

July 15, 2022

**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. **V22013167-A22002483**

DENNIS LITVINENKO
Animal Services Enforcement Appeal

Activity no.: A22002483

Appellant: **Dennis Litvinenko**

[REDACTED]
Kent, WA 98031

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

Yesterday, Animal Services and its two witnesses appeared at our scheduled hearing. After waiting 10 minutes without Mr. Litvinenko, we announced we were dismissing his appeal. Later, Mr. Litvinenko emailed, stating he was currently in a different time zone and had gotten the time wrong; he requested that we hold a second hearing.

We decline to reopen the case. We uphold the violation and the penalties.

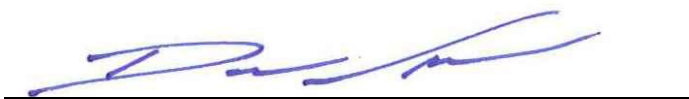
Mr. Litvinenko's appeal claimed he had given away Jaggie prior to the last incident. However, when a person transfers ownership of a pet, the law requires the person who transferred the pet to provide Animal Services with the name, address and telephone number of the new owner. KCC 11.04.030.B.8. According to Animal Services, it told Mr. Litvinenko it would dismiss the violation against Mr. Litvinenko and look to the new owner, if only Mr. Litvinenko would provide Animal Services with that new owner's contact information; Mr. Litvinenko apparently declined to provide that.

In any event, we are where we are, with Mr. Litvinenko currently still Jaggie's owner of record. Looking forward, if Mr. Litvinenko has indeed transferred Jaggie, then he should, ASAP, follow the law and provide Animal Services with the new owner's name, address, and telephone number. As when one transfers a car the previous owner should quickly report the change to the Department of Licensing (lest the previous owner later get fined if the car is later found illegally parked or abandoned), Mr. Litvinenko might want to consider a different approach here. The penalty for similar violations within a year doubles, so a next violation notice sent to him would carry a \$400 tag.

Beyond the monetary penalties, if there is a future violation, Animal Services could conceivably issue an order removing Jaggie from King County. KCC 11.04.290.B.1. Thus, it is important for Mr. Litvinenko (if he still has any control over Jaggie) to contain Jaggie to avoid that unfortunate result. And even if Mr. Litvinenko has no continuing relationship with Jaggie, it is important for Mr. Litvinenko to let the current owner know that they need to contain Jaggie and the potential ramifications for failure.

We DISMISS Mr. Litvinenko's appeal.

DATED July 15, 2022.



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 *August 15, 2022*. 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. **V22013167-A22002483**

DENNIS LITVINENKO

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 July 15, 2022.



Lauren Olson
Legislative Secretary

Eykel, Chelsea

Regional Animal Services of King County

Litvinenko, Dennis

Hardcopy

Salamon, Raymond

Hardcopy

Wedlake, Linda

Hardcopy