

So we need to know what happened with the

It's

24

25

irrelevant.

```
1
     dogs.
     BY MR. HULSE:
 2
 3
                     So again, your right there, how were
 4
     the dogs' behaviors?
                     They were fine, you know, until we got
 5
               Α
 6
     there.
 7
                     How long have you been around animals?
               Q
     Do you have any kind of certifications or anything
 8
     with dealing with animals?
 9
10
                     I have no certification. I have always
               Α
11
     had animals. And after I retired from the Federal
12
     Government, I worked at Annapolis Animal Hospital for
     six years. I'm just currently not in a technical
13
     position, although I am certainly involved with the
1 4
     animals. And I am now employed part time at Rehoboth,
15
16
     also not in a technical.
17
                     I'm also the transport coordinator for
     the English Cocker Spaniel Club of America the rescue.
18
19
     I have had minimal dealings with pitbulls; the ones
20
     that I knew in Annapolis were very friendly. I have
21
     never experienced anything like this before.
22
                     Okay. And prior to this, the dogs had
23
     never shown any sign of aggression or anything with
24
     each other?
```

25

Α

No.

```
1
                    Okay. And after you had gotten out of
 2
     the vehicle and you apparently knocked on the door --
 3
               Α
                    Right.
                    -- everybody has said so far, you went
 4
               0
     back to the vehicle; why did you open up the hatch?
 5
                    Well, what had happened, and again as
 6
     Cindy said, it was a horror show, and everything is so
 7
     mixed up that, you know, to be absolutely precise
 8
 9
     about what happened I think is impossible.
10
                    But I knocked on the door, hi, how are
11
     you and all this kind of stuff. And I was introduced
12
     by Lisa to her dogs, and we thought they were going
     back in. And I got back into the car and one of the
13
14
     little dogs was there, and I quickly shut the door.
15
                    And so I don't remember what happened
16
     next but, anyway, in any event, I got outside of the
17
     SUV again. I was under the impression that all the
     dogs had gotten in, they were called a second time.
18
     And in the meantime, I was in the back of the SUV so I
19
20
     didn't see any of the dogs.
                    And Cindy was screaming, you know, get
21
22
     these dogs away, whatever. And the leashes were in
23
     the back. So the two dogs were at the front of the
     SUV, and I opened the hatch that went up a small
24
25
     amount to -- and I got rushed. I guess Ricky
```

```
1
     obviously heard the door being -- and I mean he
 2
     barreled, the two of them, but I caught Lady Jane
 3
     before she went out.
 4
                     Is there a middle seat in this second?
                     It was flat. It was flat with the --
 5
               Α
 6
     yeah.
 7
               Q
                     But they were completely in the front
     seat of the vehicle?
 8
 9
                     They were -- I don't know if they were
10
     actually in the front seat; they were --
11
                     Toward the front?
               0
12
                     Toward the front, yeah. They were way
               Α
     in the front; I don't know if they were sitting on the
13
1 4
     seat or not. And they were barking, and I had no
15
     idea, really, and this could be reckless, stupid, call
16
     it whatever you want. But I had no idea they were
17
     carrying on because of the dogs, because I didn't know
     the dogs were there.
18
19
                     Did you try to keep the hatch down once
20
     you saw him barreling at you?
21
                     Oh, my God, yeah.
               Α
22
                     And you were not able to put the hatch
               Q
23
     back down?
24
                         I mean he went right through me.
25
                                 And during the attack, did
                     All right.
```

1 you hear Ricky make any kind of noises? 2 Α No. Fur standing up? 3 0 4 Α No. I didn't notice any. Didn't notice any. Did you notice any 5 6 injuries to the lab, Daisy, after the attack? He had his teeth inside of her face, 7 Α and it was the most horrific thing I have ever seen in 8 9 my life. And he just -- and I was trying to open his 10 teeth; impossible. And they were doing exactly what 11 they were saying. And she just stood there and she was in total shock. And I couldn't get him. 12 And then Lady Jane, I had her on the 13 14 leash, and I was thinking about Daisy. And then Lady 15 Jane -- and Lisa said get her out of here. So I don't know how I did it, but I threw her back in. 16 17 0 What do you think would have happened to Daisy if you three weren't there at that time? 18 Oh, dead, I'm sure. 19 Α 20 And why did you get rid of the dogs? 21 I had asked Tacia several times before, Α 22 one day turning into four weeks. And she said oh, no, can't do it, can't do it, can't do it. As you can 23 tell, I mean this is a long time later, I came home, 24 25 and thank God my husband was there, because the only

1 thought was to get rid of these dogs. I have a 15-2 year-old English Cocker at home, and I was keeping them all separate, and God forbid something happen to 3 4 him like it did to Daisy. So you got rid of them due to the fact 5 6 that you had another dog at home, a senior dog, and you were scared something would go wrong? 7 Oh, my God, yeah. 8 Α 9 Okay. How long did it take you to get 10 rid of the dogs? 11 As soon as I got home, I ran in and I said to my husband, "You've got to get rid of them." 12 And I called Tacia, and she didn't answer, wouldn't 13 answer her phone. And I told her what happened, and I 14 15 said I'm bringing them over. 16 Q You said you told her what happened, I 17 think you said you left a message telling her what 18 happened? 19 I left a message. And we put a crate 20 in the car, and I put the two of them in with food, 21 water, everything, bedding. And I tried to get ahold of her another time, and then I texted her -- I have a 22

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P.O. Box 99 Milford, Delaware 19963

And we felt terrible, quite frankly,

horrible headache -- I texted her, telling her.

wasn't home and we put them in the shed.

23

24

25

```
1
     both of us, because to people, they were so loving and
 2
     so sweet, but obviously that doesn't include other
 3
     doas.
 4
                0
                     All right. You have filled out a
     statement form --
 5
 6
               Α
                     Yes, I did.
 7
                     -- for Officer Palacio? Is that your
     signature at the bottom?
 8
 9
               Α
                     Yes.
10
                     MR. HULSE: I have no other questions.
11
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
12
                     Your Cocker Spaniel, is that Simon?
                Q
13
                Α
                     Yes.
1 4
                     He's 15?
                0
15
                     Yes.
               Α
16
                     He was in the same yard with Ricky,
                Q
17
     wasn't he?
                     There was one time where -- we have a
18
19
     doggie door, and Simon can't see and he can't hear.
20
     He was 14 when this happened, he was 15 in January.
21
     And at this point when I was giving him -- Lady Jane
22
     was in season, which complicated and -- and anyway, I
23
     opened the back gate and took them in there, you know,
24
     to get some exercise.
25
                     It's a very simple question.
                                                    They were
```

in the same yard together, right?

misleading question if you're going someplace to say well, everything was fine and ducky. The reason it was fine and ducky is because Ricky was all the way around the corner, okay? And Lady Jane happened to see Simon, and he's going like -- because he can't see a thing. And Lady Jane starts humping Simon, and I grabbed him and threw him through the doggie door and got him the hell out of there because I was afraid of what would happen. So Ricky was totally unaware of Simon.

- Q So they were in the same yard?
- 14 A They could have been in the same 15 country, yes.
 - Q Nothing happened?
 - A Nothing happened because Ricky did not see Simon. I don't know what would have happened, but I can pretty much guess that he wouldn't be around.
 - Q On December 1st, you sent the following email to Tacia.
 - A Yes.
 - Q "It will be three weeks tomorrow that the homeless kids are here. It's been very difficult to handle logistically, and while we love them, they

- 1 can't continue to stay here. I think you need to 2 figure out a plan as soon as possible. Ed has been asking when they will be leaving. He loves them, too, 3 4 but we can't make them members of the family with 5 Simon." Right? 6 Α Right.

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

- 0 So you loved the dogs?
- Yeah, I said with people, they were great. And we did love them, and I think this is a tragedy.
 - On December 3rd, you sent an email to Q Al Mollica at Delaware SPCA. And you say, "The homeless people called her sometime later and she tried ac again and no help. She then called me to see if I could house them for one night," you capitalized that.
- Α Yeah, because that's one night, not four weeks.
- "Well, one night turned into more than three weeks. Ownership of Lady Jane and Ricky was transferred to Tacia. We had them vetted and they are now up to date on vacs, heart worm tested, et cetera. We have tried to find someone to adopt or foster and no luck. They are great dogs, 11 year old female, 7 year old male pitbull mixes. They are well mannered

```
1
     and very loving."
 2
               Α
                    With people.
                    That's what you wrote, right?
 3
               Α
                    That's my experience; with people.
 4
     had no experience with these dogs with other dogs.
 5
                    MR. CROWTHER: Numbers 4 and 5.
 6
 7
                     (Faithful Friends Exhibits 4 and 5,
     marked for identification.)
 8
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
 9
10
                    Now, your statement said that you fed
11
     the dogs and gave them water before you left them in
     the shed, doesn't it?
12
                    No. What it says -- I don't know -- I
13
14
     can tell you what happened, I don't have the statement
15
     in front of me. We brought food, we brought a water
16
     bucket which I filled up at Tacia's house, we had
17
     bedding that we gave them, and made sure that they
     were warm. It was a mild night, they were perfectly
18
19
     wonderful.
20
                    On December 2nd, Tacia sent you a text
21
     message that said, "Kathy, I am on the phone calling
22
     all rescues within a 100 mile radius. Please stop
23
     calling and leaving voice messages, I don't check
24
     them." December 2nd, 2013, she said it right in this,
25
     correct?
```

1	A Yeah, so?
2	Q And your next text message to her was,
3	"I left you two messages. LJ and Ricky are in your
4	shed. They have water but have not been fed yet."
5	A Right. That we sent the food with
6	them.
7	Q Where is any message, because Tacia's
8	already told you she doesn't check her messages, where
9	is the text message that says they had any involvement
10	in any dog attack?
11	A There was no text message.
12	Q Where is the email that says, because
13	you're certainly prolific at emailing, where is the
14	email that says they were involved in any dog attacks?
15	A You know what? I'm prolific at telling
16	the truth, too. And the fact of the matter is that I
17	was hysterical after this happened, and I called her
18	on the phone and I told her what had happened, that I
19	could not possibly have them in my home anymore. And
20	Tacia carries her cell phone around like it's attached
21	to her body, and she refused to answer the calls.
22	CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Again, I really
23	don't see the relevance here of what happened with
2 4	Facebook, et cetera, and text messages.
25	THE WITNESS: Thank you.

```
1
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: We're here to
 2
     talk about the dogs' behavior --
 3
                     THE WITNESS: And the fact that they
 4
     attacked.
 5
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: -- not the
 6
     people's behavior.
 7
                    MR. CROWTHER: The voracity of the
     witnesses testifying is very important. The absence
 8
 9
     of any mention of an attack is very telling.
10
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: I think we have
11
     heard several other witnesses that witnessed the
12
     attack.
13
                     THE WITNESS: And I have, under
14
     perjury, stated that I called Tacia and left a message
15
     telling her about the attack.
16
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: And that's
17
     great, and it's irrelevant to what we're talking about
18
     now.
19
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
20
                    And that's your posting on March 18th
     about Lady Jane and Ricky, too, correct?
21
22
                    Correct.
               Α
23
               Q
                     It doesn't describe any dog attack,
24
     does it?
25
               Α
                     If you want to hand it back to me and
```

```
1
     I'll be able to answer your question --
 2
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: No, it's not
 3
     relevant.
 4
                     THE WITNESS: -- or you don't want any
 5
     answers?
 6
                    MR. CROWTHER: No further questions.
 7
                     THE WITNESS: Yeah, thank you.
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Excuse me,
 8
 9
     Kathy. Does anyone from the Panel have a question
10
     that's relevant to the attack of the dog on the other
11
     dogs?
     BY MR. HULSE:
12
13
                    I have one quick question. Did Daisy
14
     show any sign of aggression --
15
               Α
                   None.
16
                     -- before, prior to the attack?
17
               Α
                    Before, after, anything, none; she's a
     sweet, gentle dog. Thank you.
18
19
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: You can step
20
     down.
21
                     THE WITNESS:
                                   Thank you.
22
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: I ask to re-call
23
     Staff Sergeant Palacio.
24
25
```

```
1
     WHEREUPON:
 2
                          MARY PALACIO,
     having previously been duly sworn by the court
 3
 4
     reporter, thereupon testified upon her oath as
     follows:
 5
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
 6
 7
                     Staff Sergeant, on 3/18 when you were
               0
     doing your research, did you find an incident in
 8
     regards to a dog attack?
 9
10
               Α
                    Yes.
                           There had been a dog-on-dog
11
     attack and it was phoned in by the dog owner, Paula
     Purcell, and evidently it involved Ricky when he was
12
13
     staying at Delmarva Pet Resort.
1 4
                     Okay. Were there any case notes in the
15
     case?
16
               Α
                     Yes, there was.
17
               Q
                     And what did they say?
18
                     Sergeant Jester had gone out and spoke
19
     to -- he's the owner of Delmarva Pet Resort, and he
20
     was asked what happened. And it was the day that
21
     Tacia McIlvaine and a gentleman friend of hers had
     arrived to remove the dogs. Ricky broke loose and
22
2.3
     there was an incident between him and another dog.
24
                     So after discovering this, did you
               0
25
     contact Todd Clyde?
```

1 Yes, I did. Α 2 Q And in speaking with him, did he also give you victim information? 3 4 Α Yes, he did. Okay. So after speaking with him, did 5 0 6 you contact Miss Purcell? Yes, I did. 7 Α And what was your conversation with 8 0 9 her? 10 She was explaining to me that her Lhasa Α 11 Apso named Banks has lyme disease, and he's real funny 12 about how he gets groomed or when he gets groomed; he's very achy and has a lot of issues. So the only 13 person that seems to be able to groom him and do well 1 4 15 with him is Mr. Clyde, so she does take him there, 16 traveling to Maryland to groom him. 17 0 And did she describe what happened while at Delmarva Pet Resort on 3/18? 18 Yeah. When she arrived with Banks to 19 20 be groomed, she noticed a gentleman coming out of the 21 building with Ricky, the black and white pitbull. saw him proceed up the driveway with the pitbull, so 22 23 she put Banks on his leash and they were going in. 24 And she told me she just was not ever aware, just all 25 of a sudden he was there and had Banks by the neck and

```
1
     was shaking him. And she started screaming, and
 2
     Mr. Clyde came out and assisted her in trying to get
     Ricky off the dog.
 3
                    And did she take the dog to a vet for
 4
 5
     treatment?
 6
                    Yes.
                          Actually, Mr. Clyde did, once
     they got Ricky off, he brought Banks inside the
 7
     building and tried to wash him off. And when he saw
 8
     the wound severity, he started calling around, and the
 9
10
     only veterinarian that could see him right away was in
11
     Ocean City, so they took Banks over there immediately.
12
               Q
                    And did she send you pictures?
13
                    Yes. Actually when I spoke to her,
     they had met -- her whole family, actually her
14
15
     daughter and husband and everything had been there at
16
     the vet's, and they did take pictures and I did
17
     acquire the pictures from them.
                    Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 11, can you
18
19
     describe what this is?
20
                    They're trying to show I believe that
               Α
21
     there's hemorrhaging in the eye. You can see the
22
     blood vessels are broken.
23
               Q
                    And this dog is Banks?
                    Yeah, that's Banks.
24
25
                     (Plaintiff's Exhibits 11 and 12, marked
```

```
1
     for identification.)
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
 2
 3
                     This is Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 12,
 4
     the same view. As a vet tech, is that injury
 5
     something that he would just get from a little bite or
 6
     is that --
 7
               Α
                     No, no. A lot of times when -- I have
     seen it with hit-by-car dogs, even when they have
 8
 9
     pressure or a blow to the head or anything like that,
10
     their eyes will -- you're a vet so you know -- but
11
     they can get bleeding in the eye, the blood vessels
12
     get broke. I'm not sure even if he may have had, you
13
     know, teeth in the eye, I don't know.
1 4
                     And this is still Banks in the picture
15
     that you received --
16
               Α
                     Yes.
17
                0
                     -- Plaintiff's Exhibit 13?
18
               Α
                     Yes.
19
                     (Plaintiff's Exhibit 13, marked for
20
     identification.)
21
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
22
                     Plaintiff's Exhibit 14, can you
2.3
     describe what this is?
24
                     Yeah, that's the neck wound that he
25
     sustained.
```

```
1
                    And would you call that just a physical
 2
     injury or would that be a severe physical injury?
 3
                    That's definitely a severe injury and,
               Α
 4
     from what I understand, it was rather deep.
                    And why would you call it a severe?
 5
 6
               Α
                    It required two surgeries and a drain;
     they couldn't close it because of how deep it was and
 7
     infection could set in.
 8
 9
                    CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Okay, that's
10
     Exhibit 14.
11
                     (Plaintiff's Exhibit 14, marked for
12
     identification.)
13
                    DR. STONESIFER: Can you pass 13
14
     around? The copy we have is black and white.
15
                    CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Sure. Would the
16
     Panel just like these?
17
                    DR. STONESIFER: I just want to see the
18
     ones of the eyes. Thank you.
19
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
20
                    And Plaintiff's Exhibit 15; same
21
     injury, just a different view?
22
                    Yes, yes. Where they actually have it
23
     opened up and you can see how deep it goes.
24
                    MR. HULSE: Would you like that one as
25
     well?
```

```
1
                     DR. STONESIFER: I don't need those.
                     (Plaintiff's Exhibit 15, marked for
 2
 3
     identification.)
 4
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
                     After speaking with Miss Purcell, did
 5
 6
     you go down actually to Delmarva Pet Resort?
                     Yes, I did.
 7
               Α
                     And did you take these pictures?
 8
                Q
 9
                     Yes, I did, of the location.
                Α
10
                     And can you describe what this picture
                Q
11
     is?
12
               Α
                     That is the parking lot outside the
13
     building. Where the ACV is parked right there is
14
     actually where Miss Purcell was parked.
15
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: And that's
16
     Plaintiff's Exhibit 16.
17
                     (Plaintiff's Exhibit 16, marked for
     identification.)
18
19
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
20
                     Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 17, can you
     describe the person in the picture?
21
22
                     Yeah, that's Mr. Clyde, he's the owner
23
     of the kennels, and he's showing me where Banks was
24
     and Ricky at the time of the attack.
25
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
                                          Okav.
```

```
1
                     (Plaintiff's Exhibit 17, marked for
 2
     identification.)
 3
                     DR. STONESIFER: Was Ricky on a leash
 4
     when this happened?
 5
                     THE WITNESS: Ricky, what I understand,
 6
     was on a leash, he broke free from the gentleman, I'm
 7
     not sure if he pulled the leash out of his hand or he
     slipped, I'm not sure how he got loose but he was
 8
 9
     loose at that point.
10
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
11
                     And can you describe what this picture
               Q
12
     is?
13
               Α
                     Yeah. I asked Mr. Clyde to show me
14
     where Ricky was when this happened. And Ricky had
15
     already walked up the lane to this point, and that's
16
     approximately where he was.
17
                     (Plaintiff's Exhibit 18, marked for
     identification.)
18
19
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
20
                     And then Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 19?
21
                     That's another view of where it
               Α
22
     happened.
23
               Q
                     Okay.
24
                     (Plaintiff's Exhibit 19, marked for
25
     identification.)
```

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Pamela C. Herrmann, RPR

P.O. Box 99 Milford, Delaware 19963

```
1
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
                     And Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 20?
 2
 3
                     That would be standing up where Ricky
                Α
 4
     was, looking down to the building where Banks was
 5
     going in.
 6
                Q
                     And you said Banks was approximately
 7
     over in this area --
 8
                Α
                     Correct.
 9
                Q
                     -- and Ricky was up in here?
10
                     Correct.
                Α
11
                Q
                     Okay.
                     (Plaintiff's Exhibit 20, marked for
12
     identification.)
13
1 4
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
15
                     Did you also get a statement from
                Q
     Mr. Clyde?
16
17
                Α
                     Yes, I did.
                     Is this the statement?
18
                0
19
                     Yes, it is.
                Α
20
                     Is that your signature --
                0
21
                     Yes, it is.
                Α
22
                     -- at the bottom? And basically what
23
     did Mr. Clyde tell you he did when he was at --
24
                     He -- okay, Mrs. Purcell was so
25
     distraught over her dog, he was just shaking
```

violently. And she just was like paralyzed, she didn't know what to -- I don't know if she didn't know what to do or --

Q It was unexpected?

A Yes, definitely, because she did not see him coming. From what she told me, she was walking this way, and he came from this way and just picked up the dog. Mr. Clyde came out and tried to separate them, he ended up picking up that ice breaker right there and hitting Ricky with that to try to get him to release the dog. He would not release the dog.

Q This is Plaintiff's Exhibit 27, an ice breaker.

(Plaintiff's Exhibit 27, marked for identification.)

THE WITNESS: But he hit him with the wooden end. He told me that he couldn't get Ricky to release, so his next move was to go in and get a taser that he had. But by the time he came out, I believe the gentleman and Miss McIlvaine were there, and they were able to get the dogs apart. He immediately scooped up Banks and took him into the building because he has a grooming center in there, and he put him in the tub and started washing all the blood off, and realized the severity of the wounds. And they,

```
1
     like I said, they called around and found a vet that
 2
     would see him immediately and took him in.
 3
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Plaintiff's Exhibit
     22.
 4
                     (Plaintiff's Exhibit 22, marked for
 5
 6
     identification.)
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
 7
                     Did you receive these from Mr. Clyde?
 8
               Q
 9
               Α
                     Yes.
10
                     And what is the first page?
               0
11
                     It is billing for the couple months
               Α
12
     that Lady Jane and Ricky were there.
13
                     And were they housed separately or
1 4
     together?
15
               Α
                     In the beginning, they housed them
16
     together, they said that they grew up together, it was
17
     a mother and a son. He put the -- he has a couple
     extra large kennels there that can house two dogs.
18
19
     You know, when he has families go on vacation and
20
     stuff, they can bring their dogs in and house them
21
     together.
                     He started out housing them together,
22
23
     but his kennel manager, John, told him that they had
24
     an incident one day where Ricky became very aggressive
25
     with Lady Jane over food, and they were fighting, and
```

```
1
     he separated them. And after that, he started billing
 2
     them for separate kennels, which he was doing special
 3
     for them I guess it's $10 a night, because it's $20
 4
     now for two dogs. And he did tell Miss McIlvaine that
     she would be paying for two kennels at this point
 5
     because of, you know, them not being able to be fed
 6
 7
     together.
                     And also there were some vet bills?
               Q
 8
                     Yes. Mr. Clyde, beings that it
 9
10
     happened at his establishment, was helping Miss
11
     Purcell pay some of the vet bills for Banks.
12
                     Okay. And did you contact the vet
               Q
     where Banks went to?
13
1 4
                     Yes, I did.
               Α
15
                    And did they send you a vet report?
               Q
16
               Α
                     Yes, they did, they sent me a
17
     preliminary vet report. And then recently, I had
     contacted the vet again and asked her for her personal
18
     statement as far as how she felt about, you know, the
19
20
     incident, all the things that Banks had gone through,
21
     and she did send me her own personal report.
                    And is Plaintiff's Exhibit 9 the vet
22
23
     report --
24
               Α
                     Yes.
25
                     -- of the injuries?
```

```
1
               Α
                     Yes.
 2
                     (Plaintiff's Exhibit 9, marked for
 3
     identification.)
 4
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
                     And then Plaintiff's Exhibit 10 is the
 5
 6
     letter that she wrote --
 7
               Α
                     That she wrote to me yes.
                     -- in regards to Banks' injuries?
 8
                Q
 9
               Α
                     Yes.
10
                     (Plaintiff's Exhibit 10, marked for
11
     identification.)
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
12
13
                     How did you get possession of Ricky?
14
                     We contacted Faithful Friends, their
15
     director, Jane Pierantozzi, and said that we were
16
     going to take Ricky and, due to the severity of the
17
     attacks, we wanted to do a dangerous dog on him. So
     we went up there the one day to acquire him from them.
18
19
                     And when you were at Faithful Friends,
20
     was he on the property?
21
                     No, he was not.
                Α
                     Did they eventually bring Ricky to you?
22
                Q
23
               Α
                     They did bring him back eventually,
24
     yes.
25
                                          Okay, I believe I
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
```

```
1
     have no further questions.
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
 2
                     You never saw Banks' wounds, right?
 3
                0
                Α
                     No, I never personally saw them.
 4
                     Right. So everything you're talking
 5
                Q
 6
     about from his injuries was from somebody else's
     observations or records, right?
 7
                     I just went by the vet report and what
 8
 9
     the pictures were.
10
                     Right, because you have no personal
                0
11
     knowledge about any of the injuries, right?
                     No, but I was a vet tech for several
12
                Α
13
     years.
1 4
                     My question was you have no personal
15
     knowledge about any of the injuries, correct?
16
                Α
                     I spoke to the owner, so -- and I spoke
17
     to Mr. Clyde.
                     We'll do it again --
18
                0
19
                Α
                     But I did not see them personally, but
20
     I do have knowledge of them, yes.
21
                     You did not see them, you did not
                0
22
     examine them?
23
                Α
                     No, but I have knowledge of them, yes,
24
     I do.
25
                     Everything you know is from somebody
                0
```

```
1
     else, correct?
 2
               Α
                    Correct.
 3
                     Okay, very good. Now, the records you
 4
     have at Plaintiff's 9 actually start out before the
     attack, March 14th, correct?
 5
 6
               Α
                    Well, they sent me everything; I asked
 7
     them to send me a complete report. That has nothing
 8
     to do with what the incident says happened to the dog.
 9
                    I understand. I'm just saying the
10
     first entry says not eating or moving on March 14,
11
     2014?
12
               Α
                     That still has nothing to do with the
13
     attack.
14
                     That's still what it says, though,
               0
15
     right?
16
               Α
                     Right. But from how long ago was that?
17
               Q
                    Four days.
                    All right, well --
18
               Α
19
                     I'm glad that you don't think it's
               0
20
     important, but we do. Now, on the note on the 18th is
21
     about the actual exam and everything going on, right?
22
                     Uh-huh. Yes.
               Α
23
                    Now, the 20th, it says, "Re-check.
24
     Owner says doing better. Moving around better. Owner
25
     doesn't want to come in. Owner mentions something
```

```
1
     about pulling drain tube." That's what it says,
 2
     correct?
 3
               Α
                     Okay.
                     So two days after the incident, owner
 4
               0
     doesn't want to come in the vet anymore, right?
 5
 6
               Α
                     No, she did want to come in and he
     relapsed several times and had to have two surgeries.
 7
                     The note on the 20th, his owner doesn't
 8
 9
     want to come in, right? So two days later --
10
                     Well, I'm sure the vet left it up to
               Α
11
     her if he was feeling well, is that she --
12
                     This is a very simple question, ma'am.
               Q
13
     Two days after the 18th attack, as you described it,
1 4
     the owner did not want to go back to the vet?
15
                     I don't think they were planning --
               Α
16
               Q
                     Is that what it says right here --
17
               Α
                     That's what it says.
                     -- owner doesn't want to come in?
18
               0
19
                     That's right.
               Α
20
                     Thank you. Oh, by the way, you didn't
               0
21
     actually speak with Faithful Friends before you showed
     up on that Friday, did you?
22
23
               Α
                     No, actually my captain did.
                     Right. So when you're talking about
24
               Q
25
     what we did, you weren't --
```

1	A I was with her.
2	Q you weren't even on the phone?
3	A I was there with her.
4	Q But you weren't on the phone, were you?
5	A I was right there with her, sir.
6	Q So if someone testifies the whole
7	discussion went somewhere different
8	A I was sitting right there with her,
9	sir.
10	CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Objection.
11	CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: We're going to
12	talk about the dog attack. We're not here to talk
13	about who said what about who. We're here to talk
14	about the actions of the dogs.
15	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
16	MR. CROWTHER: The voracity of these
17	witnesses is very important. We have one witness say
18	one of the witnesses already lied.
19	CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: We will make
20	our judgement about the voracity.
21	BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
22	Q Staff Sergeant Palacio, do we have the
23	full vet report that shows Banks' injuries prior to
2 4	the attack and after the attack?
25	A Yes, I asked for them to send me the

```
1
     full report of everything the dog's ever been through.
 2
     He's had lyme disease, he's had several issues. He's
 3
     a nine-year-old Lhasa, he's had issues. It still has
 4
     nothing to do with how he was after the attack.
                    And did Miss Purcell, did she say that
 5
 6
     Banks provoked the attack in any way?
 7
               Α
                     No. Banks was not aware of the dog
     even -- she was unaware of the dog even coming.
 8
 9
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: No further
10
     questions.
11
                     THE WITNESS: Okay.
12
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Any questions
     from the Panel?
13
1 4
                     DR. STONESIFER: No.
15
                    MS. JANNUZZIO: I do not.
16
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Delaware Animal
17
     Care and Control calls Todd Clyde.
18
19
     WHEREUPON:
20
                           TODD CLYDE,
21
     having first been duly sworn by the court reporter,
     thereupon testified upon his oath as follows:
22
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
2.3
                    Good evening. Did Staff Sergeant
24
               0
25
     Palacio come to your location and take pictures?
```

1 Α Yes. 2 Q Okay. And is this a picture that she had taken when you were there? 3 4 Α Uh-huh. Does that show basically where Miss 5 6 Purcell's vehicle was? 7 Α Yes. Okay. And looking from this 8 Q 9 perspective, is that about where Ricky was? 10 Α Yeah. 11 And over here approximately was where 12 Banks was? I didn't see Banks get out of the car. 13 When I came out of the kennel, that's about where the 14 15 incident, where Ricky had Banks. 16 Q And what's the procedure when somebody 17 gets a dog out of your kennel, when they're going to take the dog out? 18 19 We bring the dog up and we give it to 20 them. 21 Okay. Do you have the dog on your lead Q 22 when you take it out? 23 Α Yeah, we have them on our leads, and the owner puts them on their's. 24 25 So the owner takes their collar and

```
1
     their leash, and puts it around the dog?
 2
               Α
                    Yeah. We never keep collars, we never
 3
     keep leads.
                    Okay. So when Miss McIlvaine was
 4
               0
     walking Ricky -- or Ricky was being walked outside by
 5
     her friend, was Ricky on a leash?
 6
 7
               Α
                    Yes.
                    Okay. So he was under the control of
 8
     his owner?
 9
10
                    Uh-huh.
               Α
11
                    Okay. And then what happened? Were
               Q
12
     you outside?
13
                    No, I was inside. I mean I saw
     Mrs. Purcell pull up in her car, and pull into the
14
15
     thing. And then I saw him walking down the driveway.
16
     And I went into the grooming room which is in the
17
     second room in the building, just because I knew it
     was Banks, he was coming in for grooming, what cage
18
19
     was I going to put Banks in.
20
                    And then I heard Mrs. Purcell scream
     out in the parking lot. And I came out, and I saw
21
22
     Ricky had Banks. And just happened it was when we had
23
     all that snow, and the ice chipper was right next to
24
     the door.
25
                    When you say you saw Ricky had Banks,
```

1 what do you mean by that? 2 Ricky had Banks in his mouth, his head in his mouth. So I grabbed the ice chipper and went 3 4 over and beat -- literally jumped down on the dog and beat him about five or six times --5 6 Q Is this the ice chipper you used? 7 Α -- with the ice chipper. Would you show me how you went? 8 0 9 Α Okay, say Ricky's there, I went 10 (demonstrating). 11 And did he release? Q 12 Α No. He did not? 13 0 1 4 Α No. 15 So then what did you do? Q 16 Α Dealing with pitbulls I have had over 17 the years, we have a taser in the back of the kennel just for incidents like that. We've never had to use 18 19 it, but I've always told my kennel help if any of them 20 ever get in a fight, do not put your hands in the 21 middle of it, you'll get eaten, use the taser. We've never had to do it, but it's there, but -- and 22 23 that's -- we couldn't get him, two big men trying to 24 get them apart and it wasn't working. So I ran back

to the kennel to get the taser, and by the time I came

25

1 back out, he had released. 2 And were you aware that Ricky was aggressive towards other dogs? 3 No. We were never told of any incidents before he came in. The only incident we had 5 6 was sometime in the middle of January, they had a fight over food, Ricky and Lady Jane. They had lived 7 together, we had them in the same cage because we were 9 told mother and son, they have lived their whole life 10 together, there wouldn't be -- there shouldn't be a 11 problem. And we didn't have a problem with them, but 12 we had -- they had the one fight over food, so we 13 separated them and put them in two cages instead of a 1 4 double run. 15 Did you contact Tacia when that 16 incident occurred? 17 А Yeah, we told her we had separated them, that it wasn't really a problem, Ricky got 18 19 aggressive over food so we put them in side-by-sides. 20 Okay. Is this the invoice that you 21 gave to Staff Sergeant Palacio? 22 Α Yeah. 23 Q And on here, it shows December 5th is when the dogs went in? 24 25 When the dogs came in, December 5th.

1 And then March 18th --Q 2 Α Is when they left. 3 -- is when they left? Okay. And you 4 did charge for two kennels for the dogs? Well, we charge by the dog. We charge 5 6 them \$10, our normal boarding rate is \$20 a night. But we've dealt with rescues before and I always give 7 them a break, I charge them about what it costs me. 8 9 It costs me about \$10 a night to house a dog, so I 10 just do it for -- I've done it for the Airedale 11 Terrier Club of America, the Irish Terrier Club of 12 America, and probably half a dozen others. That's very generous. Is this your 13 1 4 statement? 15 Α Uh-huh. 16 Q Is this your signature? 17 Α Yep. CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Okay, I have no 18 19 further questions. BY MR. CROWTHER: 20 21 Sir, would it be fair to describe the 22 screaming you heard as sustained? 23 Α Yeah. 24 It went for a long period of time, 25 didn't it?

```
1
                     Well, by the time I got, maybe three --
 2
     I don't know, through a room, 20 feet; five, ten
 3
     seconds.
                0
                     So you didn't see the actual initial
 4
 5
     contact --
 6
                Α
                     No.
 7
                     -- between Ricky? And you also didn't
                Q
     see the end of the contact with Ricky?
 8
 9
                Α
                     No.
10
                     During the time that Ricky had Banks,
                0
11
     were you trying to separate by pulling Banks and they
     were trying to pull Ricky?
12
                         I was trying to beat him over the
13
                     No.
1 4
     head with a stick.
15
                     Did you have Banks in your hands?
16
                Α
                     I had one hand on the back of his neck
17
     and the stick in my hand.
                     And when that didn't work, you didn't
18
19
     try to pull him out?
                     No; that wouldn't work, you're not
20
21
     going to open that.
22
                     Did you happen to pass an Animal
23
     Control officer on your way out?
24
                     On my way to the vet hospital, yes.
25
                     Yes.
                           What happened?
```

```
1
                     I told them what had happened --
 2
     quickly what had happened and I was off to the vet to
     get Banks stitched up.
 3
                     And do you know if Tacia in the vehicle
 4
 5
     behind you stopped to talk to him?
 6
               Α
                    No, I didn't see it.
 7
               Q
                     Do you recognize that, sir?
                     Yeah.
               Α
 8
 9
                     That's your text messages to Tacia and
10
     her's to you, right?
11
                     Uh-huh.
               Α
12
                     And it says, "Tacia, do you have a
               Q
     rabies certificate on Ricky?" And she said, "Sending
13
     now." She wrote, "Todd, is the dog okay?" You wrote,
14
15
     "Dog will be fine stitched up with drain." You wrote
     that on March 18th, didn't you?
16
17
               А
                     Uh-huh.
                     That's what you thought, too, didn't
18
               0
19
     you?
20
                     That's what I thought. I mean I
               Α
21
     figured the vet would stitch it on up, there would be
22
     a drain in it for about a month or so, and he would
2.3
     heal.
24
               Q
                     These are other messages between you
25
     and Miss McIlvaine, correct? A few weeks later in
```

```
1
     April of 2014?
 2
               Α
                     Yeah.
                     And she's saying that she's hearing
 3
 4
     from other people that you're complaining because you
     haven't been paid, isn't that right?
 5
 6
               Α
                    No -- well, yeah, somebody --
 7
     Mrs. Lefthouse called about taking them. And no,
     actually what happened was somebody called about
 8
 9
     wanting to bring in two more rescue dogs, and I said
10
     no. And they wanted to know why, and I said because I
11
     haven't -- between Safe Haven, the other rescue dog I
     have in the kennel, and these two, I haven't been
12
     paid. So I was not doing any more rescue.
13
1 4
                     MR. CROWTHER: Thank you. No further
15
     questions.
16
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
17
               0
                     When you were outside with Ricky and
     Banks, was Ricky on a leash.
18
19
               Α
                     No. He went out the door on a leash,
20
     but I was told he slipped the leash.
21
                     So when you grabbed him, there was no
               Q
22
     tether around his neck?
2.3
               Α
                    No, nothing.
24
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: No further
25
     questions.
```

```
1
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Does the Panel
 2
     have questions?
 3
                     (No response.)
 4
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH:
                                             Thank you.
 5
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Delaware Animal
 6
     Control would like to call Miss Paula Purcell.
 7
     WHEREUPON:
 8
 9
                       PAULA MARIE PURCELL,
10
     having first been duly sworn by the court reporter,
11
     thereupon testified upon her oath as follows:
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
12
13
                    Hi, Mrs. Purcell. You brought pictures
1 4
     in tonight; would you identify this picture?
15
               Α
                     It's -- sorry -- it's Banks as a puppy
16
     and my lab and collie at -- you know, they were other
17
     dogs that I had.
                     So he gets along with other dogs?
18
19
               Α
                     Yeah. When I brought Banks to get
     groomed that day, I had my two Golden Retrievers at
20
21
     home and my daughter's two rescue dogs that lived in
22
     Philly, I was watching them for two weeks. So, yeah,
23
     yeah, he gets along.
24
                    And Exhibit 26?
               0
25
                     Just Banks before he was groomed.
```

1 Q Before he was groomed? 2 Α Yeah. 3 Okay. How long have you owned Banks? 0 4 Α Nine years. And on March 18 when you went to 5 Q 6 Delmarva Pet Resort, when you got out of the vehicle 7 was Banks on a leash? Α Yes. 8 9 And did you see Ricky? 10 When I pulled in the driveway and Α 11 parked, the gentleman and the dog had come out of the groomer and were walking up the lane, so I thought he 12 13 was taking his dog to go to the bathroom. So I just 1 4 had to go straight across in to be groomed, so that's 15 what we were doing was just going straight across to 16 be groomed. And that dog came from nowhere, I didn't 17 see it, I didn't even -- just next thing I know, my 18 dog was hanging from the dog's mouth. 19 So he didn't pause by your leg? 0 20 Α No. 21 He didn't bark at all? 0 22 No. It was immediate. I mean Banks 23 was just -- he's short, he's 35 pounds, and he's bow-legged and has an underbite and -- he was just 24 25 dangling from this dog, so I was screaming.

And then he ran to try to get his dog, and Todd came out, because we're both pulling, trying to get them apart. And Todd just kept beating him with that dog -- I mean with the stick. And he -- he wouldn't let Banks go, so I really just thought I was watching my dog get killed right in front of me. But he -- I don't know how he got -- but he did let him go, and Todd scooped Banks up and brought him in the back.

Q Okay. And then after Todd brought him

Q Okay. And then after Todd brought him into the back, what happened then?

Traumatized. I was just in the front waiting room, and Todd's trying to deal with Banks and me, and with them, and try to call a vet, and he was doing the best he could under the circumstances. But I -- I was hysterical, I was hysterical. And the people did try to say they were sorry, but I didn't -- I didn't -- my dog was just viciously unprovoked attacked for no reason.

Q And when you took him to the vet, how many times have you been to the vet with Banks?

A Well, Todd took him initially, I don't even know how I drove home, I was in shock. And I have been to that vet two or three times a week for

the last two months; he had the initial surgery, he came home. And, yes, the officer did talk to me two days later, and I was grateful my dog was fricking alive.

So that's what you heard, I was grateful that Banks was okay, but we were by no means done with vets. He still had to get staples out, he was on a form of morphine, he was on four different pills, he had a drain. And when he went to get his drain out, the drain -- all the staples were gone, and they had to redo the surgery because it was infected. So I had two solid months of being in and out of the vets, and Banks had a few nights spending the nights there. And they did all that they could. And Banks did have the lyme disease prior, he's an older dog, Banks -- we had to have put Banks down on Saturday.

Q I'm sorry.

A And, yeah, I mean it wasn't ultimately -- he didn't die from the dog attack, but his whole life was spent on -- I mean his immune system was compromised, he was on drugs for the whole two months.

Q So after this, using your words, vicious attack, did Banks ever fully recover?

A No.

```
1
                     He did not?
                Q
 2
               Α
                     No.
 3
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: I have no further
 4
     questions.
                 Thank you, ma'am.
 5
                     MR. CROWTHER: I have no questions.
 6
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Does the Panel
 7
     have questions?
 8
                     DR. STONESIFER: No.
 9
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH:
                                              Thank you.
10
                     MR. HULSE: Delaware Animal Control
11
     would like to call Tacia McIlvaine.
12
13
     WHEREUPON:
1 4
                         TACIA MCILVAINE,
15
     having first been duly sworn by the court reporter,
16
     thereupon testified upon her oath as follows:
     BY MR. HULSE:
17
                     Tacia, were you aware of any of the
18
19
     attacks that Ricky had been involved in?
                     March 18th when he attacked Banks.
20
                Α
21
                     You were not aware of the other attack
                Q
22
     prior in December?
2.3
                Α
                     No.
24
                     Were you there present when the attack
25
     occurred?
```

FIRST STATE REPORTING SERVICE (302) 424-4541

Pamela C. Herrmann, RPR

P.O. Box 99 Milford, Delaware 19963

1 The attack at Delmarva Pet Resort? Α 2 0 Yes. 3 I was in the truck when the attack Α 4 occurred. Did you try to get out to help as well? 5 Q 6 Α I did, after I realized what was going 7 on. All right. How far were you parked 8 Q from the incident? 9 10 There's a picture of where he showed Α 11 where Miss Purcell was parked. Okay, right here, I think. On this one, okay, we would have been here or 12 13 in this area. Sorry. All right. Why did he walk all the way 14 15 down the lane with the dog? 16 Α I don't know, I didn't have the dog. 17 0 Was the dog -- did you have a leash for 18 the dog, a collar for the dog? 19 Α He did have a leash. Todd had put a 20 collar on it, I guess, because we didn't leave him 21 with a collar. It was a collar from the kennel, and 22 he just said to take it, because I asked him if he wanted his collar back when we were inside. 23 24 So you guys did not put the collar on 25 the dog?

```
1
                     No; it was put on in the kennel when he
 2
     brought him out.
 3
                     All right, but you don't know that for
 4
     sure because you were weren't inside as well either?
                     I was in the building when John took
 5
 6
     Ricky out, I was talking to Mr. Clyde.
                     So you were not in the vehicle, you
 7
                0
     were inside?
 8
                     When we left, I had gotten in the truck
 9
10
     with the other dog, and John was putting the dog into
11
     the truck.
12
                     All right. Do you post things for
                Q
     Faithful Friends or for animals that you have, you try
13
1 4
     to rescue?
15
                     I post, I share posts.
               Α
16
                Q
                     You share posts?
                     Uh-huh.
17
                Α
                     Is this a post that you were doing for
18
                0
19
     Ricky?
20
               Α
                     Yes.
21
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Again, I hope
22
     these are relevant to the attack in some way --
2.3
                     MR. HULSE: Yes.
24
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: -- and not
25
     human attacks on humans.
```

```
1
     BY MR. HULSE:
 2
                     When you posted this one, what does it
 3
     say there on for Ricky?
               Α
                     Which part? Seven years old and up to
 4
     date, neutered male, no other male dogs, prefers
 5
 6
     laid-back home, sweet and loving, beautiful.
 7
                    No other male dogs, why did you put no
               Q
     other male dogs?
 8
 9
                     That's what his previous owners had
10
     indicated to me.
11
                    All right, so you always post dogs that
     have attacked other dogs and saying they need loving
12
     homes and they're beautiful?
13
                     Let me see that. You see the date on
1 4
               Α
15
     that, sir?
16
               Q
                     Do you see the print date on the paper?
17
               Α
                    Well, when you print something out,
     that's generally the day that it's printed out up
18
19
     there.
20
                     Right. So is it still posted that this
               0
21
     is a loving dog, great for a new home?
                     I guess it could be, if it was still
22
23
     there; I didn't -- I don't know exactly on the 18th.
24
                    But was it a good dog for adoption for
25
     anybody besides anybody with male dogs?
```

```
1
                     As far as I knew, yes, as long as there
 2
     were no other male dogs around.
 3
                     MR. HULSE: Okay. I have no other
 4
     questions for her.
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
 5
 6
               0
                     Did you ever speak with Mr. Clyde about
 7
     Ricky and Lady Jane?
 8
               Α
                     Yes.
 9
               0
                     Did you inquire about how they were
10
     doing?
11
                     I did.
               Α
12
                     When was the first time you inquired?
               Q
                     I had spoken with him a couple of times
13
14
     in January because of they were going to be spayed and
15
     neutered. We had some snow, so appointments were
16
     rescheduled. But on the 29th of January,
17
     specifically, we spoke.
                    And what did he tell you, what did you
18
19
     ask and what did you tell him?
20
                     I asked him about the temperament of
21
     the dogs, how they were behaving because I wasn't
22
     there, I didn't have any interaction really with the
23
     dogs. And he said that they were really sweet; there
     had been an incident of some food aggression when they
24
25
     first came in; he expected it because they appeared to
```

1 be starving and it was normal. 2 When you first came in contact with Ricky and Lady Jane, were they in fact starving? 3 Α They were. They were very 4 mal-nourished, their skin condition was bad, it was a 5 6 bad situation. 7 0 Did Todd ever mention that he was separating the dogs? 8 9 Α No. 10 He never mentioned it? 0 11 Α No. 12 Did you have any further conversations Q 13 with him about the dogs? I spoke with him a few times in 1 4 15 between, but on March 18th, we spoke again 16 extensively, we were actually late going up to 17 Faithful Friends because there was an extended 18 conversation. 19 Was this before the Banks incident? 20 Before the incident, yes. 21 And what did he tell you about Ricky Q 22 and Lady Jane then? 23 Α He told me the same thing, you know, we 24 discussed the same thing, that there had been some 25 food aggression in the beginning, and that that was

```
1
     it, that they were sweet dogs.
 2
                    Did you pass an Animal Control officer
     on the way out from Delmarva Pet Resort?
 3
                    We stopped behind the Animal Control
               Α
     officer and Mr. Clyde, and then we stopped and spoke
 5
     with the Animal Control officer.
 6
 7
               0
                     Do you know what his name was?
                    Officer Holland.
               Α
 8
                    And did anyone tell Officer Holland
 9
10
     what had just transpired?
11
                     I believe Mr. Clyde did, because
12
     Officer Holland stopped and we stopped. And he said
     it's no big deal, it's a dog-gone dog bite. He said
13
     the worst thing that can happen is Ricky will have a
1 4
15
     ten-day quarantine. He said go on line to the
16
     Department of Agriculture, I think he said, and
17
     there's a way to fill out a bite report on line.
                     Is that all he said?
18
               0
19
                     That was it. It was no big deal.
               Α
20
                     Did he just continue on his way up?
21
                    He never even got out of the truck.
               Α
                                                           Не
22
     just rode past us and we went on up and went to
2.3
     Faithful Friends to take the dogs up.
                    MR. CROWTHER: I don't know how the
24
25
     Panel wishes to proceed. I can do my whole
```

```
1
     examination of her because I was going to call her as
 2
     a witness, too.
 3
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: In the interest
 4
     of time, maybe you could do that.
                     MR. CROWTHER: Okay, I'll try to
 5
 6
     expedite it a little bit.
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
 7
                     How much contact did you actually have
 8
 9
     with Ricky and Lady Jane?
10
                     Well, I met Ricky and Lady Jane on
               Α
11
     November 10th when we went to Dewey Beach and pulled
     the dogs out of the situation. And then I had them at
12
     my house on -- from December 4th when they were
13
     dropped in the shed until December 5th when I took
1 4
15
     them to Todd Clyde's at Delmarva Pet Resort.
16
               Q
                     On December 4th, we showed you the text
17
     message you received; did you receive any other
     messages from Kathy Hughes on that day?
18
19
               Α
                     No.
                     Have you ever been told by Kathy Hughes
20
21
     that Ricky or Lady Jane were involved in any
22
     aggressive incidents before --
2.3
               Α
                     No.
24
                     -- before March 18th?
25
               Α
                     No.
```

```
1
                     Was it ever explained to you that the
     Lisa St. Clair situation?
 2
 3
                     No.
                Α
                0
                     At the time on March 18th when you
 4
     brought the dogs to Faithful Friends, did you tell
 5
 6
     them that something had happened?
 7
                     Faithful Friends?
                Α
                     Yes.
 8
                0
 9
                Α
                     Yes.
10
                     Did you think it was a serious
                0
11
     situation?
                     No. I mean it didn't seem like it was
12
                Α
     that serious at the time, just because it was an open
13
     gash, and I had texted Mr. Clyde, I had spoken with
1 4
15
     the vet that they had taken Banks to, and everybody
16
     seemed to indicate that everything was going to be
17
     fine.
                     So you thought it was a cut, be sewed
18
                0
19
     up, and that would be the end of it?
20
                Α
                     Right.
21
                     Did you have any reason to believe it
                Q
22
     was anything other than that?
2.3
                Α
                     No.
24
                     Now, the Animal Control officer wanted
25
     to make a big deal about you putting down not with
```

1 male dogs; did you have any experience with Ricky not 2 being with male dogs? No. Actually, I had seen him in the 3 4 back yard with Kathy Hughes' elderly dog, Simon. Well, she said that they weren't even 5 6 near each other. Well, that's not true, because I had 7 Α went up one Sunday, and she said to go ahead and let 8 9 Ricky loose in the back yard, she had a nice gated

Ricky loose in the back yard, she had a nice gated back yard. I was concerned because there was a dog door, and I asked her if Simon was in, she said everything was fine.

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

I let Ricky loose, I walked around the back, and Simon was there by the rocks and Ricky was standing over him. And I was concerned obviously, so I walked over to Ricky and I grabbed his collar and just led him away. He was standing over him, he could have done something, he didn't. But he didn't give me any indication, he wasn't growling at the dog, he wasn't doing anything like that.

Q Is it possible Miss Hughes didn't even know that that had happened?

A It's a good possibility that, but I thought I told her after the fact that Simon was in the back yard and that's why I was bringing Ricky back

1 out. 2 Q Did she ask you if anything happened? 3 Α No. 4 Did you tell her nothing happened? 0 I just said it was fine, he, you know, 5 Α 6 he just came right with me when I directed him away. 7 On March 18th during the incident 0 involving Banks, tell us what you witnessed, what you 8 9 saw. 10 Well, I had gotten in the vehicle with 11 Lady Jane. John was on one side of the truck, I'm not 12 sure exactly because I was making a phone call to Faithful Friends to let them know that we were going 13 to be late because we were getting held up, talking to 1 4 15 Mr. Clyde. 16 Q This is before anything happened? 17 Α This is before anything happened. 18 0 Go ahead. And I turned around to look to see what 19 Α 20 was taking so long. John had went around to the other 21 side of the truck to put the dog in. And apparently 22 Ricky had slipped his collar and was walking over to 23 another dog. And I didn't see the attack happen so I don't know; I did walk up on it, you know, after the 24 25 I got off the phone and went out to see what

```
1
     they needed.
 2
                    And Mr. Clyde said go get John, the
     kennel manager. And I ran into the building, trying
 3
 4
     to find whoever he was. And it just was a lot of
     confusion. I went around looking for him, I couldn't
 5
 6
     find him. Then when I went out, he was coming from
 7
     like around down the lane.
                     When the dogs were separated, did you
 8
     see Ricky after that?
 9
10
               Α
                    Yes.
11
                    And how was he?
               Q
12
               Α
                    He seemed fine.
13
               Q
                     Was he trying to get back to Banks?
14
               Α
                     No.
15
                     Was he trying to pull towards Banks?
               Q
16
               Α
                    You're talking about Ricky, correct?
17
               Q
                     Yes, was he trying to pull towards
     Banks?
18
19
               Α
                     No. John had ahold of Ricky. I mean
20
     he didn't have anything on, he had to, you know, hold
21
     him, and he put him in the truck.
                    He just held him like this and put him
22
23
     in the truck?
24
                    Well, however he held him, I mean he's
25
     a big guy.
```

1 Q Right. 2 MR. CROWTHER: Thank you, no further 3 questions. BY MR. HULSE: 4 I have a few more questions. You're 5 saying it wasn't nothing serious that you felt at that 6 point in time? 7 A No. When I saw Banks inside, because 8 9 Mr. Clyde had shaved the hair from where he had been 10 bitten --11 So you're saying seeing him beating Q 12 your dog with a stick was nothing serious? I did not see that. 13 1 4 You didn't see that right next to your 0 15 vehicle? 16 Α That stick was laying there when I came 17 out. It wasn't near the vehicle, it was near the building. I saw the cattle prod, I didn't see him 18 19 hitting with that. 20 And when you're saying he put the dog 21 into the vehicle, you're saying he was holding him; he 22 wasn't just holding him like a puppy dog, I'm sure he 23 had his arms wrapped around, restraining him and putting him in the vehicle, correct? 24 25 He didn't have to restrain him because

```
1
     Ricky wasn't trying to do anything at that point.
 2
               Q
                     How big is Ricky?
               Α
                     I don't know.
 3
 4
                     Approximately?
               0
                     Maybe 65 pounds.
 5
               Α
 6
               Q
                     65 pounds? So he just lightly had the
     dog in his hands, a 60 pound dog?
 7
 8
               Α
                     Yes.
 9
                     All right. Now knowing what we know
     that he's been involved in two different attacks, one
10
11
     male, one female, would you still say he's a great dog
     for the public to go out and to adopt?
12
                     I wouldn't know personally, because I'm
13
14
     only familiar with one incident.
15
                     Right, but you were with Ricky, you
     had --
16
17
               Α
                     He's not a dog apparently that would be
     doing well with male dogs is the information that I
18
19
     have.
                     Right, but what you do know now, you
20
21
     know he has been involved in two attacks --
                     Well, I don't know that he was involved
22
23
     in two attacks; I know that he was involved in one dog
24
     attack.
25
                     MR. HULSE: No further questions.
```

```
1
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Excuse me.
 2
     Wait just one minute.
 3
                    THE WITNESS: Oh, I'm so sorry.
 4
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Questions from
 5
     the Panel?
 6
                    MS. JANNUZZIO: I do. Can you tell me
 7
     on what date Ricky was neutered?
 8
                    THE WITNESS: It was January 29th of
     2014.
 9
10
                    MS. JANNUZZIO: Thank you.
11
                    THE WITNESS: You're welcome. I'm
12
     sorry, anything else?
13
                    DR. STONESIFER: When was it?
1 4
                    THE WITNESS: I'm sorry?
15
                    DR. STONESIFER: When was he neutered?
16
                    THE WITNESS: January 29th of 2014. We
17
     had had some snow, and we went and picked him up from
     Delmarva Pet Resort.
18
19
                    DR. STONESIFER: And who performed the
20
     procedure?
21
                    THE WITNESS: Doctor Popas at I believe
22
     it's called Delmarva Pet Medical Center.
2.3
                    DR. STONESIFER: Okay.
24
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Any other
25
     questions?
```

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Pamela C. Herrmann, RPR
P.O. Box 99 Milford, Delaware 19963

```
1
                     (No response.)
 2
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Thank you.
 3
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: We would like to
 4
     call John Lathbury.
 5
 6
     WHEREUPON:
 7
                     JONATHAN WADE LATHBURY,
     having first been duly sworn by the court reporter,
 8
 9
     thereupon testified upon his oath as follows:
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
10
11
                     Good evening, Mr. Lathbury. Can you
12
     state your occupation, please?
13
                     I am the current acting manager for
1 4
     Delmarva Pet Resort.
15
                    And what are your duties?
               0
16
               Α
                    Range from taking care of the dogs to
17
     feeding them, watering them, sometimes bathing them.
     I'm pretty much involved with their life the whole
18
     stay at the kennel.
19
20
                     So when somebody comes to get their dog
21
     from Delmarva Pet Resort, what's the normal procedure
22
     that you follow?
23
                    I ask them to remove the leash that
24
     they have on, we put on our slip leads because no way
25
     a dog's going to get off the slip lead. And then I
```

```
1
     escort them to the back.
 2
                     The same procedure counts as they
     leave: We take our slip lead, put it on, escort the
 3
 4
     dog out to them. We tell them go ahead put your leash
     on, and they walk out.
 5
 6
               0
                     So when Miss McIlvaine grabbed Ricky,
     when you released Ricky to their custody, did you have
 7
     him on your lead?
 8
 9
                     No, I wasn't present at the time; I was
10
     in the back taking care of the rest of the dogs.
11
                     Okay, do you know who did give Ricky --
               Q
12
               Α
                     My boss.
                     Okay, Mr. Clyde did?
13
               Q
1 4
               Α
                     Uh-huh.
15
                     And does he normally follow that
               Q
16
     procedure?
17
               Α
                     Oh, yes. Four years straight working
     with him, yeah.
18
19
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Okay, I have no
     further questions.
20
21
                     THE WITNESS: All right, cool.
22
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
23
                     Just a real simple question. What if
24
     the dog had to leave but didn't have a collar, you
25
     wouldn't help out?
```

```
1
                     Well, yeah, if there's a --
               Α
 2
                     MR. CROWTHER: Okay, no further
 3
     questions.
 4
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Any questions
 5
     from the Panel?
 6
                     MS. JANNUZZIO: No.
 7
                     DR. STONESIFER: No.
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: You're excused,
 8
 9
     thank you.
10
                     CAPTAIN WARBURTON: We rest.
11
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Thank you.
                                                          Ιf
12
     you want to, you may proceed.
                     MR. CROWTHER: Call John Nusbaum.
13
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: One of our
1 4
15
     Panelists needs a break.
16
                     (Whereupon, a short recess was taken.)
17
                    MR. CROWTHER: I'll call Mr. Nusbaum,
     John Nusbaum, he's back.
18
19
     WHEREUPON:
20
                         JOHN W. NUSBAUM,
21
     having first been duly sworn by the court reporter,
     thereupon testified upon his oath as follows:
22
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
2.3
24
                    I guess by looking at you, we now know
25
     how you carry 65 pound dogs, supposedly, right?
```

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Pamela C. Herrmann, RPR

P.O. Box 99 Milford, Delaware 19963

```
1
                Α
                     Right.
 2
                Q
                     Mr. Nusbaum, on March 18th, were you
 3
     with Tacia at Delmarva Pet Resort?
 4
                Α
                     Yes.
                     And did you enter the actual building
 5
                Q
 6
     to pick up Ricky?
 7
                Α
                     Yes.
                     Who put the collar on Ricky?
 8
 9
                     The collar was on, as far as I know.
10
     It was on him in the kennel wherever he had him in the
11
     back.
12
                     Did you attach a leash?
                Q
13
                Α
                     No.
1 4
                     Who did?
                0
15
                     Todd.
                Α
16
                Q
                     Did you take the leash from him?
17
                Α
                     I took the leash.
                     Where did you go then?
18
                0
19
                     And I walked out the door. And I seen
                Α
20
     the lady with her dog, she was pulling in, and I seen
21
     right off she was nervous, she's like oh, pitbull. So
22
     I tried to walk him -- I never walked down the lane.
23
     I walked around the front of my truck which is where
     Tacia showed we parked. I walked around the long way
24
25
     instead of the driver's side, to the passenger door.
```

1 Well, I was going to let him in that passenger door 2 but Lady Jane jumped over there, so --3 So Lady Jane was already in the truck? 0 Α She was already in the truck. 4 Then what did you do? 5 Q I walked around to the driver's side 6 Α and opened the door -- well, I had to walk around and 7 open the door, and I turned my back to him, had the 8 9 leash, and I felt the leash go limp. 10 And what did you see when you turned 11 around? 12 Α I seen Ricky, and she was walking her dog like heading towards the door. And I thought I 13 said something, maybe I didn't, I'm pretty sure I did, 14 15 because it was shocking that -- Ricky is old, his 16 hips, I mean he's a big boy but his whole back hips, 17 he has no back strength, but he just walked, he walked 18 towards her dog. Did he run? 19 20 At a trot, at a fast trot; he didn't 21 walk slow, he walked at a fast trot. And when he walked over, he bit right ahold of her dog. 22 23 Now, what was the owner doing before Ricky even got to the dog? 24 25 She started -- when she seen him

```
1
     coming, she did start screaming.
 2
                    So she started screaming before Ricky
 3
     even got to Banks?
                    Yes, before he got -- she started to
 4
               Α
 5
     scream.
 6
               Q
                    What exactly did you see from that
     point, forward? Tell us what you saw.
 7
                    Well, I walked over as fast as I could,
 8
 9
     I have these -- and these are the same boots, I think,
10
     I have on, they're slick, and there was ice and snow,
11
     I walked over and I took control, got behind Ricky and
     pulled him up in a Nelson, and I had him here. And I
12
     tried to pull his jaws off, it was just me.
13
1 4
                    You had your fingers in his mouth?
15
                    I put my fingers in his mouth, which
16
     you never -- I would never do that. This pitbull --
17
     but he wasn't being aggressive like everybody is
     saying. Yeah, if it was my little dog, I guess he was
18
19
     aggressive, because I felt her pain, I ain't going
     to -- you know, I felt that.
20
21
                    Sure. When you say he's not being
22
     aggressive, did he shake?
                    He wasn't shaking. He just bit and
23
24
     would not let go.
25
                    Did he pick the dog up?
```

```
1
                    I don't -- no, because I had him.
 2
     had ahold of him right -- you know, and when it first
     happened he -- I think when he walked over, he bit and
 3
 4
     he -- he's a big dog, and he pushed that little dog
     down and just bit, I mean ...
 5
 6
               0
                    Now, there was some rumor in the report
     saying that he threw the dog, did that happen?
 7
                    No, he didn't throw the dog.
 8
 9
                    Now, we heard the situation involving
10
     the giant tool over there; how did -- did you and Todd
11
     try to separate the dogs?
12
                    I was the only one with the dog.
13
     Finally I quess he did hear the scream, he came out,
     and I had Ricky already, and I kind of told him, I
14
15
     said get a shovel. Because I've had pitbulls before,
16
     and I wanted him to take the spade and the flat spot,
17
     and you got to bust them as hard as you can like
     you're hitting a 300 pound man. I'd rather him hit
18
     the pitbull, the poodle wouldn't take it --
19
20
               0
                    Right.
21
                    -- obviously, but the pitbulls are
               Α
22
                   He didn't -- he only had an ice scraper,
     hard-headed.
23
     and obviously you couldn't hit him with that end,
     you know, that it would cut the pitbull and maybe make
24
```

him even bite the poodle harder. So he whacked him

with the handle.

And we both had him, I think -- we both -- we tried to get them apart. Not saying he was pulling, but we were trying to get them apart. And we weren't yanking, you know.

Q Could you see the bite wound while they were still connected?

A It was so stressful, painful watching her scream, I really -- yeah, I could see his tooth in his fur the whole time because that's what I kind -- it was his -- one side of his canines were right on that one side where the cut is.

Q How did you ultimately separate them?

A That kept going, and finally he realized that wasn't working, he was getting ready to hit him with the sharp end, I was like no, no, because if he would have did that, he probably would have bit down harder on the poodle, and that's when he ran in to get the prod.

And I was like I'm using all my everything. And I was like, man, he's going to leave me alone, I'm thinking to myself I'm going to have a heart attack, trying to -- he goes in, and by the time he came out, which wasn't long, I seen -- I'm sitting there watching, and I got Ricky, and I had him at this

```
point now and I'm pulling him back, and I'm looking and his tooth was right there where it ready to slip, and when it was, I yanked at this point.
```

Now, Ricky wasn't -- I got him off, the poodle was laying there in shock and pooped itself, the Lhasa Apso, it was a horrible thing, I felt bad for the dog, you know. I don't know what Ricky was thinking, why it happened.

And I had to yell -- actually, Tacia is the one who got her dog initially away, I'm pretty sure, because he was just coming back with the prod.

And we had them apart, and I had to yell for somebody to get the collar, get the collar because now all I had was his greasy fur, he had been in the kennel.

So I'm holding him, and I need to get that collar on him. And at that point I grabbed the collar and gave it a twist so it was tight, and walked him to the car, and tossed him in with one arm because I could pick that dog up with one arm; especially after that, my adrenaline was pumped. And I really felt bad for her, it was horrible; I've had Lhasa Apsos, I've had pitbulls, I've had -- it's just horrible. They're you're children, doesn't matter what kind of dog they are.

Q You don't want them bitten at all.

1 You don't want them bitten at all. Α 2 Q Now, did you go in and see when Banks' wound was cleaned up by Todd? 3 Α Yes. 4 Tell us about that. 5 6 Α I walked in, and I knew -- I wanted to say I was sorry to her, but I knew her feelings would 7 be like -- you know, it probably wasn't best. So I 8 9 kind of walked in and walked past. And Todd had just 10 shaven Banks, and he was sitting there. And Todd had 11 to -- he went out and helped her I think make a phone 12 call, she was really shook up. And Banks, obviously he was shook up. 13 14 So I sat there and pet him, and told him -- you know, 15 I was talking to him, I said, "I'm sorry, Buddy." 16 Because neither dog was mine, I was just helping and 17 caught in the situation, and tried to keep calm and make the best of it. 18 19 But Banks was there, you know, it was about a three-inch, it basically -- it wasn't deep, he 20 21 never got his muscle or neck bone or the dog would 22 have killed him. 23 Q What do you mean it wasn't deep? 24 It wasn't deep; it was long. 25 CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Objection.

```
1
     not a vet.
 2
                    MR. CROWTHER: He personally witnessed
 3
     the wound.
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: We do have a
 4
 5
     vet report here.
 6
                    MR. CROWTHER: He personally witnessed
     the wound so he can describe what he saw.
 7
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: I would rather
 8
     have the vet's opinion.
 9
10
                     THE WITNESS: I was just trying to
11
     answer.
12
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: I understand.
13
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
1 4
                     So what exactly did you see?
15
                    About a three-inch gash, it looked like
16
     someone took a knife and cut the membrane in the skin
17
     to where you could see the muscle tissue. And, you
18
     know, it wasn't pretty, the poor dog was shaken.
19
                    Was the wound cleaned while you were
20
     there?
21
               Α
                     Todd had -- did a pretty good job, he
22
     shaved it and cleaned it up, and I quess he rubbed it
23
     with some gauzes and alcohol. Well, he had it pretty
24
     clean when I got there because I stayed out and ...
25
                     Was the wound still bleeding when you
```

1 got in there?

A There was some blood there but it wasn't like -- it wasn't on an artery that I know of. And because of the dog's mouth, you know, they had to tube it, obviously. If a dog bites, you know, it doesn't matter how far, once it breaks your skin, you've got to have a drain in it or you better be taking big strong antibiotics for a while because it's dirty. Even a human mouth's dirty. It's just dirty when you get bit. Ricky's an old dog so his mouth was probably really dirty.

Q Did you see Ricky charge Banks to attack him?

no back legs. He did walk at that dog at a fast pace. I have one, it would attack on him like an NFL pro ball player. It was the wierdest way I've ever seen a dog, a pitbull go after a dog, because he just like he walked real quick and bit. And there wasn't no shaking, and usually a pitbull would have grabbed that, he would have shook it, it would have been dead quick, but it wasn't like that.

It was like he just walked over to that dog fast as he could because, like I said, his hips are bad, and he just bit. And it was like the calmest

1 attack for a pitbull, which was lucky for all of us, 2 because I wouldn't have been able to reach in his mouth. Normally I would never have reached in his 3 4 mouth but when I seen that he was just there, and he just bit, and he wouldn't move. And I was just like, 5 6 well, the hell with it, let me try. But he was too --I couldn't even budge his jaws, they say it's 7 1300 pounds and that's ... 8 9 Was he growling? 10 No growling. I think Banks was crying. Α 11

There wasn't no growling or snarling or, you know, nothing, or I wouldn't have stuck my hands in his mouth. And I stuck them in through the side, too, and this way, and he would have broken my fingers.

Q Did you get bit?

A No, I didn't get bit. Scratched, clawed. No, Ricky never acted -- like actually when we took him to the vet to get neutered, we walked him by Irish Setters right in the vet, and they had cats in there.

- Q Anything happen?
- 22 A Nothing.

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

- Q Did he try to pull towards them, lunge towards them?
 - A He never tried to pull. But, you know,

```
1
     that breed, if you ain't an alpha, you got to be more
 2
     alpha than that dog and kind of let them know that.
 3
     Which I did let him know that with the way I handled.
 4
     I handled a bunch this past summer for Safe Haven, All
     Aboard, and you can feel out the ones that like, you
 5
 6
     know what? You don't want to walk them even near
 7
     another dog, even know though I could out-power them,
     you don't want to do it, but Ricky wasn't like that.
 8
 9
                    MR. CROWTHER: No further questions.
10
     BY CAPTAIN WARBURTON:
11
                     Good evening. When you were taking
               Q
12
     Ricky out of Delmarva Pet Resort, was he jumpy and
13
     active --
14
                    No.
               Α
15
                    -- or was he just walking?
               Q
16
               Α
                     Docile. He was docile.
17
               Q
                    Docile?
                     I mean he's -- he seems old to me,
18
19
     especially his hips seem arthritic, very skinny.
20
     Maybe it was from being locked in the kennel for
21
     months.
                     Sure. So when he saw Banks, how did he
22
               Q
23
     slip his collar?
24
                    Well, see, that's the thing. When I
25
     walked around to the -- I walked around the front of
```

```
1
     the truck -- can I do this? I walked around, I opened
 2
     the door. When I opened this door, I walked around
     and went like this. The only thing I felt was as I
 3
 4
     went to pull and there was slack, and I turned around,
     and he's from there to the bench, and he was walking
 5
 6
     fast to her dog, that way.
 7
                0
                     So he was pursuing the dog?
               Α
                     Yeah, and I -- I think I tried to yell,
 8
 9
     but I tried to go as quick as I could but it was ice,
10
     and these are nothing --
                     Oh, yeah, I see that.
11
                Q
12
               Α
                     -- but slick, so ...
13
                0
                     So what you saw is when Ricky slipped
14
     his collar, he didn't go to you, he didn't -- did he
15
     jump in the truck?
16
               Α
                     No.
17
                Q
                     No.
                          So he went straight --
                     When he slipped it --
18
               Α
19
                     So he went straight to Banks?
                Q
20
                     -- he went straight to Banks.
               Α
21
                     So you would call that pursuing?
                Q
22
                     Yeah, if that's what you want to say,
                Α
23
     yes, it was pursuing.
                     Did he bark or did he do --
24
                0
25
                     Wasn't no bark, wasn't no growl.
```

```
1
                    And you said this was the calmest
 2
     attack you ever saw?
 3
                    For a pitbull. If you have been around
               Α
 4
     pitbulls --
 5
                    So he was stealthy, he knew what he was
               Q
 6
     doing?
 7
                     In all reality, if a pitbull would bite
               Α
     a Lhasa Apso, usually one bite, one shake, and you're
 8
 9
     burying the Lhasa Apso, or a cat.
10
                    So Ricky knew he was pursuing that dog
11
     and he knew --
12
                    He might have been. Lady Jane, you
13
     know, I thought of Lady Jane was right about where
     Banks walked to when I first brought her out, and
14
15
     maybe it was something like that. But I mean he -- if
16
     you want to say pursue, okay. He walked to it, is how
17
     I'm saying. He didn't pursue it like an attack. Yes,
     once he got it --
18
19
                    Well, if he was walking towards the
20
     dog, then he is pursuing?
21
                    Yeah, he walked right to that. He
               Α
     wasn't going nowhere else, he walked right to Banks
22
23
     and bit and held.
24
                    So you would call that an unprovoked
25
     attack?
```

1	A Yeah.
2	Q Yes?
3	A If you want to say.
4	Q Yes. When you were behind Ricky
5	picking him up, were you able to see Banks or were you
6	focusing more on Ricky's back?
7	A No, I could see him but I was focusing
8	on Banks more than Ricky, trying to get that tooth
9	to get it out of his fur, you know.
10	Q Okay, so he had a good hold of him?
11	A Oh, yeah, I had a good hold.
12	Q No, Ricky had a good hold of Banks in
13	his mouth?
14	A Yeah, he had a hold of Banks with
15	actually the one side of his canines is where he broke
16	through the skin, that's the one I was working on.
17	Once I seen it was there, I gave it a little just a
18	tight jerk, and I got him away, and I needed help, no
19	one was around.
20	Q So that was just the calmest attack you
21	ever saw?
22	A It sure was.
23	CAPTAIN WARBURTON: No further
24	questions.
25	THE WITNESS: Okay.

```
1
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Does the Panel
 2
     have questions?
 3
                     (No response.)
 4
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: You're excused,
 5
     thank you.
 6
                    THE WITNESS: You're welcome.
 7
                    MR. CROWTHER: Call Jane Pierantozzi.
                    CAPTAIN WARBURTON: We object. Miss
 8
 9
     Pierantozzi did not see any of the attacks and thereby
10
     cannot provide any witness testimony to the attacks.
11
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: So can you
12
     please make sure that this testimony is about the
     attacks involved with Ricky and Banks?
13
                    MR. CROWTHER: It's about the dog.
1 4
15
     This is a dangerous dog panel.
16
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: We're talking
17
     about the specific attacks of Ricky on dogs; if that's
     what this is about, okay.
18
19
                    MR. CROWTHER: Are you saying I can't
20
     ask my witness questions about the dog?
21
                    CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: If they're
22
     about Ricky attacking the dogs, you can ask her
2.3
     questions.
24
                    MR. CROWTHER: But what if Ricky didn't
25
     attack the dogs?
```

1	CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: I have heard
2	many, many witnesses say that they witnessed a dog
3	attack of Ricky on other dogs.
4	
5	WHEREUPON:
6	JANE PIERANTOZZI,
7	having first been duly sworn by the court reporter,
8	thereupon testified upon her oath as follows:
9	BY MR. CROWTHER:
10	Q When were you first contacted about
11	getting Ricky and Lady Jane?
12	A I think it was about early December
13	when Lynn Lofthouse called me and said that there were
14	two dogs that were homeless and in bad conditions, and
15	that people had pitched in and were boarding them at a
16	boarding facility in Sussex and they wanted to get
17	them into a shelter for adoption and to get them in
18	better condition, she was worried about the stress and
19	the conditions there.
20	I told her at the time we didn't have
21	room because we were renovating, and that we basically
22	were moving many of our dogs out into foster care or
23	adoption while we renovated our kennels, but when we
24	had room and completed, we would try to bring them in.
25	I asked her if they were nice dogs, she

1	said that they were nice dogs, they lived there
2	were three dogs in the home but one I think was
3	staying with the family, and these two dogs she said
4	had been in carriers and were in poor conditions.
5	So then she called a couple more times
6	maybe while we were renovating, and finally I said we
7	will call you when we're done, and I let her know we
8	were done and we had room in March.
9	Q And was Ricky and Lady Jane planning on
10	coming there on March 18th?
11	A Yes, they were planning on coming on
12	March 18th. I wasn't sure exactly who was bringing
13	them, but one of the rescue individuals, it ended up
1 4	being Tacia ended up bringing them there. And we had
15	a kennel for both of the dogs prepared for them.
16	Q Were you told that they lived together?
17	A Yes, and we prepared a kennel for them
18	to live together, and they did live together at
19	Faithful Friends.
2 0	Q Now, the first time you heard from
21	Animal Control was when?
22	A Let's see. I heard from Animal Control
23	when Sherry called me well, Sherry called me, left
2.4	me a message, then she called Lou: it was on 4/11. T

believe or that's when I picked up the message. And

1	her message to me was I could call back on Monday
2	because it was a Friday. Lou had spoke to her and she
3	wanted to specifically speak with me, and she had
4	concerns about Ricky but we didn't know the specifics
5	at that time.
6	Q Did you speak to her on that Monday?
7	A Yes, I did.
8	Q So you did not know anything about
9	these supposed incidents in December or November or
10	whenever they claimed to have occurred?
11	A No. Lou had said that Tacia mentioned
12	there was an incident with another dog, that it was
13	minor, and that was really all we knew. And on the
1 4	surrender forms, she listed that they were not good
15	with dogs or kids or cats, so we put them on the
16	website that way to start until we got to know them.
17	Q Now, when you put dogs on your website,
18	does that mean they're ready for adoption?
19	A No; we usually put them up there within
2 0	the first couple days to a week. And then if we don't
21	know their behavior, we may put still learning about
22	them or something like that.
23	MR. CROWTHER: No further questions.
2 4	THE WITNESS: Okay.

1 BY MR. HULSE: 2 Just a few questions. So you didn't know these animals when they were first brought to 3 4 your facility? 5 Α No. 6 0 Did they show any signs of aggression 7 while they were at your facility? No, they didn't. I mean they were very 8 9 nice; nice, easy-going dogs. They did well in the kennel while they were with us. We didn't have any 10 11 food fight incidences like I think Todd mentioned; we 12 didn't have any of that happen. They were just kind of calm, mild-mannered dogs. 13 Then why is it Ricky was not at your 1 4 15 facility when we went to get Ricky? 16 Α Because we take the dogs on walks. The 17 dogs go on walks three times a day in our kennel, and he was on his afternoon walk. 18 So he didn't come out from a vehicle; 19 20 he was on the premises the whole time? 21 No, he was on the walk with someone Α else, but Lou went to get him to make sure he came 22 back when the officer wanted him back. 2.3 24 So he was out of your facility, he was 25 gone from your facility?

1 Right, right. Α 2 So you don't walk your dogs on your 3 facility? Α We don't have -- our property is on 4 Germay Drive, so we have to walk them at the local 5 6 park, or up and down Germay Drive, in the 7 neighborhood, so they're walked in the area. Okay. Now that you know these dogs 8 Q 9 have attacked, you have heard testimony from witnesses 10 that have been there, including the person that helped 11 I guess with the dog bring him to your facility, do you think these are great dogs to put out in the --12 I think --13 1 4 -- public, Ricky? 15 I think right now, Lady Jane's in a Α 16 foster home, she's doing good. I think knowing what 17 we know about Ricky is that we would reassess him with dogs, and we would have a behavior trainer that we 18 19 work with work with him more, and go from there, 20 reassess him and go from there. 21 So you don't believe Ricky to be an Q 22 endangerment right now to the public? 23 Α Obviously he can't be off leash and be 24 around other dogs. 25 But right now, is he a danger to the

```
1
     public?
 2
                    Not while he's on a leash. In the
     shelter, he's fine; on a leash, fine. He walked by
 3
 4
     other dogs, showed no aggression. He didn't even act
     reactive in the kennel walking by other dogs. So I
 5
     would say we would work with him with a trainer and
 6
 7
     reassess him.
                    So if you're saying you have to work
 8
     with him, you're saying that he's not ready to go out
 9
10
     into the public?
11
                     Some of the dogs in our care can be in
12
     rehabilitation or training before they get adopted.
13
                    I understand that he's been in your
14
     care, correct?
15
                    Right.
               Α
16
                     But you're saying right now, he needs
               Q
17
     to be reassessed?
                     I would have someone reassess him,
18
19
     knowing what we know, and have a trainer behaviorist
20
     work with him with other dogs first before we put him
21
     back out in the public.
22
                    MR. HULSE: Okay, no further questions.
2.3
                     THE WITNESS: Okay, sure.
24
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Does the Panel
25
     have questions?
```

```
1
                     (No response.)
 2
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Thank you,
 3
     Jane.
 4
                     MR. CROWTHER: Call Lou Henderson.
 5
 6
     WHEREUPON:
 7
                         LOUIS HENDERSON,
     having first been duly sworn by the court reporter,
 8
 9
     thereupon testified upon his oath as follows:
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
10
11
                     Mr. Henderson, what do you do, or
                Q
12
     what --
13
                     I'm the dog department manager at
1 4
     Faithful Friends.
15
                     Are you familiar with Ricky?
                Q
16
               Α
                     Yes.
17
                0
                     Did you have contact with Ricky from
     March 18th to the time that he was taken away by
18
19
     Animal Control?
20
                  On a daily basis.
21
                     How much time did you spend with Ricky?
                Q
22
                     Every day, I seen him. Some days, I
     would walk him. Some days, just interact through the
23
24
     kennel.
25
                     How was he when you walked him through
```

1	the kennels?	
2	А Н	e walked through fine.
3	Q D	id he lunge at cages?
4	A N	o.
5	Q D	id he try to go after a dog?
6	A N	o. I walked him through with his mom
7	usually.	
8	Q D	id he exhibit any aggressive behaviors
9	in your presence	?
10	A N	ot that I ever saw.
11	Q A	nd you had daily contact?
12	A Y	es.
13	Q L	et's talk about the day that Animal
14	Control came; yo	u had Ricky and Lady Jane out for
15	walks?	
16	A Y	es.
17	Q N	ow, when you came back, you were told
18	that Animal Cont	rol was going to take him, right?
19	A Y	es.
20	Q A	nd did you come by another dog on your
21	way back towards	the Animal Control vehicle?
22	A I	was taking him in the shelter, yeah.
23	Q T	ell us what happened there. Well, I
24	should probably	say what didn't happen? How close
25	were you to that	other dog?

```
1
                     Probably over to by them flag poles, I
 2
     would say.
 3
                     Did Ricky pull?
                0
 4
                Α
                     No.
 5
                Q
                     Did Ricky try to lunge towards that
 6
     doq?
 7
                Α
                     No.
                     Did he make any aggressive action
 8
                Q
     towards that dog at all?
 9
10
                Α
                     No.
11
                     Did he just follow you?
                Q
12
                Α
                     I walked him right in the front door
13
     into the -- yes. And we have cats up there, too.
14
                     Now, I know that you put him in the
15
     Animal Control truck.
16
                Α
                     Uh-huh.
17
                0
                     Before he got in the Animal Control
     truck, how was he around the group of people that were
18
19
     standing there?
20
                     He was fine. We took pictures of him
21
     and everything like that.
22
                     Was he being pet?
                Q
23
                Α
                     Yes.
24
                     Was he just sitting there?
                Q
25
                     He was just sitting there, calm as can
                Α
```

```
1
     be.
 2
                Q
                     Did he exhibit any aggressive behavior
 3
     at all?
 4
                Α
                     No.
 5
                     When you picked him up and put him in
 6
     the back of the small cage in the back of the truck,
 7
     did he try to get back out?
 8
                Α
                     No.
 9
                Q
                     Did he act in any aggressive way then?
10
                Α
                     No.
11
                     Did he bark?
                Q
12
                Α
                     No. I never heard him bark, actually.
                     Now, you had to let him back out of it
13
                Q
     to have him checked by the vet, right?
14
15
                Α
                     Yes.
16
                Q
                     Did he lunge out of his cage?
17
                Α
                     No. I had to help him down.
                     And did you bring him back out later
18
                0
19
     on?
20
                Α
                     Yes.
21
                     Was it about the same old thing --
                Q
22
                     Yes.
                Α
23
                Q
                     -- acting calm?
24
                     Fine.
25
                     MR. HULSE: Basically you're saying the
```

```
1
     animal showed no sign of aggression, the question you
 2
     already asked. Is there anything else besides the
     aggression of the dog questioning?
 3
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: You're out of
 4
 5
     order.
 6
                     DR. STONESIFER: You had your two
 7
     cents, let him have his two.
                     MR. HULSE: Sorry.
 8
 9
     BY MR. CROWTHER:
10
                     How many dogs does Ricky have to pass
11
     from where he was in Faithful Friends to where he goes
12
     out for a walk?
13
                     At least 10 to 12, I would say.
1 4
                     And do those dogs change every once in
15
     a while?
16
               Α
                     All the time.
17
                Q
                     And never a sign of aggression?
18
               Α
                     Not once.
19
                     MR. CROWTHER: No further questions.
20
     BY MR. HULSE:
21
                Q
                     Were either these two dogs present when
22
     you walked by with Ricky?
2.3
               Α
                     No.
                     MR. HULSE: No further questions.
24
25
                     CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Ouestions from
```

1 the Panel? 2 (No response.) CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Thank you. 3 MR. CROWTHER: No further witnesses. 4 5 CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Thank you. 6 Now we're going to have closing statements by Animal Control, and closing statements 7 by the dog's owner. 9 CAPTAIN WARBURTON: Tonight, Panel 10 members, ladies and gentlemen, you have heard 11 eyewitness testimony of two separate incidents 12 involving Ricky and how each of those facts were 13 supported by evidence, not only witness testimony, but statements, vet records, and pictures. 1 4 15 The facts that Delaware Animal Care and 16 Control has proven are it's a fact that Ricky pursued 17 and attacked a senior lab who was on her owner's 18 property, unprovoked. It's a fact that Ricky pursued 19 and attacked a senior Lhasa Apso who had merely walked 20 past him. It's a fact that Ricky has inflicted 21 serious physical injury upon a domestic animal in the 22 immediate control of its owner. 23 Through all these facts, there's only 24 one conclusion, and that conclusion the Dog Panel can 25 make is that Ricky is a dangerous animal and should be

found dangerous as per Section 925. Thank you.

enough.

MR. CROWTHER: Animal Control has
thrown around words and phrases as if they don't have
any meaning, but in this statute they have actual
definitions. So we should probably look at those
definitions to see whether or not they have actually
established the proof by a preponderance of the
evidence that's necessary, because a dog bite isn't

It's not a dog bites another dog and therefore they're either potentially dangerous or dangerous; that's not the standard. If that were the standard, every dog park would be the subject of about three dog bite complaints a day. They bite all the time. But that's not what this Panel is supposed to look at. Let's take a look at what the definitions actually say, and let's compare that to what the evidence that's actually allowed here shows.

In order to establish a dangerous dog, the statute is pretty clear; it has to have found that a dog killed or inflicted serious physical injury upon a domestic animal. Serious physical injury is what they keep saying, but they actually haven't proven it and they have the burden of proof.

Now, the first rule is this Panel

cannot rely upon hearsay evidence for that determination. There is no testimony, and the medical records are not allowed because they're hearsay. So this Panel cannot --

1 4

CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: It can. We can consider hearsay.

MR. CROWTHER: Not to make the determination because they don't establish an element, there's no evidence of an element of an injury at all. Now, serious physical injury is actually a defined term. Now, remember, the records show that Banks was okay two days afterwards. The records show and the testimony was that it was no big deal. It was all going to be done -- you saw Todd's text message, stitches and a drain and he'll be fine. That's what he said, he saw the injury; stitches and a drain and he'll be fine.

Just because the dog itself doesn't respond well to treatment doesn't mean the injury itself was serious. You can get a cut and get MRSA; it doesn't mean the cut was serious, it means the results later on were serious because you got something else. If they took the drain out and they shouldn't have, that could be a problem, that could create a worse injury. If it wasn't done correctly or

cleaned correctly the first time, that could create a worse injury.

1 4

The question is whether the injury inflicted by the dog was serious, not whether the treatment was extensive. Because here, there's a little bit of a contradiction between what happened originally, what was — what people were saying about the injury originally. Every dog bite is going to result in a laceration of some sort; does that mean every dog bite satisfies the criteria for serious injury? The answer is no.

Serious physical injury shall be physical injury which creates a substantial risk of death or which causes serious and prolonged disfigurement, prolonged impairment of health, or prolonged loss or impairment of the function of any bodily organ. That's not the case here. It simply isn't the case here.

What we have is a laceration. There's no organ damage, no impairment or disfigurement; it's a laceration. It is what every dog bite results in, unless this Panel's going to declare every single dog potentially dangerous or dangerous that's involved in a dog bite when there's a puncture or laceration.

That's not what the definition means or what the

legislation intended it to mean, that's why it's defined in particular. The Panel has no evidence to support a finding of a dangerous dog because it does not meet the criteria of the statute.

1 4

Now, potentially dangerous dog is slightly different. It almost overlaps where the Panel could make a decision even on a dangerous dog that's only potentially dangerous, but it does overlap. And the provision that's applicable is attacked or inflicted serious physical injury upon a domestic animal, provided the domestic animal is on the property of the owner or in the control of its owner.

Now, the word attack is defined by the Code. And that's important because attack isn't just what we say is an attack. Because any time a dog bites other dog, it's an attack. Under general vernacular or general terms, any behavior that results in a bite is an attack. But that's not what the legislature says.

The legislature says that an attack shall be the deliberate action of a dog whether or not in response to a command by its owner to bite, seize with its teeth or pursue any human being or domestic animal with the obvious intent to kill, wound, injure

or otherwise harm the human being or domestic animal.

Now, are we to presuppose that a dog knows that biting is going to harm an animal, or is that just a dog's instinctive reaction?

Remember, the evidence today shows that Ricky bit; didn't shake, didn't do anything else but hold. And in the context, the owner was screaming before he even got there. What impact did that have on his behavior? Did he think she was being harmed and he was protecting her? We don't know, we don't speak dog. But she was screaming before Banks even got bit.

Attack doesn't mean a bite. And this Panel needs to be very careful, because if you say that a dog is potentially dangerous because it attacked because that's a bite, you're going to be having a lot of these hearings, because dog bites occur all the time in the public, and the vast majority of those dogs are not remotely dangerous. But dogs bite; that's how they communicate in ways.

This dog, it's interesting that the incidents involving earlier than March only came to light in April. And in between, no one heard a peep about these. Nothing. Interestingly, there's no evidence of an injury there, none. There is not a

single bit of evidence of anything leading to either the injury or serious physical injury status of the statute, not one piece of evidence. So even if the bite occurred, there is no non-hearsay evidence in the record, none.

While we certainly have concerns about Ricky, and I think you have a concern about every new dog that enters your facility, that's why you assess them and draw up plans for them. You just don't adopt them out to anybody you want; you have to work with dogs, that's what Faithful Friends does. They will of course assess Ricky and they will have their behavior people on staff who do that, and they'll have people who work with him to the extent he has any issues and to the extent he's available and ready for adoption, which may or may not ever be a time. But when he is, he will be placed in an appropriate home.

You heard some discussion about Lady
Jane, but you also heard Jane talk about Lady Jane
being in a foster home and doing just fine. She's
fine. But she was aggressive, too, according to the
testimony of the witnesses who witnessed these
attacks. She's doing just fine.

The statute's here for a reason, it has its definitions for a reason, and it's not just

1 throw-around phrases and words that they don't mean 2 anything. They have the burden of proof by competent 3 evidence; they simply haven't met it. So to the extent that this Panel disagrees, and I hope it doesn't, but if it should, 5 6 the findings should be a potentially dangerous dog, and then the safeguards that go with that would be 7 automatically triggered. But there is no way that the 9 evidence supports a dangerous dog finding, not even 10 remotely. Thank you. 11 CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: The Panel is 12 going to go into Executive Session to make our 13 determination and we will be back shortly. 1 4 (Following Deliberations in Executive 15 Session, the hearing concluded as follows:) 16 CHAIRPERSON CAVANAUGH: Dear Faithful 17 Friends Animal Society, as noted in our opening statement, the Delaware Code Title 9, Chapter 9 18 19 Subchapter 2, Subsection 925 states that a dog who has

Friends Animal Society, as noted in our opening
statement, the Delaware Code Title 9, Chapter 9

Subchapter 2, Subsection 925 states that a dog who has
inflicted physical injury upon a human or domestic
animal, killed a human or domestic animal, pursued a
person in an apparent attitude of attack and/or who is
used to facility animal cruelty or animal fighting is
in violation of this code and is a dangerous or
potentially dangerous dog.

According to Code, such a dog must be seized by Animal Care and Control agency and impounded until a final decision is determined. The owner of the seized and impounded dog may abide by the findings and conclusions of the Animal Control Officer as per subsection 925(c) of this code. If the owner disagrees with the conclusion, a hearing before the Dog Control Panel may be requested to present evidence as to why their dog's actions and behavior for which it was seized should not be considered dangerous or potentially dangerous as defined by this Code.

1 4

Your dog, Ricky, described as a black and white American pitbull terrier, was just seized and impounded on April 18, 2014 due to an incident which took place on December 4, 2013 at 24500 Hollyville Road, Millsboro, Delaware, and due to an incident which took place on March 18, 2014 at Delmarva Pet Resort, 3602 Polly Branch Road, Selbyville, Delaware.

Ricky, as described above, was seized and impounded in apparent violation of this Code for the following alleged actions: Ricky attacked and injured a dog on the property of its owner; and in the second incident, Ricky attacked and injured a domestic animal that was under the immediate control of its

owner.

1 4

2.3

You disagreed with the Delaware Animal Care and Control decision of dangerous dog regarding the described actions and incidents and requested a hearing. The Delaware Dog Control Panel met tonight, May 12, 2014, to hear your dispute of the charges brought against your dog, Ricky. At the time of impoundment, your dog's rabies vaccination status was up to date, and dog license status was unknown.

Delaware Animal Care and Control presented evidence discovered during their inquiry under case numbers 144366 and 143542 which caused them to find actions of your dog, Ricky, to be in violation of this Code. Delaware Animal Care and Control concluded that public behavior and/or individual actions or a combination of both were in violation of Subsection 926(a) Dangerous and/or Potentially Dangerous Dog. You requested the Panel to present evidence in order to not have the dog declared to be a dangerous dog.

Evidence presented to the Panel included a variety of fact-finding documents such as, but not limited to, investigative reports, sworn statements from victims/owners, witnesses, neighbors, employees, et cetera, including testimony,

photographs, and internet postings by both the Animal Care and Control Agency and the owner of the seized dog.

In the first incident, the Panel found based on the evidence presented that Ricky did attack and inflict serious physical injury upon a domestic animal on the property of its owner; and in the second incident, based on the evidence presented, that Ricky did attack and inflicted serious physical injury upon a domestic animal that was under the immediate control of its owner.

The findings of the Dog Control Panel Hearing: Based on the evidence and testimony provided to this Panel during this hearing held today under Delaware Code Title 9, Chapter 9, Subchapter 2, the Delaware Dog Control Panel finds Ricky, owned by Faithful Friends Animal Society, to be in violation of Subsection 925 or 926 and has been found potentially dangerous.

The final order of the Dog Control

Panel is that the dog is potentially dangerous and the owner shall comply with the requirements set forth in

Title 9, Chapter 9, Subsection 926(b) one through three for keeping or maintaining such a dog.

And that concludes our hearing for this

1	evening.
2	
3	CERTIFICATE
4	
5	STATE OF DELAWARE)
6)
7	KENT COUNTY)
8	
9	I, Pamela C. Herrmann, Registered
L 0	Professional Reporter and Notary Public, do hereby
L1	certify the foregoing pages were taken before me at
L 2	the time and place indicated herein; that said
L 3	witnesses were by me duly sworn; that the testimony
L 4	was stenographically reported by me and thereafter
L 5	reduced to typewriting under my personal supervision;
L 6	that I am neither of counsel nor kin to parties in
L 7	said action nor interested in the outcome thereof.
L 8	WITNESS my hand thisday of
L 9	, 2014.
2 0	
21	
22	Pamela C. Herrmann Registered Professional Reporter
23	and Notary Public
2 4	Certificate Number: 128-PS
25	

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