

AGGRESSIVE/DANGEROUS DOG DECLARATION

Office Use Only

Dog Owner

Name: _____

Address: _____

Description of Dog

Name of Dog: _____ Dog Tag no.: _____

Breed of Dog: _____ Microchip no: _____

Dog Colour/description: _____ Rabies Tag no: _____

Incident Details

Address: 286 Kenwood Ave. Keswick ON- L4P 2X5

Location on Property **/OR** Location on Street: front porch

Date of Incident: Saturday September 2, 2023

Time of Incident: aprox 11:30pm

Details of Incident:

I was watching TV at home when I heard a ruckus on the front porch. I went to the door, turned on the light, looked out the window and saw a large-breed white dog at the top of the stairs. The dog, known as River, was actively nipping at my cat, Shanti (Shawn-tee). At that moment, Shanti looked to be sitting facing the dog and I could see that her back was wet.

I quickly and repeatedly yelled "Stop!" and "Get!" at the dog and yelled for the owner to, "Get your dog!" I grabbed my corn broom and waved it between the dog and Shanti.

At that time, the dog's owner (who travels in an assisted device; unfortunately, their name is unknown to me) and a companion were at the end of my driveway; however, my car was between us, so I could not clearly see their actions. However, I did hear them calling for the dog.

When called, the dog turned and moved to the interlock area at the base of our porch stairs, only to return to the deck three more times. Overall, the dog failed to listen to the direction of the owner, and the dog was unable to be controlled by command. Only when the person on foot cleared my car and was on the interlock's edge did they get a hold of the dog and put it on a leash.

During this time, my cat had moved to the cat house on the porch. She was moaning. I did not see Shanti clearly, but I could see she was not moving well. I had thought she was about to have a seizure or that her hindquarters were injured.

I shouted out to the owner and companion that this was not the first time their dog had been on my property and chasing my cats - the week before, I retrieved Shanti from my tree after she was chased by this dog - that the dog needs to be on a leash, and in care and control by the owner at all times. I told them I would call animal control if I found the dog on my property again. The owner did not express remorse or concern for Shanti or acknowledge responsibility for their dog's care, control, or temperament. Instead, the owner responded rudely and defensively, told me to read the bylaw and justified their dog's action due to my cat being at large.

For context, Shanti was not a cat that would go off our property. We worked for three years to harness train her. That evening, she may have been at the end of the driveway, interlock, or on the porch, but not off my property. Shanti is known to many neighbours who have dogs and children, and to those who visit my husband and I. She is friendly, sweet and all love, all the time! The meaning of her name is peace, and she embodied that. She is not known to wander on the street or to other properties. Instead, she used the front porch as her home, a safe place.

Unfortunately, what transpired next was a short back-and-forth full of teardowns and mixed profanity. I regret being a part of that dialogue.

The dog owner and companion started to move along. I turned my focus to Shanti. She had begun moving from the shadowed area toward me. It was at that moment that I saw her condition: she was frothing at the mouth, walking with only her front legs, and dragging her hindquarters. Her back end looked like a wet mop being dragged along the floor. I yelled out again to the owner, who would not have been more than one house up, that my cat was paralyzed. They did not respond or return.

Despite the shock, I got my phone from inside and returned to care for Shanti. She was trying to move and struggling, seemingly tired, I called the emergency animal hospital about my cat's situation and told them that we were on the way. Shanti was laboured in her breathing, foaming at the mouth and had laid down on her side. I got her into the pet carrier and transported her into the car.

While driving, I called my husband on the hands-free system and updated him on the situation. I told him to prepare himself that she may not make it to the vet's due to the severity of her injuries. He said that he would meet me there and left where he was immediately.

I arrived at the wrong vet hospital, however, they took Shanti in and started care immediately. The file from the veterinarian is a part of this report package. The report speaks to the care provided and her condition. In short, Shanti required pain medication and a catheter, was deemed to have sustained injuries that ruptured the core of her spinal cord. Shanti was euthanized on September 3rd at approximately 2:00 am.

This situation has been a trauma that has profoundly affected my husband and me. Our other cat is showing signs of stress and is behaving in an uncharacteristic manner. This dog's owners have repeatedly lost care and control of their dog in our neighbourhood. As I noted, I witnessed the dog on my property chasing my cats only two weeks ago. In the past, River's owners owned another ill-mannered dog that required muzzling.

We are heartbroken at the loss of our beautiful, Shanti. She was a sweet, loving girl who brought joy into our lives. The fact she was killed at her own home and that she suffered pain and terror is devastating to us. Her death was preventable and senseless. We hope no one else ever has to witness and go through this again.

Name of Witness: Charlene Biggerstaff

Phone no: [REDACTED]

Address of Witness: 286 Kenwood Ave., Keswick ON L4P 2X5



Signature of witness

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits