

Dangerous Animal Designation Review

Owner: Kenya and Logan Wilson

Address: 3823 E Rubyred Dr., Appleton, WI 54913

Dog: Labrador Retriever / Husky Mix

Age: 5 years

Date of Incident: March 1, 2026

Background

Our dog was adopted as a rescue and has lived with our family since he was seven or eight months old. Over the past five years he has lived in our home without any history of aggressive behavior, prior bite incidents, or complaints involving threatening behavior toward people or other animals.

During this time he has regularly participated in normal social environments including doggy daycare, veterinary visits, neighborhood walks and runs, and interactions with friends' and family members' pets. In all of these settings he has interacted with other dogs and people without incident. Further, we have ensured our dogs are properly licensed and vaccinated, at all times.

Incident Summary

On the day of the incident, my wife was walking both of our dogs while I was not present. Both dogs began the walk on leash and under control. During the walk, our first dog unexpectedly slipped out of its leash and began moving away from her.

This immediately created a stressful and chaotic situation as she began attempting to regain control of the loose dog. While calling the dog and moving to recover it, Alpha remained on leash the entire time.

During this moment of confusion and urgency, Alpha briefly bit the other dog. The injury was evaluated by a veterinarian and required a minor laceration repair. The veterinary documentation included with this appeal reflects this treatment.

Once the loose dog was recovered and the situation stabilized, the interaction ended and there was no continued aggression.

We acknowledge that the bite occurred and regret that the situation happened. However, the bite occurred during a chaotic moment while my wife was actively attempting to regain control of a loose dog rather than during a calm or routine interaction.

We immediately offered to pay for all veterinary costs for Paisley's care and did cover the veterinary expenses.

Application of the Appleton Municipal Code

The Appleton Municipal Code defines a dangerous animal as an animal that “when unprovoked, inflicts bodily harm on a person, domestic pet or animal.”

In this case, the bite occurred while my wife was actively attempting to regain control of our other dog that had unexpectedly slipped its leash. This created a sudden and chaotic situation during the walk.

Throughout the incident, Alpha remained on leash and did not pursue or chase the other dog. The bite occurred during this moment of confusion while my wife was trying to regain control of the loose dog.

The incident occurred during an active and stressful situation involving both owners attempting to regain control of the dogs, multiple dogs barking, and the sudden loss of leash control. Because the bite occurred during this active situation rather than during a calm or stimulus-free interaction, we respectfully believe the circumstances do not reflect an unprovoked act as described in the ordinance.

Alpha’s Behavioral History

Outside of this isolated incident, Alpha has consistently demonstrated friendly and non-aggressive behavior with both people and other dogs.

Alpha has attended boarding and daycare at a professional training facility on more than fifteen occasions without any reported aggressive behavior toward people or other dogs. This is documented in Attachment A.

We have also included a character reference from an individual who has spent time around Alpha in our home and has consistently observed him to be friendly, affectionate, and non-aggressive toward people. This is documented in Attachment B.

These independent observations from individuals who regularly interact with Alpha support that this incident does not reflect his normal temperament.

Preventive Measures

We take responsible pet ownership and public safety very seriously. Following this incident, we have implemented additional precautions to ensure that a similar situation cannot occur again.

Moving forward:

- Our dogs will be walked separately so that only one dog is handled at a time.
- When walking in public Appleton walking areas such as sidewalks, trails, or parks, Alpha will be muzzled as an added precaution.

These steps are being taken proactively to ensure responsible management of our dogs and the safety of the community.

Request for Reconsideration

We understand the Board's responsibility to protect the community, and we share that same goal. Given our dog's five-year history without aggressive behavior, his regular safe interaction with other dogs and people, the minor nature of the injury involved in this isolated event, and our willingness to implement additional safety measures, we respectfully request reconsideration of the dangerous animal designation.

We believe these factors demonstrate that this incident does not represent an aggressive or dangerous animal. We have had Alpha in our family for five years and we have never been concerned about aggression or dangerous acts.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



3/6/2026

To whom it may concern,

My name is Emily Schnell. I am the Owner and Head Trainer at Pawsibilities Custom Canines, LLC in Edgar, WI.

Alpha has come to my facility for Boarding and/or Daycare over 15 separate times. Alpha has not exhibited any aggressive behavior to people. Alpha has been in one of our fenced yards with his housemate, Zulu, and another family members dogs, Charlie and Stella. Alpha has been ok with these three dogs when we observed them together. When Alpha is in one of the fenced yards, he is also able to see dogs present in adjacent fenced yards. Alpha has exhibited interest or excitement towards the dogs in the other yards but has not shown ill intent or made attempts to cause harm to the dogs in the other yards.

Sincerely,

Emily Schnell
Owner & Head Trainer

Phone: 715-204-7039

Email: pawsibilitiescustomcanines@gmail.com

Website: Pawsibilitiescc.com

Kathleen M. Williams

Re: Character Letter Regarding Alpha

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to share my personal experience with Alpha in support of Kenya and Logan Wilson's appeal of the determination that he is a "dangerous dog." I have known Kenya and Logan for four years and spent time in their home on numerous occasions with Alpha present. Each time, Alpha has greeted me in a friendly and welcoming manner. He always approached me with enthusiasm and affection, often seeking attention and wanting to play, even though I was a stranger to him. He frequently acts like a "lap dog" and likes to sit close to people and be part of the interaction. At no point during my visits have I ever observed any signs of aggression, hostility, or threatening behavior from Alpha. To the contrary, my experience has always been that he is gentle, friendly, and eager to interact positively with new people.

I am a dog owner and have experience being around dogs with aggressive and protective tendencies. Based on that experience, I am familiar with the types of behaviors and warning signs that can indicate aggression in dogs. I have never observed any such behaviors from Alpha. In my experience, he has always been a friendly and loving dog.

For these reasons, I felt it was important to share my firsthand observations. The behavior I have personally witnessed does not reflect that of a dangerous dog.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathleen

**COUNTRYSIDE
VETERINARY health**

2101 E Evergreen Drive
Appleton, WI 54913
(920) 968-3322

Care Plan

Kylie [REDACTED]
Appleton, WI 54913 Home Phone: (920) [REDACTED]
Work Phone: () - ext:

Mar 01, 2026
Estimate Number 7375

Paisley (# B) Species: Canine Sex: Female Spayed Age: 10 years and 10 months old Breed: Labrador Retriever Coat Color: Choc Rabies Tag Number: 230069	Blood Pressure: Bordetella Vaccination: DAP Titer Evaluation: DAPP Vaccination: 01/09/2026 Diagnostic Imaging: Heartworm Treatment:
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Code	Description	Low Qty	High Qty	Low Price	High Price
UC180	UC: EXAM/CONSULT, URGENT CARE	1.00	1.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 135.00
UC337	UC: OSHA COMPLIANCE	1.00	1.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00
1111	Weigh Pet	1.00	1.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
UC011	UC: ANESTHESIA/SEDATION MONITORING	1.00	1.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 90.00
A934	Sedation/Analgesia - Injection	1.00	1.00	\$ 130.69	\$ 176.44
ANTIS	Atipamezole 5mg/mL	0.60	1.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
M39596	Butorphanol Injectable 10mg/mL (per mL)	0.60	1.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
DEXDOM	Dexmedetomidine Injectable 0.5mg/mL	0.60	1.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
M470	Nail Trim Courtesy	1.00	1.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
UC403	UC: SX: LACERATION REPAIR, MINOR	1.00	1.00	\$ 503.50	\$ 679.50
P477	Anesthesia Monitoring by CVT	1.00	1.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
FREE	ECG Monitoring	1.00	1.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
FREE	Heart and Respiratory Rate Monitoring	1.00	1.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
FREE	Non-invasive Blood Pressure monitoring	1.00	1.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
FREE	SPO2 Monitoring	1.00	1.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
S3456	Surgical Pack-Minor Soft Tissue	1.00	1.00	\$ 51.00	\$ 51.00
S3412	Recovery Suite	1.00	1.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
OSHA2	OSHA COMPLIANCE FEE, Surgical	1.00	1.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
P8876	Medication to go Home	1.00	1.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 100.00
V538	Rabies Vaccination - Canine 3 Year	1.00	1.00	\$ 26.50	\$ 26.50
P476	Penrose Drain	1.00	1.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 17.00

Total for Paisley: \$ 1,011.69 \$ 1,283.44

Total Invoice: \$ 1,011.69 \$ 1,283.44

UC Jim Graham

This is only an estimate and may vary +/- \$50.00 to \$100.00.