BOOK PAGE

## BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of the Livestock Attack by	)	
a Dog Owned by the City of Portland and	)	ORDER NO.50-2022
Chris Verbout as its Handler	)	

WHEREAS, on July 25, 2022, the Columbia County Sheriff's Office received a report of a livestock attack at 56569 Cascade View Drive in Warren, Oregon by a trained Belgian Malinois Shepherd drug detection dog named Stitch, owned by the City of Portland ("City") that had escaped from the property of its handler Chris Verbout and injured a black and white llama named Oreo; and

WHEREAS, on July 25, 2022, Deputy Seann Luedke responded to the report and, after ascertaining that Verbout had regained control of the dog and secured it on his property, referred the matter to Columbia County Animal Control; and

WHEREAS, on July 27, 2022, Animal Control Officer ("ACO") Roger Kadell contacted the owners of the llama, Terry and Yvonne Pea, and took a statement from Yvonne Pea; and

WHEREAS, on the same date ACO Kadell contacted Verbout, and took his statement as well; and

WHEREAS, on July 28, 2022, ACO Kadell visited the Verbout residence, inspected the fencing, dog run and kennel on the property and took photographs of them; and

WHEREAS, ACO Kadell determined that the dog did not have a history of chasing or harming livestock; and

WHEREAS, on July 29, 2022, ACO Kadell completed an Investigation Report, which is attached hereto as "Exhibit A"; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ORS 609.156, the City and Verbout were duly provided notice of the opportunity to request a hearing by the County; and

WHEREAS, a hearing was requested in accordance with ORS 609.156, and a hearing date was set for August 24, 2022 before the Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, on August 24, 2022, the Board of Commissioners held a hearing and considered the testimony and evidence presented; and

WHEREAS, ACO Kadell recommended that the Board of Commissioners find the dog Stitch did escape Verbout's property and injure the llama Oreo, but that the dog does not have a history of chasing or harming livestock; and

WHEREAS, ACO Kadell recommended that the Board of Commissioners impose a civil penalty of \$250.00 under ORS 609.162(1)(b); and

ORDER NO. 50-2022

WHEREAS, ACO Kadell recommended that the Board of County Commissioners require restitution in the amount of \$546.80 to be paid to the owners of the llama Oreo for the cost of veterinary expenses related to the llama Oreo's injuries related to the attack; and

WHEREAS, ACO Kadell recommended that the Board of Commissioners require the dog to be microchipped in accordance with ORS 609.168; and

WHEREAS, ACO Kadell recommended that the Board of Commissioners require the dog to be secured in its kennel whenever at the Verbout's property, except for when it is leashed or being actively exercised in its dog run under the direct control and supervision of an adult; and

WHEREAS, ACO Kadell recommended that the Board of Commissioners require the dog to be leashed and under the control of an adult when traveling to and from a vehicle at Verbout's property, and when out of its outdoor kennel and inside the Verbout residence;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners considered ACO Kadell's investigation report on this matter, along with his recommendations;

NOW, THEREFORE, based on the evidence presented, including ACO Kadell's investigation report on this matter, the other contents of the record compiled for this matter, and the above recitals, the Board of County Commissioners makes the following findings and conclusions:

- 1. The City of Portland is the owner of the Belgian Malinois Shepherd named Stitch, and Chris Verbout is its handler.
- 2. On July 25, 2022, the dog Stitch attacked and injured the black and white llama named Oreo belonging to Terry and Yvonne Pea on their property at 56569 Cascade View Drive in Warren, Oregon.
- 3. There is no evidence in the record for this matter to find that the dog Stitch has previously killed, wounded, injured or chased livestock. Accordingly, the Board of County Commissioners finds that the dog Stitch has not previously killed, wounded, injured or chased livestock.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED based on the record before the Board of Commissioners that the dog Stitch is authorized to return to the Verbout residence, subject to the following:

- 1. Pursuant to ORS 609.162(1)(b), a civil penalty of \$1,000.00 is hereby imposed for the dog Stitch's involvement in injuring the llama Oreo.
- 2. The dog Stitch shall be microchipped and the chip information shall be registered with Columbia County.

- 3. The City shall pay to Terry and Yvonne Pea an amount equal to the cost of all veterinary services the llama Oreo receives related to the attack on it by the dog Stitch, including but not limited to the \$546.80 bill from Banks Veterinary Clinic dated July 26, 2022.
- 4. Starting immediately, the dog Stitch will be secured in its outdoor kennel when at the Verbout property located at 56577 Cascade View Drive in Warren, Oregon, whenever it is outdoors, except when actively being exercised in its run and under the direct control and supervision of its handler Chris Verbout, or when it is leashed and traveling to or from a vehicle or in the Verbout residence.
- 5. Starting immediately, the dog Stitch will be leashed and under the direct control and supervision of its handler Chris Verbout when traveling to or from a vehicle at the Verbout property at 56577 Cascade View Drive in Warren, Oregon.
- 6. Starting immediately, the dog Stitch will be either kenneled or leashed and under the direct control and supervision of its handler Chris Verbout when in the Verbout residence at 56777 Cascade View Drive in Warren, Oregon.
- 7. Adequate additional security measures shall be taken to prevent the dog Stitch from escaping the dog run at the Verbout property at 56777 Cascade View in Warren, Oregon, in the sole discretion of the Columbia County Animal Control Officer or Animal Control Officer's designee. In addition to all of the additional measures proposed by Verbout and the City, which are hereby imposed as requirements, other additional measures may include, but are not limited to, the installation of barbed wire to the top of the existing fencing and/or installation of inward facing 45 degree barb wire arms to the top of the existing fencing.
- 8. The City shall provide additional obedience training for control of the dog Stitch that does not rely on the use of an electric collar. Such training shall be subject to the review and approval of the Columbia County Animal Control Officer or Animal Control Officer's designee. Training shall commence within 14 days of the date of this Order and shall continue until the results are satisfactory in sole discretion of the Columbia County Animal Control Officer's designee.
- 9. If not already obtained, a Columbia County dog license will be obtained for the dog Stitch.
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10. Unless otherwise specified, all requirements imposed above shall be satisfied within 21 days of the date of this Order.

DATED this <u>31</u> day of August, 2022.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON By: Henry Heimuller, Chair By: afgaret Magruder, Commissioner By: Casey Garrett, Commissioner

Approved as to form By:

Office of County Counsel

Exhibit A

Incident Detail Report Data Source: Data Warehouse Incident Status: Closed Incident number: OP220031018 Case Numbers: Incident Date: 7/25/2022 20:06:45 Report Generated: 7/27/2022 07:31:41

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# **Owner Detail**

Owner 7139

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ID 34376	Name REX	<b>Breed</b> BELGIAN MALINOIS	Color BLACK	License 41857	<b>Issue Date</b> 2/9/2021	Exp. Date 10/30/2022

Complaints:

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THUCHNELL J



Yvonne Pea 56569 Cascade View Dr. Warren, OR 97053 (503) 396-5534

350 LBS Payment History - Yvonne Pea

Receipt Number	103802
Payment Entry Date	7/26/2022 8:13 PM
Amount Pald	\$546.80
Payment	Visa \$546.80
	Last 4 of Credit Card: 7005
Cashier	Kim P.

Invoice Number	53231
Date	7/26/2022

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Patient	Provider	Description	Date	Quantity	Subtotal	Tax	Total	
Oreo	Kim Post, D.V.M.	Farm Call Emergency per Hour	7/26/2022	0.55	\$220.00	\$0.00	\$220.00	
Oreo	Kim Post, D.V.M.	Equine 15 + CBC	7/26/2022	1	\$106.50	\$0.00	\$106.50	
Oreo	Kim Post, D.V.M.	Packed Cell Volume (Hernatocrit) + TP	7/26/2022	1	\$22.50	\$0.00	\$22.50	
PCV = . TP= 6.0								
Oreo	Kim Post, D.V.M.	Meloxicam 15mg tablet	7/26/2022	18	\$16.30	\$0.00	\$16.30	
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Please allow 24 hours for all prescription refills. All medication sales are final and cannot be returned Thank you.

#### August 2,2022

Columbia County Commissioners 230 Strand St. St. Helens, Oregon

Attention: Casey Garrett, Henry Heimueller, Margaret Macgruder

Victims: Terry and Yvonne Pea, 56569 Cascade View Dr., Warren, Oregon 97053

Subject: Vicious Dog Attack on livestock. Dog: Stitch, Portland Police K-9. Handler: Chris Verbout, 56577 Cascade View Dr., Warren, Oregon 97053

**Dear Commissioners:** 

On Monday, July 25, 2022, our llama was viciously attacked on our property, without provocation, by a Portland Police undercover sniff dog. Details of the attack and the aftermath are addressed on attachment #1.

We are respectfully requesting this dog be impounded until permanent decisions are made. ORS 609.155 Our long term request is the animal be re-located "to a location where it is the opinion of the county, the dog does not present a threat to livestock" Location should be in Portland where the dog is an officer. ORS 609.162 (b) (B). This re-location is also acceptable in the short term so the dog may be allowed to work if deemed safe to do so by this county instead of being impounded.

We base this request on the following statutes, opinions and facts relating to police K9.

I-A police K9 is a weapon. It has been trained in aggression to bite and hold.

- A-It appears, in certification records, Officer Verbout has only handled this dog for 8 months. Records show 11-21 and 4-22 as certification dates.
- B- Bite and hold is different than a regular dog attack. Police dogs go for the torso and head while a non trained dog will go for arms and legs. K9 bites are usually more severe than that of other dogs.

C-A well trained police dog will release on command with a competent handler. Officer Verbout had zero control verbally or physically to stop the attack, and had to pry the dogs mouth open to get the dog to release.

#### **II-NEGLIGENCE:**

- A-Officer Verbout had the dog in his house with his windows open which allowed the dog to escape.
- B-Officer Verbout knew this dog had dangerous propensities abnormal to an average dog. Tort statute 509., due to police dog training. Should the dog not have been trained in bite and hold and release, it is even more concerning this dog acted in this aggressive manner.
- C-The court stated: in Kathren v. Olenik: "Negligence in terms of omission to confine or control an animal is based on a duty to take reasonable precautions to prevent a foreseeable risk of injury by the animal."
- D-Oregon holds that the violation of an ordinance that prohibits dogs from "running at large", see Oregon statues violated, can form the basis of negligence Lange v Minton.

E- Officer Verbout apparently had/has an outdoor pen, but claims due to hot weather put the dog indoors. There are many other alternatives to keeping a dog with this temperment confined in heat. Shaving a dog (we did our border collie) misting apparatus (we had one running for our llama and pig at the time of the attack.) and more.

# III-OREGON STATUES regarding dogs attacking LIVESTOCK:

A- ORS 609.155: (1) In a county with a dog control program, upon finding a dog engaged in killing, wounding, INJURING or CHASING livestock, or upon receipt for a complainant of evidence that a dog has been so engaged, the dog control officer of other law enforcement officer SHALL IMPOUND the dog. According to Roger Kendall, Animal Control, Officer Verbout's account of the attack matches ours. Officer Verbout made a report to Portland Police Risk Management. We have requested this report, but have been told it can take up to 12 weeks.

B-ORS 609.169 Keeping dog, with knowledge that is has harmed live stock. "A person may not own, harbor or keep a dog with knowledge it has killed, wounded, or injured livestock within this state." Our llama did not receive puncture wounds. His knees were injured trying to escape the dog while jumping fences. The Llama also had a rush of adrenaline, which can lead to death. Tests were done by the vet to see if the adrenaline had subsided prior prescribing pain medication.

# **IV-ANIMAL CONTROL Dog Violations**

A- (1) Running at Large; definition per 609.35 a dog is off or outside the premises from which the keeper of the dog may lawfully exclude others, or is not in the company of and under control of its keeper."

B-(2) Potentially Dangerous Dog: "(a) Without provocation and not on premises from which the keeper may lawfully exclude others menaces a person.(b) Without provocation, inflicts physical injury on a person that is less severe than a serious injury; (c) Without provocation and while not on premises from which the keeper may lawfully exclude others, inflicts physical injury on or kills a domestic animal as defined in ORS 167.310."

C-(3) "Menaces" means lunging, growling, snarling or other behavior by a dog that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person's safety.

# V-Portland Police DOG BITE Cases on Innocent People:

A-Portland: Two people walking their dog in Happy Valley were bitten, requiring hospitalization, by a Portland Police K-9 that broke out of his handler's fenced yard in March 2021.

B-Police Departments lead trainer, Scott Cunningham, had his K9 which already had a history of aggression rip a 5 year olds cheek apart, without provocation on her part in 2005. She lives with the scar to this day.

# VI Police Dog Bite Cases Nation Wide.

A-There are hundreds of cases reported nationally by both innocent by-standers, or criminals having K9s used on them without necessity and causing major bodily damage. Many counties have paid up to millions in restitution to the victims. Seattle has paid over a \$1 million in the past couple of years.

We have been asked multiple times what we want to happen with the dog. Due to the negligence, running at large and other violations of statutes, as stated in the opening paragraph we would like to see the animal removed to a home where it cannot attack livestock should it get loose again. Although Officer Verbout signed an affidavit he would make sure the animal was secure and the dog would be put down if it happened again, this is no guarantee that the dog won't escape again. Police dogs live in an agitated state, wind up easily, and are unable to self damper once excited. Any normal dog will chase and harm livestock, but the police dog has qualities that make it more likely. As he has already attacked, should he escape he will most likely return to our field. The only dog likely not to attack livestock is a herding dog.

As police officers are hired to protect members of the community, removing an animal that has attacked seems the right thing to do to protect livestock in our area, as well as the multiple people that walk their dogs in our cul-de-sac every single day.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Should you have further questions, please contact Terry or myself. I have many more articles and statistics related to police dogs.

Sincerely,

- your Rea

Yvonne Pea 56569 Cascade View Dr. Warren, Oregon 97053 503-396-5534

### Attachment #1

# Details of Police Dog Attack on Llama (Livestock)

Re: Portland Police Dog Attack (Stitch), Handler: Chris Verbout, 56577 Cascade View Dr., Warren, Ore. 97053, Columbia County

Victims: Terry and Yvonne Pea, 56569 Cascade View Dr., Warren, Oregon 97953

# July 25, 2022, Monday. Approximately 6 PM.

## I-Attack:

- 1-I, Yvonne Pea, was startled to hear yelling in my animal field, and looked out the window to see my llama jumping the fence, and crash into outdoor furniture.
- 2-I ran to the sliding glass door to see a strange man yelling and chasing my llama in the back yard. I then saw a German Shepherd type dog attached (facing forward) to the right side, back of my llama.
- 3-The llama jumped a second fence, at which time, I had alerted my husband Terry, who ran after the animals and man, and I lost site of them.
- 4-The Llama with Dog attached to his neck ran by my daughter, and grandson 7. The man was still yelling and chasing the dog. The man had absolutely no control of the dog physically or verbally.
- 5-When my husband, Terry, caught up to the animals, the man was tugging the dog, with his arms wrapped around the dog, trying to get it off the llama's side.
- 6-The man eventually pried the dogs teeth to get the dog to release.
- 7-We were unable to catch the llama, or subdue him to examine for injuries. My daughter noted his front knees were bleeding.
- 8-Large amounts of wool were pulled out by the dog during the attack.

**II-Conversation:** 

- 1-As I ran outside, I saw a woman in my driveway, I did not recognize. I asked what happened, and she yelled she didn't know. I then asked who she was, or what her name was, she stated "Leslie and YOU are the one that threatened to shoot my dog." She did not apologize for the current incident, and left to "see if her husband was all right."
- 2-The man (Chris Verbout, returned, he did apologize, appeared somewhat nervous, and was fully, verbally co-operative to try to take care of the situation. I later learned the dog is an active "police officer". He come over and contacted us in regards to the situation in a calm and professional manner, and offered to pay the vet bills.

**III-Animal Control Records:** 

- 1-I called 911, 7-25, telling Leslie I was going inside to do so. A Columbia County Sheriff took a report over the phone and informed me he would turn it into Animal Control.
- 2-Roger Kendall, Columbia Animal Control, contacted us on Weds. 7-27, and came by the house on 7-28, to discuss the issue. He also interviewed the Verbouts.
  - 3- Chis Verbout had made a report to Portland Police (Case #22-680-838).
  - 4-We have not obtained a copy of any of the reports from any source, as of this

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writing.

5-Upon calling Portland Police, at the number Verbout provided, a recording said it could be up to 48 hours before my call would be returned. When they did return the call, they addressed a form for us to submit for reimbursement for our bills to this point. I was given another site to request the actual report and the text response states it can take up to 12 weeks to receive.

### IV-Llama condition:

- 1-The evening of the incident, we could not catch our llama.
- 2- Oreo, a black and white intact male, is approximately 15, and we have had him for 13 years.
- 3-The Llama cushed and trembled heavily for the rest of the evening until we went to bed.
- 4- Tues, 7-26, approximately 6 AM. Llama followed me back to his field. Surprisingly, he stopped about 6 feet from the gate and spit in the direction of the field. I have never witnessed him spit. The vet commented it was due to the trauma experienced.
- 5-Kim Post, Banks veterinary Service, examined Oreo. She indicated the trembling was due to over dose of adrenaline from the stress. It is common for this to be fatal to Llamas. By the time she examined him, he was calm, so she took a blood test for the adrenaline. As it was at an acceptable level at that time, she prescribed pain medication for his knee wounds. She could not determine if there were puncture wounds as his wool was too thick. She commented that since we had not had him sheared, it saved him, as the dog couldn't bite through the wool to the skin. Also an intact male has thicker neck skin for fighting other males and that definitely was a factor in avoiding bites to the skin.
- 6- Thurs, 7-28, we had the llama sheared and were able to examine his skin. Fortunately there were no puncture wounds.

Yvonne Pea UP



# GENERAL LIABILITY CLAIM AGAINST THE CITY OF PORTLAND

\* for damages to persons or property \*

File Number:\_



	<ul> <li>A claim must be filed with City of Portland Risk Management within 180 days after the occurrence of the incident or event. Normal business hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm. Closed on official holidays. Claims received during regular business hours will be recorded on the date received. Faxed or emailed claims received after business hours will be recorded on the next working day. Please be sure your claim is against the City of Portland, not another public entity. Where space is insufficient, please use additional paper and identify information by section number and letter. Completed forms may be mailed, emailed, faxed, or hand-delivered to: Risk Management/Liability, 1120 S.W. Fifth, Room 709, Portland, OR 97204-1912, Ph: 503-823-5101, Fax: 503-823-6120 LiabilityClaims@portlandoregon.gov</li> </ul>
1. (	Claimant (Circle: Mr. Mrs) Ms. Miss) Vonne Pea Date of Birth 2-11-1950
а	Address 56569 Cascade View Dr. City Warren State Or Zip 97053
	. Home Phone 503-396-5534 Business Telephone NA Cell Phone NA
С	. Occupation <u>Retired</u> d. Marital Status: Single () Married (A) Divorced or Widowed ()
	If married, name of spouse <u>Terry Pea</u>
Ċ	l. E-mail address Sweetpen 6053 @ qmail. Com
2. I	f claim involves a vehicle: a. Year, make and model N/A
ł	Driver's License Number <u>N/A</u> State State
C	. At time of accident, were you (check all that apply) Owner: Driver Passenger N/A
C	l. Name and address of owner if different from claimant (1. Above)
	N/A
	Occurrence or event from which the claim arises:
	. Date 7-25-2022 Time ? around 6 Circle AM / (PM)
b	Place (exact and specific location) 56569 Cascade View Dr. Warren Oregon
	Columbia Crunty 97053
С	Specify the particular occurrence, event, act, or omission by the City that you believe caused the injury or
	damage (use additional paper if necessary): See, attached; also see Portland
	Police case # 22-680-838 for Verbout's statement that
	Collaborated mine per Columbia County Animal Control
	Officer Roger Kendall
d.	State how the City of Portland or its employees were at fault: Negligence; police dog
	unsecured in house with open windows; handler had zero
	control of dog physically or verbally
e.	Were you on the job at the time of the accident? Yes No $\times$
	If yes, what is the name / phone number of employer <u>NIA</u>

4	Description: Describe the injury, property damage or loss so far as is known at the time of this claim.
	Vet bills, Fence and putdoor decor and plants Leg injury;
	adremline overdose, pulled out fur ; trauma; chased, attacked
5.	
	If you were injured please provide the following: Social Security #: N/A
	Medicare/Medicaid Beneficiary? Yes No <u>N/A</u>
6.	Give the name(s) of the City employee(s) and/or City Bureau causing the damage or injury
	_ Chris Verbout; Undercover Officer, Partland Police Bureau
7.	Name and address of any other person injured K-9 partner Stiter
	animal injury, 56569 Cascade View Dr. Warren, Or. 9705:
8.	Name and address of the owner of any damaged property if different from claimant
	Same
9.	Damages claimed:
	a. Amount claimed as of this date: \$\$\$\$\$\$
•	b. Estimated amount of future costs: \$_Unknown
	c. Total amount claimed: \$_Unknown
	d. Basis for computation of amounts claimed (include copies of all bills, invoices, estimates, etc.):
	D Vet bill attached
	2) Future lawyer consultation for hearing should Velocut request
10.	Names, audresses/phone #s of all witnesses damage ) hear v
	Jessica Pea - James Terry and Wonne Peg
	Gavin James ager/831-776-2433 Chris Verbout Taddresse above
11.	Any additional information that might be helpful in considering your claim warren oregon
	Violations: dog running large 609.090; public nuisance 609.095
	Livestock injured/chased 609.140; possible violations of
	rules/quidelines of Portland Police K-9 unit.

# WARNING: IT IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE TO FILE A FALSE CLAIM! (ORS 162.085)

I have carefully read the statements made in this claim, including any attached sheets, and I know them to be true of my c knowledge, except as to those matters stated upon information or belief and to such matters I believe the same to be true understand and acknowledge that all statements made in this claim are made to a public servant of the City of Portland, that the statements are in connection with an application for a benefit from the City of Portland.

Date: <u>8-1-2022</u>

Claimant's Signature

Yvonne Pea

Print Name