

Appeal for Aggressive/Dangerous Dog Order Town of Georgina By-law number 2008-0138 Reg -1

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to you today with the purpose of appealing a Dangerous/Aggressive dog order that was given to my dog River issued September 14th 2023. I am looking to appeal the decision and have the order rescinded. Also, to present a resolution that is mutually beneficial for both parties.

Animal control's reason for the order:

On the night of the incident, River was in the motorhome with Andrew and Grant (a friend), Andrew believed he fully closed and latched the camper door when he went into the house, River by-passed Grant and was able to push the door open and got out of the motorhome. River saw a cat on the side of the road down the street and chased it to its front porch. Andrew has scoliosis but ran after the dog (by doing so has worsened his condition), Andrew wasn't made aware of the attack only the chase. We both were informed that their cat was euthanized after River's attack by a mutual friend the next afternoon. I was mortified and immediately wanted to reach out and help the cat owners, I was asleep at the time of the incident and wasn't aware of what had happened until the next day.

Reason for appeal:

First and foremost, River has never had any issues with other animals. For the past 2 years he has been going to off-leash parks regularly with no issues at all, so I find the ban from the parks unnecessary. I have and can provide character references on both his personality and his interactions with other dogs.

Of course, as an animal lover, it is tragic that the cat was euthanized and I understand the magnitude of this loss for the owners. My thoughts are absolutely with them, and I am deeply apologetic for how this transpired. I had sent them a card of apology and offered to make amends.

We have followed all the orders to date and I have already started shock-collar training with River to ensure that he would never run at large again. To deem River dangerous and aggressive is terminating River's service to Andrew as a companion/service dog, which also terminates Andrew's quality of life. Until this one incident, River has always been a friendly, loving and gentle family pet, great with babies and small children, a neighbourhood favourite to pet for many children. I would never have exposed River to children if I believed that he could be a threat of any kind, he has always presented himself as a loving gentle dog.



Irene Dorosh



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