

July 27, 2023

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

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**REPORT AND DECISION**

SUBJECT: Regional Animal Services of King County file nos. **V23014231 & V23014232**

**SHARI AND PAUL HOLLINGER**

Animal Services Enforcement Appeal

Activity no.: A23002952

Appellants: **Shari and Paul Hollinger**

[REDACTED]  
Carnation, WA 98014

Telephone: [REDACTED]

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King County: Regional Animal Services of King County  
*represented by* **Chelsea Eykel**  
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FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

Overview

1. Shari and Paul Hollinger appeal both a violation notice asserting that their dogs, Iggy and Ruger, trespassed and qualify as vicious, and an order removing both dogs from King County. After hearing the witnesses' testimony and observing their demeanor, studying the exhibits admitted into evidence, and considering the parties' arguments and the relevant law, we sustain the trespass violations, sustain Iggy's viciousness designation but overturn Ruger's, and sustain Iggy's removal order but overturn Ruger's.

### Background

2. On May 10, 2023, Regional Animal Services of King County (Animal Services) issued violation notice V23014231-A23002952 to Shari Hollinger for both of her dogs, Ruger and Iggy, trespassing, qualifying as vicious, and needing to be confined. Ex. D9. The same day Animal Services issued removal order V23014232-A23002953 for both dogs. Ex. D10.<sup>1</sup>
3. Ms. Hollinger appealed on June 2. Ex. D11. We went to hearing on July 13.

### Hearing Testimony

#### *Testimony of Alex Doolan*

4. Alex Doolan testified that on March 25 he was on the Snoqualmie Valley Trail when he saw an Anatolian Shepard [Ruger] and a Great Pyrenees mix [Iggy] running loose. Ms. Hollinger, who was visibly distraught, and two other women were trying to contain the dogs. Ruger was aggressive and very focused on a passing dog. Iggy did not seem as aggressive; he was just sniffing around and was more interested in what Ruger was doing than in the passing dog.
5. Mr. Doolan and the others attempted to corral Ruger. Both Iggy, but in particular Ruger, were laser-focused on the other dog. Ruger slipped out of his collar. Ruger was trying to get around people to get at that dog. Mr. Doolan yelled, and the couple walking the passing dog picked up their dog. Ruger and Iggy were not people aggressive. As Mr. Doolan was leaving, Ms. Hollinger offered him a free tour of the alpaca farm. Ms. Hollinger's statements indicated that Ruger and Iggy had gotten out before.

#### *Testimony of Lasley Xiong*

6. Lasley Xiong testified that on May 2 she woke up at 2 AM and heard her dog, Tofu, barking. She then heard a second dog barking and Tofu wailing. This all took five to ten seconds.
7. Ms. Xiong looked out the window. It was dark but the moon lit the yard, and that part of her yard is clear, so she had an open view. She saw a dog with longer, white fur [Iggy] biting and clawing at Tofu and a taller dog [Ruger] in the background barking. Iggy had Tofu's neck in his jaws and was shaking as he pulled his head backward.
8. After just a few seconds, Ms. Xiong woke up her husband [Bee Cha]. Mr. Cha went outside, and Ms. Xiong went back to the window. She saw Iggy continuing to attack Tofu, while Ruger continued to bark in the background. Mr. Cha retrieved his gun from inside. Ms. Xiong heard the gunfire. The dogs split; Iggy ran left, towards the house and Ruger ran right, towards the porch.

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<sup>1</sup> At the time Animal Services issued its May 10 violation notice and removal order, it did not know Iggy's name.

9. Mr. Cha carried Tofu to the porch where Ms. Xiong had brought towels. She could see that Tofu was bleeding all over his neck and ears. Tofu became defensive while they attempted to inspect the area, so they just used towels to apply pressure to the wound.
10. The next morning, around 5:40 AM, Ms. Xiong went to the window and saw Iggy and Ruger back on her property. Ms. Xiong then took the photos in exhibit D4. They were the same dogs she saw at 2 AM that morning. Ms. Xiong then realized they were the same dogs she had seen on her property two weeks earlier.
11. Mr. Cha took Tofu to the vet, and Ms. Xiong went to the vet after work that afternoon. It was very emotional seeing Tofu and his wounds. Ex. D5. Tofu was treated at the vet for five days. The vet hospital was very kind, and they capped their payment at \$6000. They said Tofu might need cosmetic surgery and their clinic could not provide that. Tofu would have to get that surgery somewhere else, and it would be costly. The vet hospital told Ms. Xiong that they would check on Tofu in a few days to see if he needed the surgery.
12. Once Tofu was home, he struggled to eat and would only eat a little bit. He would just lay on his bed; he seemed lifeless. He ate a little more and eventually could walk around a bit. Ms. Xiong gave Tofu his antibiotics, changed his bandages and cleaned him. Mr. Cha broke down whenever he saw Tofu's wounds. Ms. Xiong is a physician, so she took care of Tofu. Tofu was eating less, and the left side of his face was falling off. She and her husband decided to euthanize Tofu. They cremated and buried him. Their children do not know what happened; they think Tofu is still at the vet. This was very traumatic for Mr. Cha because he was very close to Tofu.
13. Tofu was an outdoor dog; he was tethered around 60 to 70 feet from the porch. From the window where Ms. Xiong witnessed the attack, she was about 50 feet from the end of Tofu's lead.

*Testimony of Victoria Hartin*

14. Victoria Hartin is the Cha's neighbor. She testified that she has seen the Hollinger dogs on her property. Around May 4 (or possibly a different day), Ms. Hartin was about to let her dog out of her car when she saw Iggy and Ruger coming down her driveway. She recognized the dogs as being Ms. Hollinger's from the alpaca farm.
15. The dogs jumped on her car, so Ms. Hartin yelled to assert her authority. Ruger then came up to Ms. Hartin and let her pet him, but Iggy growled at her. Iggy was more aggressive towards her, and Ruger seemed like the follower. Iggy headed down the trail to the Cha property, and Ruger followed. She knew this event was after the [May 2] incident, because she had seen Ms. English's social media post about that attack. Ms. Hartin had seen the dogs roaming off their property two other times.

*Testimony of Sandra English*

16. Sandra English testified that on May 2 around 2 AM she received a phone call from Mr. Cha. He sounded frantic and his voice was trembling. He said two dogs just attacked Tofu and they were heading towards Ms. English's property.
17. At 6 AM that morning, Ms. English received either a call or text from Mr. Cha that the same two dogs were back on his property, he had taken pictures, and he was taking Tofu to the vet. Mr. Cha sent pictures to Ms. English to see if she could identify the dogs. Ms. English posted the pictures to social media. Ex. D7. Ms. Hollinger identified the dogs as hers and said she would retrieve them.
18. Ms. Hollinger's property borders Ms. English's property on the south. It is separated by a broken-down barbed wire fence with gaps. The large fluffy dog [Iggy] has come onto the English property around a dozen times, and Ms. English always shoos it away. The dog with short hair and a dark muzzle [Ruger] has been on her property three to four times, with the most recent time being May 19 at 8 AM. Ruger was identical to the one in Mr. Cha's photo. Ms. Hollinger tried to shoo it away. Ruger then barked at her, so she threw a rock in his direction. Ruger then headed through the barbed wire fence onto the Hollinger property. Ms. English took a photo. Ex. D8-005. Ruger was ten to fifteen feet away. When Ruger and Iggy have gone on the English property, Ms. English's dog, Harley, might bark at them, but Harley stays on the porch.

*Testimony of Bee Cha*

19. Bee Cha testified that in the early morning of May 2 his wife woke him up and said something was attacking Tofu. He went to the window in the bedroom and saw the long-haired, white dog [Iggy] attacking Tofu and the short-haired dog [Ruger] standing close by. At that point Mr. Cha was unsure if Iggy was playing or mauling Tofu, but he knew Tofu was attacked because Tofu was wailing and sounded like he was dying. (Growing up in Laos, Mr. Cha is familiar with the sounds of dogs dying.)
20. Mr. Cha grabbed his gun and ran to the front door. The security light triggered, and Mr. Cha saw Ruger barking and facing north, while Iggy looked like he was chewing, mauling, and tearing Tofu. Mr. Cha fired his gun in the air, and the dogs dispersed. Iggy ran towards him and Ruger ran towards the house, then they both ran away.
21. Mr. Cha checked on Tofu. Tofu could not move, and he was bleeding badly. Mr. Cha put him on the porch, and Ms. Xiong brought out towels. They tried to check Tofu's injury, but he would not let them. Mr. Cha wrapped him in a blanket and put him in the shed. Mr. Cha remembered that Ms. English had a dog, so he called her to warn her about Iggy and Ruger.
22. A few hours later around 5:40, Mr. Cha looked outside and saw Iggy and Ruger licking the blood from where Tofu was bleeding earlier that morning. Mr. Cha took photos of the dogs and asked Ms. English if she could identify the owner of the dogs. Ex. D4.

23. Mr. Cha then checked on Tofu. He took Tofu to the vet, who recommended he bring Tofu to the emergency hospital. The hospital had to sedate Tofu to shave him. Tofu was at the hospital for five days. Ex. D5. Mr. Cha brought him home. As time went on, Tofu got worse. His face was peeling away, and he needed surgery. Ex. D5 at 006-07. Tofu could not swallow. They decided to put Tofu down, which was one of the hardest things he has done. They cremated Tofu and buried him in the yard. His family was fearful after the incident.
24. Around a month or two before May 2, Mr. Cha saw Iggy on his property once, and he chased him off. It was not an aggressive encounter.

*Testimony of Shari Hollinger*

25. Shari Hollinger testified that Ruger (an Anatolian Shepard) and Iggy (a Great Pyrenees) are working livestock guardians. Iggy and Ruger have never shown prior aggression towards people or animals. Over fifteen thousand guests have visited Ms. Hollinger's alpaca farm. Iggy loves attention. Guests say they appreciate the dogs. Iggy and Ruger have met neighbor dogs with no issue.
26. Livestock guardians are difficult to contain because they want to guard a large area. Iggy especially gets out. Iggy and Ruger escaped on March 10. Her dogs got along well with the dogs at the property they ended up at. Ex. A1.
27. Iggy and Ruger were not out again until May 2. There is high predation in the area from cougars, coyotes, and bears. On May 2, a black bear was reported on the trail, and it is possible Iggy and Ruger escaped to chase off the bear and ended up on the Cha property. Ms. Hollinger opined that a lot of things could have occurred that night, such as a possible tussle with another animal that then involved Tofu. Ms. Hollinger also opined that Tofu became aggressive because he was tethered. Ms. Hollinger admits her dogs were trespassing.
28. After Ms. Hollinger saw Ms. English's social media post with pictures, she checked on her dogs. She saw no blood on her dogs and took photos. Ex. A13.
29. Ms. Hollinger improved the fence by adding double gates, hot panels, and electric wire, and covering potential dig areas. She also purchased an extreme dog fence, which is a farm version of an invisible fence that hangs on the existing fence. Iggy, and possibly Ruger, will get a collar for the invisible fence.
30. She also kept Ruger chained up, per Animal Services advice, because there was concern he would jump the fence. Iggy had not shown a propensity to jump the fence. On May 15, Ms. Hollinger's husband did not secure the wire on the fence. He briefly went inside. At 3:35 PM, Ms. Hollinger received a call from another neighbor that Iggy and Ruger were out on the trail. The Hollinger family recovered the dogs at 4 PM. Ms. Hartin posted that the dogs were out, and Ms. Hollinger believes it was this day.

31. She denies that the dog in Ms. English’s photo is Iggy or Ruger. Ex. D8 at 005. Ms. Hollinger chained up Ruger from 9 PM to 9 AM. After May 18 Ruger was no longer chained, because the new wire on the fence was hot.
32. Ruger has tried to get out of the gate while the alpacas are being fed. On March 25, Ms. Hollinger’s sister-in-law was feeding the alpacas and accidentally let out Ruger and Iggy. Ms. Hollinger, her sister-in-law, and niece tried to get the dogs. Ruger slipped out of his collar and ran towards the passing dog. Iggy was just sniffing around. Mr. Doolan offered to help get the dogs. Ms. Hollinger opined that Ruger would not have hurt the passing dog. The couple picked up their dog, but they dropped the dog and Ruger continued to try to go to the dog because he was curious.

### Legal Standards

33. In V23014231:
  - i. On May 2 were Ruger and Iggy trespassing, defined as a “domesticated animal that enters upon a person’s property without the permission of that person”? KCC 11.04.230.K.
  - ii. Do Ruger and Iggy qualify as “vicious,” defined as, “having performed the act of, or having the propensity to do any act, endangering the safety of any person, animal or property of another, including, but not limited to, biting a human being or attacking a human being or domesticated animal without provocation,” with the violation itself framed as “Any animal that has exhibited vicious propensities and constitutes a danger to the safety of persons or property off the animal’s premises or lawfully on the animal’s premises”? KCC 11.04.020.BB; KCC 11.04.230.H.
34. In V23014232, is Ruger’s and/or Iggy’s removal from the County appropriate under KCC 11.04.290.A.1, which states that:

An animal, declared by the manager of the regional animal services section to be vicious, may be harbored, kept or maintained in King County only upon compliance with those requirements prescribed by the manager. In prescribing the requirements, the manager must take into consideration the following factors:

- a. the breed of the animal and its characteristics;
- b. the physical size of the animal;
- c. the number of animals in the owner's home;
- d. the zoning involved; size of the lot where the animal resides and the number and proximity of neighbors;
- e. the existing control factors, including, but not limited to, fencing, caging, runs and staking locations; and

f. the nature of the behavior giving rise to the manager's determination that the animal is vicious, including:

- (1) extent of injury or injuries;
- (2) circumstance, such as time of day, if it was on or off the property and provocation instinct; and
- (3) circumstances surrounding the result and complaint, such as neighborhood disputes, identification, credibility of complainants and witnesses,

while KCC 11.04.290.A.2 states that:

Requirements that may be prescribed include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Erection of additional or new fencing adequate to keep the animal within the confines of its property;
- b. Construction of a run within which the animal is to be kept. Dimensions of the run shall be consistent with the size of the animal;
- c. Keeping the animal on a leash adequate to control the animal, the length and location to be determined by the manager. When unattended the leash must be securely fastened to a secure object;
- d. Maintenance of the animal indoors at all times, except when personally controlled on a leash adequate to control the animal by the owner or a competent person at least fifteen years old; and
- e. Removal of the animal from the county within forty-eight hours from receipt of such a notice.

35. We do not grant substantial weight or otherwise accord deference to agency determinations. Exam. R. XV.F.3. For those matters or issues raised in an appeal statement, Animal Services bears the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence both the violation and the appropriateness of the remedy it has imposed. KCC 20.22.080.G; .210.B.

#### Analysis

36. The evidence for May 2 is clear. Iggy and Ruger undisputedly escaped the Hollinger property and were photographed on the Cha property at 6 AM. (Ms. Hollinger verified that the pictured dogs were hers.) Both Ms. Xiong and Mr. Cha testified that those were the same dogs they saw on the property at 2 AM that morning. And at 2 AM they both observed the dog with longer, white fur (Iggy) chewing on Tofu while the taller dog (Ruger) remained in the background barking. The only inconsistency was that Ms. Xiong

stated that, when they dispersed, Iggy ran left while Ruger ran right, and Mr. Cha said the opposite; we do not find that discrepancy particularly important or concerning.

37. Ms. Hollinger offered several theories on why it was (a) not her dogs attacking Tofu at 2 AM, or that (b) even if it was her dogs, maybe they were provoked. We address those in turn.
38. Ms. Hollinger pointed out that Iggy and Ruger are sweet dogs, and she produced lots of testimonials to that effect. Thus, she opined that it would not have been her dogs mauling Tofu. We see such testimonials in most vicious dog appeals. And in our thousand-plus animal appeals, we have reviewed countless cases where a dog just as sweet performs a horrendous act. So, while their general sweetness might make it *slightly* less probable that it was Iggy and Ruger on the Cha property mortally wounding Tofu, as evidence goes it was not very probative.
39. She also noted that there was no blood on either dog. In cases where an attack has occurred and there is no question as to the identity of the attacker, we sometimes see blood on the attacker, but we often do not. It is not irrelevant, but far from a smoking gun.
40. Considering the evidence, it is theoretically possible that although:
  - A. Mr. Cha and Ms. Xiong testified that the dogs they saw and photographed around 6 AM on May 2 were the same ones they had seen during the attack on Tofu four hours earlier; and
  - B. the two dogs photographed on the Cha property at 6 AM on May 2 were undisputedly Iggy and Ruger, as Ms. Hollinger positively identified them that day and then re-admitted at hearing; and
  - C. and Iggy and Ruger escaped again on May 15 and were observed by Ms. Hartin property onto the Cha property together several days later,

that nonetheless it was something *else* attacking Tofu on May 2. Such arguments may work in the “beyond a reasonable doubt” criminal context, but are grasping at straws in the “preponderance of the evidence” context we operate in. KCC 20.22.210.B. Even if we applied the more strenuous “clear and convincing” standard in some civil cases, we would have little trouble finding that Animal Services has met its burden of showing that Iggy and Ruger were on the Cha property at 2 AM and that Iggy mauled Tofu.
41. As to Ms. Hollinger’s even-if-it-was-her-dogs-then... defenses, none came close to the mark.
42. Her speculation that maybe Tofu was aggressive (i.e., provoked the attack) went nowhere. First, Tofu was on his own property, while Iggy and Ruger were trespassing; he had a right to scare off intruders. Second, the “provocation” inquiry in animal jurisprudence focuses on how an average dog, neither unusually aggressive nor unusually



docile, would react to an inciting act.<sup>2</sup> And a key touchstone of courts’ analyses is that “provocation” requires the dog’s reaction to be roughly proportional to the victim’s act.<sup>3</sup> Even if Tofu defending his home could be seen as provocation—and there is nothing in the record showing that—Iggy had no wounds, and fatally mauling Tofu was grossly disproportionate to any alleged provocation Tofu created.

43. Ms. Hollinger’s theory that somehow Iggy and Ruger were drawn into attacking Tofu because they started off chasing a bear or some other predator is hard to track. How would the presence of a bear justify Iggy gnawing on Tofu? It does not add up.
44. Animal Services offered its own speculation, that even though both complainants testified that Ruger was standing off to the side while Iggy mauled Tofu, maybe Ruger had been involved in the attack *before* Ms. Xiong spotted Iggy biting while Ruger stood to the side. Like Ms. Hollinger, Animal Services is free to offer any theories it wants, but as with Ms. Hollinger’s theories, we decide cases based on a more probable than not standard. And more likely than not Ruger did not add to the violence on May 2.
45. So where does that leave us?
46. Iggy easily meets the viciousness standard. “Vicious” is a legal term, and under our code, it does not mean a dog is mean-spirited, that it is vicious all the time, or that the dog’s owners do not take good care of the dog. It simply means that the animal meets the above code criteria. On May 2 Iggy perpetrated a sustained attack that fatally wounded Tofu. Iggy constitutes a significant danger.
47. The facts related to Ruger are decidedly different. The March 22 scenario Mr. Doolan described is disturbing, with Ruger aggressively lased in on the passing dog, difficult to control, and repeatedly trying to get at that dog as people tried to stop him. Ms. Hollinger exhibited a fair level of denial in seeing Ruger’s behavior that day as just being “curious.” Instead, it was closer to an unprovoked act endangering the safety of that dog, thus meeting KCC 11.04.020.BB’s definition. But we would not say, based on March 22 alone—that Ruger “constitutes a danger” to other people’s animals, a necessary finding for sustaining a KCC 11.04.230.H violation.
48. So, what does May 2 add to the analysis? Animal Services asserts that May 2 highlights the danger Ruger poses. As counterintuitive as it might sound, we find that May 2 actually shows the opposite.
49. We have considered multiple appeals where dogs *A* and *B* participate in an attack and are labeled vicious by Animal Services. However, when we sift through the hearing testimony, we learn that dog *A* was the initiator and far more violent participant, while dog *B* somewhat reluctantly and halfheartedly followed dog *A*’s lead and got in a nip or two. In several such scenarios we have sustained dog *A*’s viciousness designation but

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<sup>2</sup> *Bradacs v. Jacobone*, 244 Mich. App. 263, 273, 625 N.W.2d 108, 113 (2001) (citing *Kirkham v. Will*, 311 Ill. App. 3d 787, 792, 724 N.E.2d 1062 (2000)).

<sup>3</sup> *Stroop v. Day*, 271 Mont. 314, 319, 896 P.2d 439 (1995); *Bradacs* at 273–75; *Kirkham* at 792.

overturned dog *B*'s, reasoning that if dog *A* were removed from the picture and thus there was no pack dynamic at work, dog *B* would not independently constitute a danger. That is, even though dog *B* inflicted some violence on a particular day, we nonetheless overturned dog *B*'s viciousness designation.

50. Here, in contrast, on May 2 the best evidence we have is that even while Iggy was engaged in a sustained bloodsport, Ruger elected not to engage in any violence and instead stayed to the side and barked. To that we add Ms. Hartin's testimony that Iggy was the aggressor when they trespassed on her property (likely May 15), before heading back to the Cha property, with Ruger merely following Iggy's lead.
51. Animal Services has not met its burden of proving that Ruger qualifies as vicious.

### *Removal*

52. Overturning Ruger's viciousness designation takes him out of the removal equation. So that leaves only the question of whether or not to sustain Iggy's removal order. We are the most exacting on Animal Services in the context of removals.<sup>4</sup> We have seen every flavor of dog attacks and wounds, and this is definitely on the very extreme end. Yet even where a dog perpetuates extreme violence, such as fatally wounding another animal, we have sometimes overturned a removal order. We do our best to balance the equities.
53. Ms. Hollinger noted that if she was forced to remove her dogs, she would need to get replacement livestock guardians. And she could not get two puppies, because one of them would need to be a mature dog. That is problematic, because importing mature livestock guardians can have its own complications—who knows how that dog was trained or what it had experienced. However, she will not need to do that here, because Ruger (a mature dog) is remaining, and she can replace Iggy with a puppy.
54. Moreover, such livestock management calculations simply pale in comparison to the irrevocable damage Iggy caused the Chas and their children. Not only did they witness Iggy mauling Tofu (and then returning that morning to lick up Tofu's blood) and later Tofu succumbing to his injuries, but in between they had to experience Tofu's face literally peeling off. Ex. D5 at 006-07. The trauma was palpable, especially to Mr. Cha. The family should not need to endure living next door to the dog that did that to Tofu and to them. We uphold Iggy's removal order.

### DECISION:

1. In V23014231, we uphold both trespassing violations, overturn Ruger's viciousness designation and containment order, and sustain Iggy's viciousness designation.

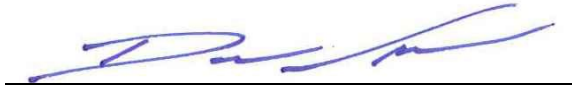
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<sup>4</sup> *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319, 335 (1976) (nature of private interest impacted is a factor in determining how much process is due); *Mansour v. King County*, 131 Wn. App. 255, 265, 128 P.3d 1241, 1246 (2006) (in the context of an order removing a dog from King County, "the more important the decision, the higher the burden of proof"); Exam. R. XII.B.4 (higher standards in proceeding involving divestiture of legally cognizable rights).

2. In V23014232, we overturn Ruger’s removal order and sustain Iggy’s removal order.
3. By **August 28, 2023**, the Hollingers shall either:
  - A. Microchip Iggy (if not microchipped already), find a potential new owner outside of unincorporated King County and outside the cities that contract with Animal Services,<sup>5</sup> disclose to that person that Iggy was ordered removed as a threat to public safety, have that person agree to take Iggy on, actually get Iggy out, and provide Animal Services both proof that this new owner lives outside unincorporated King County and those contract cities and the new owner’s contact information; or
  - B. Surrender Iggy to Animal Services.

If Ms. Hollinger successfully meets A. or B. and thereafter does not allow Iggy to return to King County or one of those contract cities, the \$1000 penalty attached to the removal order is waived. If not, the \$1000 penalty is reinstated and Animal Services may impound Iggy as an unredeemable animal.

ORDERED July 27, 2023.



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 28, 2023*. Either party may appeal this decision by applying for a writ of review in superior court in accordance with chapter 7.16 RCW.

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<sup>5</sup> In addition to unincorporated King County, the contract cites where the same legal standard applies are currently:

A.	Beaux Arts Village	B.	Bellevue	C.	Black Diamond
D.	Carnation	E.	Clyde Hill	F.	Covington
G.	Duvall	H.	Enumclaw	I.	Issaquah
J.	Kenmore	K.	Kent	L.	Lake Forest Park
M.	Maple Valley	N.	Mercer Island	O.	Newcastle
P.	North Bend	Q.	Redmond	R.	Sammamish
S.	SeaTac	T.	Shoreline	U.	Snoqualmie
V.	Tukwila	W.	Woodinville	X.	Yarrow Point

**MINUTES OF THE JULY 13, 2023, HEARING IN THE APPEAL OF SHARI AND  
PAUL HOLLINGER, REGIONAL ANIMAL SERVICES OF KING COUNTY  
FILE NOS. V23014231 & V23014232**

David Spohr was the Hearing Examiner in this matter. Participating in the hearing were Alex Doolan, Lasley Xiong, Victoria Hartin, Sandra English, Bee Cha, and Shari Hollinger. A verbatim recording of the hearing is available in the Hearing Examiner’s Office.

The following exhibits were offered and entered into the record by Animal Services:

Exhibit no. D1	Regional Animal Services of King County staff report to the Hearing Examiner
Exhibit no. D2	RASKC investigation report no. A23002952
Exhibit no. D3	Online Complaint form of May 2, 2023, incident by Bee Cha, dated May 10, 2023
Exhibit no. D4	Photograph of the Hollinger Dogs on the Cha property at 6am the morning of the attack
Exhibit no. D5	Photograph of Tofu’s injuries
Exhibit no. D6	Veterinary Report
Exhibit no. D7	Screen shots of Ms. Hollinger admitting the dogs were hers
Exhibit no. D8	Reports and photographs of the Hollinger’s dogs loose after the Notice and Order for Confinement
Exhibit no. D9	Notice of violation no. V23014231-A23002952, issued May 10, 2023
Exhibit no. D10	Notice and order for removal no. V23014231-A23002952, issued May 10, 2023
Exhibit no. D11	Appeal, received June 2, 2023
Exhibit no. D12	Map of subject area

The following exhibits were offered and entered into the record by the appellant:

Exhibit no. A1	Statement of Layne McKittrick
Exhibit no. A2	Statement of Lynn Gregg
Exhibit no. A3	Statement of Breanna Crochet
Exhibit no. A4	Statement of Jessica West (including photos)
Exhibit no. A5	Statement of Theresa Bonertz
Exhibit no. A6	My and Pam's texts documenting the length of time and date they were out
Exhibit no. A7	Texts, Facebook Posts regarding predators near Hollingers and Chas
Exhibit no. A8	Facebook Posts of other dogs roaming the area
Exhibit no. A9	Photos of Iggy interacting with farm visitors
Exhibit no. A10	Ruger's Chain Area & Fence Improvements
Exhibit no. A11	Humane Society Article on Tethered Dogs and Aggression
Exhibit no. A12	Article on chickens and predators
Exhibit no. A13	Iggy & Ruger photos from May 2nd showing no blood on the dogs
Exhibit no. A14	Iggy & Ruger photos from March 10, 2023 taken by Lanya McKittrick at her ranch

- Exhibit no. A15      Photos of profiles of Iggy & Ruger and also another dog to compare to Sande's photo
- Exhibit no. A16      Statement of Heather Hollinger
- Exhibit no. A17      Text Screenshot from Justin Hollinger showing when dogs recovered on 5/15/23
- Exhibit no. A18      Photo of house where dogs recovered on 5/15/23 (32906 NE 24th Street, Carnation)

July 27, 2023

**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](mailto:hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov)  
[www.kingcounty.gov/independent/hearing-examiner](http://www.kingcounty.gov/independent/hearing-examiner)

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

SUBJECT: Regional Animal Services of King County file nos. **V23014231 & V23014232**

**SHARI AND PAUL HOLLINGER**  
Animal Services Enforcement Appeal

I, Lauren Olson, certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that I transmitted the **REPORT AND DECISION** 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 27, 2023.



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Lauren Olson  
Legislative Secretary

**Doolan, Alex**  
Hardcopy

**English, Sandra**  
Hardcopy

**Eykel, Chelsea**  
Regional Animal Services of King County

**Hartin, Victoria**  
Hardcopy

**Hollinger, Shari/Paul**  
Hardcopy

**Lasley Xiong, Bee Cha**  
Hardcopy