



Weld man arrested in another dog attack

Rebecca Waddingham, (Bio) waddingham@greeleytrib.com

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A Weld County man already in trouble for owning allegedly dangerous dogs was arrested again, after police said one of his dogs attacked a neighbor's dog at his Firestone home.

David Riley, 37, was arrested Friday and faces charges of second-degree trespassing and unlawful ownership of a dangerous dog. His probation in an earlier dog-related case has been revoked.

Firestone police were called to a home on Florence Avenue at 2:40 a.m., where they found Scout, one of Riley's three dogs, fighting another dog, with Riley also in the yard.

Scout was confiscated and is at the Weld County Humane Society in Evans, with Bruni, another dog that has connections to Riley.

Riley was on probation after being found guilty in March of owning a dangerous dog because of an incident that happened last fall. He served 60 days in the Weld County Jail and got his dogs back May 1.

About a week later, Bruni -- who also is known as Bruno and Sampson, according to Roger Messick of the Humane Society -- attacked Pamela Flanders, a Firestone resident with her own connection to law enforcement and animals. She was cited for allegedly mistreating 26 cats.

The timeline of events involving Riley and his mother, Jackie Riley, and their three dogs spans almost a year.

n In early 2004, the dogs, Bruni, Scout and Angel, killed a cat in Firestone. Jackie Riley was cited for owning a dangerous dog in that case.

n On Sept. 3, 2004, the dogs attacked Firestone resident Rosa Storm as she walked her dog. David Riley was cited in that case; it went to trial. He lost on one count, and that's why he went to jail.

n About three weeks later, all three dogs attacked Adam Stutzman, a caretaker at Coal Ridge Animal Hospital in Longmont, where the dogs were being held in the Storm case. Stutzman required more than 200 stitches and was on a respirator for two days after the incident, Messick said.

n On May 9, Bruni attacked Flanders and was confiscated. Jackie Riley was cited in that case and must pay \$750 bond for Bruni by Friday.

n On May 20, early in the morning, Scout fought the neighbor's dog and David Riley was cited in that case.

Colorado laws don't recognize dogs, only owners, so this would technically be David Riley's second dangerous dog citation, though it is the dogs' fourth incident. David Riley remains in jail and is scheduled to return to court June 28.

In the meantime, the Humane Society again has two of the massive mixed-breed dogs. Messick said he believes

the Rileys paid between \$6,000 and \$8,000 in boarding fees in the previous incident, because the humane society charges \$25 per day, per dog.

"I've been in this business for 14 years now," Messick said. "I won't say these are the most vicious dogs I have ever had to handle, but they are the most vicious dogs I have ever had to handle for a long time."

The Associated Press contributed to this story.

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