

Life has its rewards.

57° F  
Forecast » tennessean.com **News** Communities Business Sports Video Entertainment Music Living Opinion Obits TravelSearch Middle Tennessee: Sponsored By [Subscribe Now](#) | [Customer Service](#) | [Place an Ad](#) | [Contact Us](#)Home >> **News**

Tuesday, 12/19/06

## Pyrenees suspected in Franklin Co. dog mauling can live

By LEON ALLIGOOD  
Staff writer

Two Great Pyrenees dogs suspected in the mauling death of a Franklin County woman will not be put down after DNA testing was inconclusive as to whether they participated in the attack, according to District Attorney Mike Taylor.

As a result of the testing by the Veterinary Genetics Laboratory at the University of California-Davis, Taylor said his office "is not able to take legal action to dispose of Dr. Gammada's dogs."

Dianna Acklen, 60, a library clerk, was killed in a dog attack last May.

Packlen was killed as she went on her daily walk down Knight Church Road in rural Franklin County. Three dogs were initially implicated in the attack by authorities: the Great Pyrenees owned by Dr. Ephraim Gammada, and a mixed breed owned by Ronnie Swann, both of whom are Acklen's neighbors.

The mixed breed was put to sleep within days of the attack, but the Gammadadas refused to relinquish their animals. Dr. Gammada, in several interviews, said his pets were in their pen when he left his house that day and were in their pen when he returned.

The DNA testing by UC-Davis confirmed that the mixed breed was involved in the attack, but reported "at least four other dogs were involved."

Dianna Acklen suffered between 200 and 300 dog bites on her arms, legs and torso.

### TODAY'S TOP STORIES:

- Belmont names first non-Baptist trustees
- 'Smart' meters could cut NES bills
- Blast won't delay move of courts, Metro says
- DCS will issue holiday passes to some youths in state custody
- Nashville's trendy seek tackiest holiday sweater
- Supplement demand is up

**Top Jobs**  
POWERED BY  
careerbuilder®[Bookkeeper](#)[PRODUCTION DIRECTOR/THEATER MANAGER](#)  
In Pigeon Forge, TN[Nurse Practitioner for fast paced](#)[All Top Jobs](#)

### STORY CHAT:

[Post a Comment](#) [View All Comments](#)

Any dog can bite. Dogs should be judged by temperament not breed. According to Karen Delise, of the National Canine Research Council, 90% of all fatal dog attacks involve unsterilized dogs. 81% of the dogs are used for guarding or fighting. 61% are abused or neglected or improperly maintained-allowed to roam or tethered. Since 1963 chained or tethered dogs have been involved in 25% of fatal dog attacks.

Breed bans don't protect the public, good generic dangerous dog laws that are enforced do.

Posted: Wed Dec 20, 2006 9:51 am

Who cares? Kill all pit bulls he said facetiously. 😏

Posted: Tue Dec 19, 2006 6:23 pm

Can I get a part time job with the Tennessean? Seems to me you need to hire someone to format and proof before you go to print. Errors happen but when it is your job, that's pretty bad. 😞

Posted: Tue Dec 19, 2006 3:19 pm

[Post a Comment](#) [View All Comments](#)



Subscribe to The Tennessean  
and receive a free gift

[Email story](#) | [Print](#) | [Photo Reprints](#) | [Email headlines](#) | [Photo gallery](#) | [Coupons](#)

**SITE MAP** [tennessean.com main](#) | [news](#) | [sports](#) | [business](#) | [entertainment](#) | [life](#) | [all the rage](#) | [celebrities](#) | [photo gallery](#) | [shopping](#) | [traffic](#) | [weather](#) | [classified](#) | [jobs](#) | [cars](#) | [real estate](#) | [dating](#)

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** [terms of service](#) | [privacy policy](#) | [reader services](#) | [back issues/archives](#) | [contact The Tennessean](#) | [subscribe to The Tennessean](#) | [Newspapers in Education](#) | [The Tennessean in our community](#) | [about The Tennessean](#) | [jobs at The Tennessean](#)

**COUNTY NEWS:** [Ashland City Times](#) | [Brentwood Journal](#) | [Dickson Herald](#) | [Fairview Observer](#) | [Franklin Review Appeal](#) | [Gallatin News Examiner](#) | [Hendersonville Star News](#) | [The Journal of Spring Hill & Thompson's Station](#) | [Robertson County Times](#) | [Williamson A.M.](#)

**PARTNERS** [USA Today](#) | [Gannett Co. Inc.](#) | [Gannett Foundation](#)

**CLASSIFIED PARTNERS** [Jobs: CareerBuilder.com](#) | [Cars: Cars.com](#) | [Apartments: Apartments.com](#) | [Shopping: ShopLocal.com](#)

Copyright © 2006, tennessean.com. All rights reserved.