

THE NANCY STREET NEWSLETTER

INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DOG ATTACKS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

DOG ATTACKS

On Wednesday, September 30, I spoke with Lt. Mary Palacio with the First State Animal Center and SPCA about the dog attacks in our neighborhood.

She told me to build a case against the dogs, we need to call every time the dogs are out. If possible, take pictures of the dogs when they are loose. **If you see them out, please call (302) 698-3006 and choose Option 1. This will put you directly through to dispatch.** Let the dispatcher know you are calling about the Taylor's dogs in Georgetown and that they are running loose again. She said to build a case they must have documentation.

She also said that this will probably escalate as the dogs become bolder and their owners are not controlling them.

We as a neighborhood, need to do something about this problem before the dogs attack a child.

The Taylors have only been cited for "dog at large." The dogs must seriously injure another animal or person before they can be listed as dangerous or potentially dangerous according to the law.



PLEASE CONTACT LT. MARY PALACIO IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS: 302-698-3006 OPTION 1 AND ASK FOR HER VOICEMAIL.

*The mission of the **First State Animal Center and SPCA** is twofold: they protect animals from people, by prevention of cruelty and suffering, rescue of the trapped or injured, emergency medical treatment, temporary housing for homeless animals and the reduction of homeless pet overpopulation through targeted spay/neuter and education programs; and they protect people from animals through their commitment in placing only stable, safe and well-adjusted animals into homes where they will thrive while simultaneously educating the public about responsible pet guardianship.*

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UPDATE ON DOG ATTACKS

Email to Captain Warburton on Thursday, October 22:

I was wondering if you could please tell me the status of the Taylor dog issue in Georgetown.

I have spoken with Lt. Palacio since we talked, but I do not have her email address, so I thought I would email you and ask.

I ALSO SAW THIS UNDER TITLE 9, COUNTIES, PROVISIONS AFFECTING ALL COUNTIES

CHAPTER 9. DOGS,

Subchapter II. Dangerous and Potentially Dangerous Dogs and think it applies to this situation.

The Taylors are still letting the dogs out in their yard, unsupervised/not under their control w/o being leashed or kenneled.

If possible, we would like to move forward on this so we don't have the fear of walking our own dogs in our own neighborhood.

Title 9, Chapter 9, Subchapter II

<http://delcode.delaware.gov/title9/c009/sc02/index.shtml>

§ 922 Seizure and impoundment of dangerous or potentially dangerous dogs; notification of dog owner; request for hearing.

(a) An animal control constable or dog warden shall seize and impound a dog suspected of being dangerous or potentially dangerous when the warden has reasonable cause to believe that the dog has engaged in 1 or more of the following:

(1) Killed or inflicted physical injury or serious physical injury upon a human being; or

(2) Killed or inflicted serious physical injury upon a domestic animal, provided the domestic animal was on the property of its owner or under the immediate control of its owner; or

(3) Chased or pursued a person, including but not limited to a person on a bicycle, upon the streets, sidewalks or any public or private property, other than the dog owner's property, in an apparent attitude of attack on 2 separate occasions within a 12-month period.

(4) [Repealed.]

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Email Response from Captain Warburton on Friday, October 23.

Mr. Taylor (the owner of the two pit bulls) is scheduled for Arraignment on 10/28/2015. Lt Palacio will be there in case he decides to plead guilty. If he wants a trial, we will subpoena the witnesses who saw the dogs at large for trial unless he pleads guilty. Upon conviction, we will ask that the Judge order the owner to neuter the male and spay the female.

The DE Dog Panel is a civil hearing, and although my agency could technically seize the dog for Panel, as there is enough evidence to meet the minimum burden of proof, as an experienced "Prosecutor" the Panel would most likely find the

dog "Potential" which means that the dogs may or may not be ordered to be neutered/spayed and must be contained on a leash when outside. The finding do not go on the dog owner's records since it is a civil hearing and there is no penalty.

In instances such as this case, I find the Court system more effective as it goes on the owner's record and they have fines. However, Mr. Taylor was advised by Lt. Palacio that if his dogs cause another person alarm, they will be seized for panel. I have included Lt. Palacio on this email to answer any follow-up questions you may have.

Captain Warburton is with Delaware Animal Care and Control as is LT. Palacio.

Just a reminder...

If you see them out, please call (302) 698-3006 and choose Option 1. This will put you directly through to dispatch. Let the dispatcher know you are calling about the Taylor's dogs in Georgetown and that they are running loose again. She said to build a case they must have documentation.



PLEASE CONTACT LT. MARY PALACIO IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS: 302-698-3006 OPTION 1 AND ASK FOR HER VOICEMAIL.



KING'S ACRES NEWSLETTER

#3

(NAME CHANGE DUE TO EXTENDED AREA OF CONCERN)

INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DOG ATTACKS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

UPDATE ON DOG ATTACKS

Voicemail from Lt. Palacio on Wednesday, October 28:

Lt. Palacio left a voicemail on my office phone on Wednesday, October 28. Mr. Taylor (the owner of the two pit bulls) failed to appear for his mandatory court appearance on Wednesday, October 28. They have issued a *capias* for him. Please see below.

Failure to Appear/Bench Warrant (Capias)

A bench warrant, sometimes also called a "capias," is a type of arrest warrant. A bench warrant usually commands the arrest of someone for failing to show for a required court appearance.

Also, the judge is going to schedule another mandatory court appearance in the next few weeks.

I left her a return voicemail message on Tuesday, November 3 asking her to call because I have a few questions.

One of our neighbors also informed me that they have been keeping one of the dogs secure in a crate on their back deck.

Call from Lt. Palacio on Wednesday, November 4:

She said since Mr. Taylor did not appear in court, the judge will set another mandatory court date. The judge can mandate that the Taylors spay or neuter the dogs and/or put up a fence. This would have to be done in a specific time period. If not, the dogs would be impounded and kept until the mandated items have been completed to the judge's satisfaction. The Taylors would have to pay the board fees for the dogs until they complied with the court's requests.

PLEASE CONTACT LT. MARY PALACIO IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS: 302-698-3006. Her extension is 315.

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On Friday, November 6, my husband texted me a picture of the brown pit bull standing in the Castellanos's yard with a black cat at its feet. The cat was dead, and may have been killed by the pit bull.

I immediately called Animal Control and they said they had someone on the way because someone else had already called.

Lt. Palacio stopped by and talked to my husband, who showed her where the cat was. She told him they were taking the cat to the vet to make a determination on how it died. I immediately emailed Lt. Palacio as well as Cpt. Warburton and asked, "what about the dog?"

I am waiting for a response.



Brown pit bull standing over the black cat at 312 Nancy Street—the Castellanos's yard.



Dead cat.
If you know anyone who had a black cat, please let them know what happened and to call Lt. Palacio about it.

Thank you!

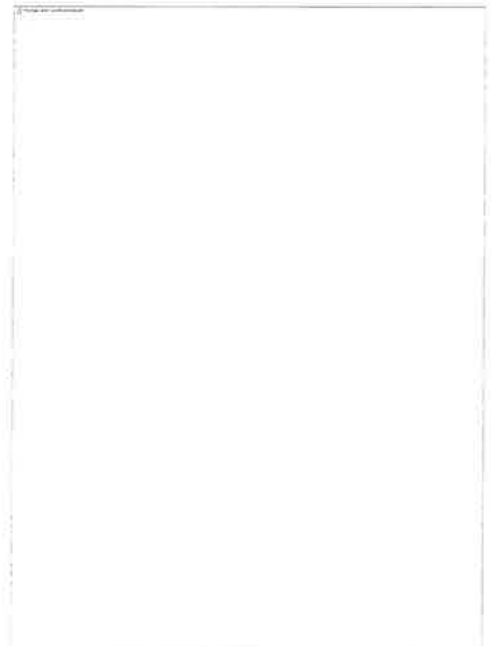
Please continue to call Animal Control if you see this dog or any other dog running loose. We do not have a leash law per se in Delaware, but dogs do have to be "under the control" of their owners or handlers as all times.

Call (302) 698-3006, when the first recording comes on, choose option 1. When the 2nd recording comes on, choose option 2.

You do not have to wait for the recordings to finish. As soon as your call is answered, choose option 1. Then when the 2nd recording comes on, choose option 2. This will be you in contact with dispatch.

IMPORTANT NEWS

There will be a Neighborhood Watch Meeting on Tuesday, November 10 at the Georgetown Public Library on West Pine Street from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Please try to attend. With everyone's help, we can keep our neighborhood safe!



KING'S ACRES NEWSLETTER

#4

(NAME CHANGE DUE TO EXTENDED AREA OF CONCERN)

INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DOG ATTACKS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

UPDATE ON DOG ATTACKS

On Thursday, November 19, I sent an email to Captain Warburton and Lt. Palacio. Below is the contents of the email message:

Good morning,

Could you please send me an update on the Taylor dog situation? They have been out twice since the cat incident and my husband said you all as well as the Georgetown police have been out to the Taylor's house

Also, did the vet determine how the black cat was killed?

On Friday, November 20, I received this reply:

Good Afternoon,

Without an owner to the cat and since it was not on its property there is nothing further to pursue. We are awaiting a Court date still for Mr. Taylor. I know this seems like to takes forever, but the Court system is the best we have. Mr. Taylor is considering surrendering the male dog, which would alleviate the issue, but it is his decision.

I am not sure what else we can do, but I will keep you all posted.

Please continue to call Animal Control whenever you see the dogs out.

See information on making the call in the text box to the right.

Thank you!

Please continue to call Animal Control if you see this dog or any other dog running loose.

See the back of this page for information on dog restraints required in Georgetown.

Call (302) 698-3006, when the first recording comes on, choose option 1. When the 2nd recording comes on, choose option 2.

You do not have to wait for the recordings to finish. As soon as your call is answered, choose option 1. Then when the 2nd recording comes on, choose option 2. This will put you in contact with dispatch.

Tell them you are calling about the Taylor's dogs in Georgetown. They are well aware of the problem as are the Georgetown Police.

OR

Call the Georgetown Police Department at 856-6613 or if after hours, call 911 and ask the dispatcher to send Georgetown Police.

KING'S ACRES NEWSLETTER #7

(NAME CHANGE DUE TO EXTENDED AREA OF CONCERN) AUGUST 2016

INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DOG ATTACKS

ANOTHER ATTACK...

On Wednesday, July 20, the brown pit bull attacked the Baker's dog in their yard. The Office of Animal Welfare and the Georgetown Police were contacted. On July 7, prior to this attack, I posted the timeline on the Office of Animal Welfare's web site for complaints. I received a return email which told me, "The officer assigned to the case would be in touch." To date, I have not heard a thing, but I did forward all the information that I put in the newsletters in a return email. The officer who responded to the Bakers Was Officer Mary Beth Hutchins. The case # is AW 16-5792. Apparently the Taylors have been fined for this attack.

Please remember to provide the Taylor's address if you need to call about their dogs. Their address is 613 Edward Street.

You have two options, but please call!

1. Call the Office of Animal Welfare:
(302) 255-4646.
2. Call the Georgetown Police Department:
(302) 856-6613. If you call after hours, the call is automatically routed to one of the officers on duty.

We are building a case against these dogs and to do so, we must keep calling. It helps to keep a record of the date and time you called and ask them to call you back to let you know what happened.

There was another attempted attack on the Donovan's dog, but the dog was taken inside without an incident. The second time there was an attempted attack on Donovan's dog, they called 911 and the Office of Animal Welfare, but eventually found out it was not the Taylor's

Thank you!

Office of Animal Welfare (302) 255-4646

You do not have to choose an option. Just stay on the line and an operator will answer.

You can also email DAS with questions or concerns that are not of an emergency nature.

**The email address is:
DelawareAnimalServices@state.de.us.**

When I spoke with one of the enforcement officers, she said they would issue one warning to Mr. Taylor and then they would impound the dog.

You also still have the option of calling the Georgetown Police Department.

Call the Georgetown Police Department at 856-6613. If you call after hours, the call is automatically routed to one of the officers on duty.

dogs. But with that said, the dogs who tried to attack were two pit bulls and were picked up by the Office of Animal Welfare. Not sure who these dogs belonged to, but apparently they are vicious too.

All of the information on the Taylor's dogs has been given to Chris Lecates. This includes the timeline for the attacks and attempted attacks as well copies of all the newsletters. Chris is our Town Council representative for Ward 3. She is going to follow up with the Chief of Police since the Bakers were told that there was only one complaint on the dogs running loose and nothing about the attacks.

Thank you for your patience and persistence in this manner.

REMEMBER, just call 911! You are not bothering them and it could save someone's property or even their life!