

June 12, 2020

**OFFICE OF THE HEARING EXAMINER
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue Room 1200
Seattle, Washington 98104
Telephone (206) 477-0860
hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov
www.kingcounty.gov/independent/hearing-examiner

SUMMARY ORDER

SUBJECT: Regional Animal Services of King County file no. **V20010523**

VIOLET GUADIZ

Animal Services Enforcement Appeal

Activity no.: A20010057

Appellant: **Violet Guadiz**

[REDACTED]
Cypress, TX 77429

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

King County: Regional Animal Services of King County
represented by **Chelsea Eykel**
Regional Animal Services of King County
21615 64th Avenue S
Kent, WA 98032
Telephone: (206) 263-5968
Email: raskcappeals@kingcounty.gov

This case is unusual. The substantive question initially seemed straightforward: whether Ms. Guadiz's dog was unlicensed, running at large, and performed a vicious act on March 21. In perhaps our strangest prehearing conference ever, Ms. Guadiz asserted that she had not been in Washington State since February and had no idea what the case was about.

When asked about her truck, Ms. Guadiz first stated that she had a different vehicle. Then when confronted with evidence that a truck with a license plate registered to her was seen in her Auburn driveway on March 21, she said she didn't know anything about it or who was driving it. She asserted that she had a dog that died years ago, but then when confronted with a record

showing she had adopted the dog in question less than two years ago, she claimed she did not understand what the case is about, before shifting to challenging whether the dog had actually bitten anybody.

The above are just some of the highlights, but hers was perhaps the least persuasive presentation we have heard in our hundreds and hundreds of conferences.

Still, the proof was in the pudding, and at the close of that conference suggested many, many ways she could prove she was in Texas since February and specifically on March 21—examples of numerous documents she could submit, testimony she could offer at hearing from the person Ms. Guadiz said had emailed the violation notice to her in Texas, etc. In our May 8 prehearing order, we set May 27 and June 3 as the deadlines for exhibits and rebuttal exhibits. Animal Services submitted its exhibits. Ms. Guadiz submitted nothing.

At our June 10 hearing, Animal Services came prepared with a slew of witnesses who could place Ms. Guadiz in Auburn in March. Ms. Guadiz elected not to participate. Perhaps that was for the best, because while we do not swear in participants in a prehearing conference, testimony at hearing is given under oath, and a materially false statement, under oath in an official proceeding, is a class B felony. RCW 9A.72.020. Somebody—either all the neighbors and the officer, or Ms. Guadiz—has not been telling the truth.

In any event, given Ms. Guadiz's failure to appear at our hearing, we DISMISS her appeal, making Animal Services' March 22 violation notice, confinement order, and penalty a final decision.

DATED June 12, 2020.



David Spohr
Hearing Examiner

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

King County Code 20.22.040 directs the Examiner to make the County's final decision for this type of case. This decision shall be final and conclusive unless appealed to superior court by *July 13, 2020*. Either party may appeal this decision by applying for a writ of review in superior court in accordance with chapter 7.16 RCW.

DS/JO

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

SUBJECT: Regional Animal Services of King County file no. **V20010523**

VIOLET GUADIZ

Animal Services Enforcement Appeal

I, Jessica Oscoy, certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that I transmitted the **SUMMARY ORDER** to those listed on the attached page as follows:

- EMAILED to all County staff listed as parties/interested persons and parties with e-mail addresses on record.
- placed with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as FIRST CLASS MAIL in an envelope addressed to the non-County employee parties/interested persons to addresses on record.

DATED June 12, 2020.



Jessica Oscoy
Legislative Secretary

Dollar, Denise
Hardcopy

Eykel, Chelsea
Regional Animal Services of King County

Guadiz, Violet
Hardcopy