



Woman pleads not guilty in charges stemming from dog bite

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A woman pleaded not guilty Wednesday in Thurston County Superior Court to charges that she owns a dangerous bulldog that bit a man's testicle.

Christy L. Sweren-Hinen, 51, is charged with owning a dangerous dog that attacked a person – a felony – and first-degree trespassing, a gross misdemeanor. According to court papers, the victim was attacked by the dog Dec. 11, and had to have a testicle removed the next day because of the bite. The dog lunged at the man and clamped down on him, the unidentified man said.

The man told police he found Sweren-Hinen inside his home without permission. Sweren-Hinen countered the man's claim, saying she was house-sitting for the victim and that he came home angry and began yelling, causing the dog to bark. But she says she never saw the dog bite.

The dog is being held by Thurston County Animal Services.

The Associated Press

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