

September 10, 2021

**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

ORDER OF DISMISSAL

SUBJECT: Regional Animal Services of King County file no. **V21012064-A21001923**

DONNA LIGHT

Animal Services Enforcement Appeal

Activity no.: A21001923

Appellant: **Donna Light**

[REDACTED]
Kent, WA 98030

Telephone: [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

We called Ms. Light on August 3, requesting a call back, and we mailed on August 10 our notice for the September 8 hearing. We received no communication in response. Appellant's failure to appear constitutes abandonment of the appeal. The appeal is therefore DISMISSED.

This is obviously an unfortunate situation all around, Ms. Light facing ongoing homelessness (or at least housing insecurity) and JW Barker not getting the medical care we are confident Ms. Light would provide him if funds were not so scarce. And yet she still has a duty not to allow any animal in her care to endure pain or suffering.

So while our dismissal acts as a final determination that Ms. Light allowed JW Barker to endure pain or suffering and that the \$500 penalty is appropriate, if by October 11, 2021, Ms. Light gets veterinary care from either Animal Services (by bringing JW Barker into Animal Services) or now takes him elsewhere for care and by October 11, 2021 delivers to Animal Services a veterinarian's statement about JW Barker's treatment, we will waive the \$500 penalty.

And to be clear, we mean *actual* veterinary care. According to Mission Veterinary Clinic, back in May Ms. Light brought a dog in, but then declined all diagnostics and treatment. Something similar would not qualify here for a penalty reduction.

If for some reason we have misunderstood the situation, by **October 11, 2021**, either party is free to file, with the examiner, a motion for reconsideration explaining why the examiner should not be dismissing this appeal. Filing a timely motion for reconsideration postpones the deadline (described below the signature line) for lodging an appeal.

DATED September 10, 2021.



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 *October 11, 2021*. Either party may appeal this decision by applying for a writ of review in superior court in accordance with chapter 7.16 RCW.

DS/lo

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

SUBJECT: Regional Animal Services of King County file no. **V21012064-A21001923**

DONNA LIGHT

Animal Services Enforcement Appeal

I, Lauren Olson, certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that I transmitted the **ORDER OF DISMISSAL** 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 September 10, 2021.



Lauren Olson
Legislative Secretary

Collins, Cosette
Hardcopy

Eykel, Chelsea
Regional Animal Services of King County

Light, Donna
Hardcopy