

<b>R E P O R T</b>	<b>TO</b>	HEARINGS COMMITTEE
	<b>FROM</b>	GRAEME ADAMS – ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
	<b>FILE REF</b>	N384152
	<b>DATE</b>	18 JANUARY 2008
	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>APPEAL: NOTICE OF RETENTION OF DOG THREATENING PUBLIC SAFETY</b>

On Sunday 13 January 2008 at about 11.40am Council received a complaint from Miss Marychurch of 10 Nahum Street, Paeroa.

The complaint was that the dog next door at 10a Nahum Street had come onto her property and attacked and bitten a friend while he was washing the house.

The dog bit Lance Paterson on the left thigh leaving two (2) puncture holes and bruising (please see photo). There was no-one home at 10a Nahum Street, the property where the dog came from.

10a Nahum Street is occupied by Katherine Stevens who owns the Bull Terrier which attacked Lance Paterson.

I visited the address – 10 Nahum Street at about 11.55am and spoke to the complainant, Lance Paterson. I confirmed that he had been bitten by a dog identified as the dog next door, a Bull Terrier, brindle and white. I went next door to 10a Nahum Street knowing that a dangerous dog was registered to that address.

The two gates which closed off the house and backyard were open. The gate by the front door did not have a catch to hold the gate closed – there was a shoelace tied to the fence. The gate on the other side of the house was open. The catch was loose with only one screw holding the catch onto the fence. I went through that gate and the Bull Terrier was in the back yard. Before I could see the dog it was barking and came into view from the deck advancing aggressively – barking, baring its teeth. It would advance and retreat. I tried to catch the dog with a catch pole but the dog just ran around in circles and I could not catch the dog.

I secured both of the gates and returned 40 minutes later. When I returned my employer Murray Sexton accompanied me.

On our return the Bull Terrier was in the garage. The design of the house is 2 storey with a double garage which has internal access to the house. The dog rushed out of the garage – the garage door was open (1 of 2 doors were open) snarling and barking. The dog was eventually caught with catching poles and transported to the Council Dog Pound.

Lance Paterson made a sworn statement in relation to his complaint of Steven's dog biting him on Sunday 13 January 2008. Katherine Stevens was issued with a Section 71 of the Dog Control Act 1996 on Monday 14 January 2008.

Katherine Stevens owns the brindle and white Bull Terrier named Kahn Stevens and is currently registered for the 07/08 registration year holding the tag number 4310.

The Bull Terrier, Kahn Stevens is classified as a Dangerous Dog as it has bitten a person previously. The Bull Terrier was classified as dangerous in March 2006 as a result of the Bull Terrier attacking and biting a policeman on 14 February 2006.

Katherine Stevens has been issued a total of eight (8) infringements since September 2001, five (5) of which were for failing to registers and three (3) for failing to comply with the criteria for Dangerous Dogs and the dog remains in the pound.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Section 71 Notice be upheld.

Graeme Adams  
Dog Control Officer