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## Dogs Viciously Attack Veterinarian

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**SAN DIEGO** -- A dog owner may be headed to jail after his animals viciously attacked a North County veterinarian who was out for a walk with her two young sons.

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**Warning: Disturbing Images** -- Vet Attacked By Dogs

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The attack left Nancy Matthews with more than 100 bite wounds over most of her body. According to Matthews, the attack took place while she was on a walk in Valley Center with her two young sons. She said the two boxers suddenly attacked her and mauled her for nearly 15 minutes.

"It went on for so long, I started losing blood and losing consciousness," Matthews told NBC 7/39. "At one point, I knew they were killing me."

Matthews said she was terrified the dogs would turn on her sons -- ages 9 and 11 -- and that she kept screaming for them to run away. During the attack, Matthews curled up into a ball. She said the dogs were literally tearing her flesh apart.

Photos taken about a week after the attack still show the severity of Matthew's wounds. She said she had hundreds of bites and still has 90 scars.

The dogs were put down by their owner, Pedro Torres, immediately. He is a neighbor of Matthews and said that the animals were not trained to attack. He believes the animals were instinctively protecting his property. He also said he feels horrible about the attack.

"The dogs were never trained as attack dogs, or as fight dogs," said Torres. "They were pets."

For her part, Matthews is conflicted about how much punishment the dogs' owner should face.

"On the one hand, you want to forgive, and on the other hand, you don't want this ever to happen to anyone else again," Matthews said.

Animal control has provided information on the attack to the district attorney, who hasn't decided yet whether to file criminal charges.

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