

Taupo District Council

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Request: 1708302	District: Taupo
To: Animal Management & Compliance	Received by: After Hours
Attn: Marty Devonport	Date & time received: 05/06/17 - 17.43
Priority: 3:High-24 Hours	How received: After Hours
Deadline: 06/07/17 - 12.05	Date & time of incident: 05/06/17 - 16.30
	Action required: Complaint

Caller Information

Name CLARE WEBBER
Address [REDACTED] TAUPO 3330
Phone [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]

Request

Type Attack on person/animal/wildlife
Details RFS 659935 New After Hours RFS
5.6.2017 17.17hrs Dog Attack on another Dog
[REDACTED] Taupo 3330 Phone [REDACTED] Time of Attack - 16.30hrs Animal
Attacked - Dog Location - On the walkway outside of 5 Mile Bay, Taupo. 500 meters from the
carpark. What happened - There was a group of dogs walking with there owners off leads as this
is an off lead dog walking area. Caller was coming from the opposite direction, walked towards
each other. Callers dog approached one of the other dogs in the group and they were playing,
then all of the dogs came over and joined in with the playing. Then the offending dog named
Sahara ran up to the callers dog and bit her on the side of the body leaving a 10 cm gash.
Caller said that there dog is well trained and always under control. Caller did not approach
the owner so nothing was said. Caller spoke to an eye witness who was with the offending dogs
owner and acknowledged that Sahara had bitten Leni the dog. Caller then took Leni back to the
car. Caller would like it know that this dog is wellknown for attacking other dogs and people.
TDC should have a record of this.

Issue/Service Restored

Date & Time :

Location

Street Lake Terrace, Taupo

Dog Details

Owner [REDACTED] Jeremy George Webber : [REDACTED] Taupo

Dog [REDACTED] : Leni : Pointer, German Short Haired : Female : Brown/White

Owner 08105 : Jan Smeaton : [REDACTED] Taupo

Dog 161669 : Sahara : Cattle, Australian/Cross : 3 yrs 00 mnths : Female : Tan

Actions

Actions cont..

Status Complaint - Business Support - Completed: 05/06/17 - 17.43

Details Hi Marty- this is an attack from the weekend - are you ok to look into please.
Cheers

Status Complaint - Marty Devonport - Completed: 06/06/17 - 10.50

Details Spoke with victims dog owner. She added to the above that the dog SAHARA has history of aggression (this is not documented on owner file) the 7y were walk9ing with the dogs in the dog exercise area and all the dogs out were playing happily and then SAHARA attacked LENI without any signs of aggression, causing a 10 cm gash in the dogs side. I have asked for photos to be sent as Jeremy has them on his phone but is at work currently.
A dog behaviourist who was with Jan witnessed the incident. Her name is Mary ann, last name unknown. The dog owner said and did nothing but later over the phone offered to pay for the vet bills and accepted responsibility.
Jeremy WEBBER also witnessed the event.

Status Complaint - Marty Devonport - Completed: 06/06/17 - 11.19

Details Spoke with Jan SMEATON, asking for a statement and cautioned her under the bill of rights. She admitted SAHARA attacked the other dog and was upset about that, she considered getting the dog euthanized but was talked out of it but Mary-ann JOYCE, her dog behaviour trainer. J stated that it happened very quick and that she didn't see what happened but SAHARA must have nipped at LENI. (inferring from this that the incident wasn't a prolonged dog fight/attack).
Statement as follows.
Everyone waws surprised as SAHARA showed no signs of aggression she has a muzzle but was not wearing it, is going to obedience growls sometimes at the dog s at obedience.
When walking by herself sometimes Sahara gets protective.
Since mid march has been working with a dog behaviourist.

Status Complaint - Marty Devonport - Completed: 06/06/17 - 11.26

Details Mary anne JOYCE is the dog behaviourist have left a message on [REDACTED] for her to call me back.

Status Complaint - Marty Devonport - Completed: 06/06/17 - 11.49

Details Photos received of wound on dog and sent to BS to save to dog owner file.

Status Complaint - Marty Devonport - Completed: 06/06/17 - 16.05

Details Spoke with Mary-anne JOYCE she stated that she didn't see the incident, it happened to fast. She was told the dogs were running around and Sahara snapped at Leni, she then looked over and leni sat sat down and yelped. She is guessing that sahara snapped at Leni as she ran past and caused the wound. (the injury would corroborate this). Her Opinion was that Sahara temperament was really good and has not seen any behavioural issues, no protective or guarding issues. She has recommend that Sahara wear a muzzle when off leash.

Status Complaint - Marty Devonport - Completed: 06/06/17 - 16.31

Details I have run the incident through the Matrix and it come out as 26 but it is very subjective.
RMcD please peer review and advised.

Status Complaint - Ross McDonald - Completed: 06/06/17 - 16.35

Details Note be added. Have arranged with the dog owner to do a behavioural assessment with C Tait
12.00pm 7/6/17

Actions cont..

Status Complaint - Ross McDonald - Completed: 07/06/17 - 11.57

Details Unable to be at appointment at 12.00 have let Jan know.

Status Complaint - Ross McDonald - Completed: 08/06/17 - 14.00

Details C Tait and myself visited property and observed SAHARA in the dwelling with Jan present, my observation is that Sahara displays classic defensive aggressive behaviour, the dog would appear to very stressed and anxious at the presence of myself and Cam. We didn't aggress the dog but simply observed with the owner. Sahara tried not to make eye contact, showed whale eye, had her hackles up and growled for the first few minutes we were there, she settled down a bit after five minutes but kept her head turned to the side, tail tucked between her back legs, trembling and maintained a fearful body position. The dog would come to me and take food out of my hand but I didn't try to pat the dog as its demeanour was of an unpredictable stressed dog.

Status Complaint - Cameron Tait - Arrived: 08/06/17 - 15.11 - Completed: 08/06/17 - 15.11

Details Viewed dog with CO Devonport. After being invited into the dwelling Sahara had to be constantly told to get away by the owner and displayed high anxiety and elevated pre attack behaviour consistent with a fear aggressive dog such as restlessness, lip licking, puff growling, teeth baring, eye rolling while head turned away, flattened ears, raised hackles and tail between the legs. For the first ten minutes Sahara obviously growled and warned to not come near her while often displaying defensive side long posture. Eventually she settled down but for some period preferred to hide under the dining table while growling. Owner had treats in a hip pouch and gave treats to dog irrespective of what the dog was doing. This resulted in the owner (unknowingly) rewarding the dog for displaying aggressive behaviour, thereby confusing it by then rebuking it for the same behaviour.

Status Complaint - Cameron Tait - Arrived: 08/06/17 - 15.44 - Completed: 08/06/17 - 15.44

Details Sahara poses a significant risk of reactionary biting behaviour and that her behaviour and anxiety should be professionally assessed.
I highly recommend that Sahara be muzzled when exposed to unfamiliar stimuli and situations in the future.

Status Complaint - Marty Devonport - Completed: 08/06/17 - 16.10

Details See above, my recommendation is for the dog to be classified as menacing based on the observed behaviour.

Status Complaint - Ross McDonald - Arrived: 13/06/17 - 12.42 - Completed: 13/06/17 - 12.42

Details Agree with menacing classification on the basis of reported observations and record of incident.

Status Complaint - Marty Devonport - Completed: 14/06/17 - 09.29

Details Spoke with C and Jan has paid the vet bill for them so on the basis of that a classification of MENACING is sufficient.
Please classify and send the owner the appropriate documentation.

Status Complaint - Business Support - Completed: 14/06/17 - 16.29

Details Menacing by action letter sent as requested. Dog status updated. Cheers, Fiona.

Status Complaint - Marty Devonport - Completed: 16/06/17 - 15.14

Details Dog owner updated with Menacing classification. Muzzle has been sighted at owners house.
NFA req.

