

**CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE  
ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT DANGEROUS DOG HEARING  
NOVEMBER 5, 2024**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A City of Port St. Lucie Animal Control Department Dangerous Dog Hearing was opened by Special Magistrate Keith Davis on November 5, 2024, at approximately 9:30 AM, at Port St. Lucie City Hall Council Chambers, 121 Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Port St. Lucie, Florida.

Present for

City: Carly Fabien, Deputy City Attorney  
Rodneshia Louis, City of Port St. Lucie Police Officer  
Jessica Polychronis, Animal Control Officer  
Maria Jesus  
Silvia Fernandez

Present for

Respondent: Damian Cadet, Respondent

Others Present:

Keith Davis, Special Magistrate  
Diana “Dee” Sanchez, Spanish Interpreter/Legal Department  
Daisy Ruiz, Deputy City Clerk

**2. HEARING**

Special Magistrate Keith Davis gave the Oath of Testimony to those present who were testifying and placed Diana “Dee” Sanchez under the Interpreter’s Oath. The Respondent, Damian Cadet, provided a brief introductory statement. The Special Magistrate provided instructions for the Dangerous Dog Hearing.

Deputy City Attorney Carly Fabien called the City’s first witness, City of Port St. Lucie Police Officer Rodneshia Louis. Attorney Fabien questioned Officer Louis regarding the incident from September 15, 2024. Officer Louis answered and provided testimony based on Attorney Fabien’s line of questioning. Mr. Damian interrogated Officer Louis regarding the incident. Officer Louis answered and gave testimony based on Mr. Cadet’s line of questioning. The Special Magistrate questioned Officer Louis regarding the incident and asked for a copy of the incident report. Attorney Fabien stated she had a copy of the report. Mr. Cadet asked why he was not provided with the incident report before today’s hearing. Attorney Fabien explained that Mr. Cadet was advised that the documents are not automatically provided to the Respondent. Still, rather he would have needed to request the records of the incident in question. At this time, Attorney Fabien provided a moment for Mr. Cadet to review Officer Louis’ incident report. The Special Magistrate stated the document title was “Reporting Officer Narrative”, in which it listed Silvia Fernandez, as the victim and dated September 15, 2024. Special Magistrate Davis questioned

Officer Louis based on the Reporting Officer's Narrative. Officer Louis answered the Special Magistrate's line of questioning.

Attorney Fabien called the City's second witness, City of Port St. Lucie Animal Control Officer Jessica Polychronis. Attorney Fabien questioned AC Officer Polychronis regarding her involvement based on the September 15, 2024, incident. AC Officer Polychronis answered Attorney Fabien's line of questioning and testified as to the incident.

Mr. Cadet objected to Attorney Fabien's mentioning and questioning of a previous incident that involved his dog, "Enoch". Special Magistrate Davis overruled the objection and provided his reasoning.

Animal Control Officer Polychronis continued to provide testimony based on Attorney Fabien's, Mr. Cadet's, and Special Magistrate Davis' line of questioning.

Attorney Fabien called the City's third witness, Maria Jesus, 3067 SW Vittorio Street, Port St. Lucie. She indicated she did not reside at the address where the incident took place and stated that it was her mother's home. Ms. Jesus answered Attorney Fabien's, Mr. Cadet's, and Special Magistrate Davis' line of questioning and provided testimony.

Attorney Fabien called the City's fourth witness, Silvia Fernandez, 356 SW Ridgecrest Drive, Port St. Lucie. Attorney Fabien asked Ms. Fernandez to please describe the events that took place on the date of the incident, September 15, 2024. Ms. Fernandez provided testimony from the date of the incident. (**Clerk's Note:** Ms. Sanchez interpreted for Ms. Fernandez at this time.) Mr. Cadet and Special Magistrate Davis had no questions for Ms. Fernandez.

Mr. Cadet provided testimony based on Special Magistrate Davis' line of questioning and submitted a copy of the "Petition to Reconsider the Classification of Enoch on the Dangerous Dog List", marked as Petitioner's Exhibit #1. Attorney Fabien had no objection.

Attorney Fabien and Mr. Cadet provided closing statements.

Special Magistrate Davis indicated this was one of the more difficult Dangerous Dog Hearings he has heard. He advised that he did not find Enoch to have aggressively bitten, attacked or inflicted severe injury on public or private property. Special Magistrate Davis found that any of the scratches or bites sustained by Ms. Jesus were superficial, did not require sutures, and did not meet the statutory definition of severe injury. He found that Enoch did not chase or approach a person in public in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack. Special Magistrate Davis indicated he did not find Ms. Jesus' testimony to be credible and provided his explanation as to why. He noted there was no mention in any of the reports that Enoch ever encountered the children and stated the children were not present to testify. Special Magistrate Davis found based on the testimony and evidence that Enoch had more than once, severely injured or killed a domestic animal while off the owner's property. Special Magistrate Davis explained that the incident from 2019 and this incident with Kobe were considered to make his decision. He stated that though it was playful behavior for this incident, Kobe ultimately suffered from a broken

pelvis. Special Magistrate Davis stated he was upholding the finding of Enoch being labeled a Dangerous Dog, not because of the interaction with any human but rather because the greater weight of the evidence showed that he more than once severely injured or killed a domestic animal while off the owner's property.

The Special Magistrate asked City staff to prepare the appropriate order based on his findings and explained that the \$400 administrative fee would be assessed in the case.

**3. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

There were no comments from the public.

**4. ADJOURN**

There being no further discussion, the hearing adjourned at 11:02 AM.

---

Daisy Ruiz, Deputy City Clerk