

## Attacks land two dogs in city custody

BY ERIC FINLEY

The city has a pair of German shepherds locked up after they bit people in two unrelated attacks.

Kevin Overstreet, the city's animal control director, said a mail carrier was attacked while delivering mail Saturday in the 1900 block of 73rd Street, and a woman was bitten Monday morning as she walked to her mailbox in the 7300 block of Hickory Avenue.

The city will hold a dangerous-animal hearing within 20 days to determine what happens to the dogs.

Beth Cory was treated and released from University Medical Center on Monday after the dog bit her as she went to the mailbox. Overstreet said the dog belonged to an owner who lived nearby.

The mail carrier suffered serious bites to his face after the dog pushed its way through the door of the house. The name of the postal worker was not released by the city or the U.S. Postal Service.

Lubbock has had 19 dangerous-animal complaints this year, up from this time a year ago, Overstreet said. Those complaints include a family pit bull attack in June in South Lubbock in which two of the family's children were injured.

"We put that dog down," Overstreet said.

The city has a leash law, but officials are hopeful a new state law will make people think twice about where they take their dogs.

Owners would face a third-degree felony if an unsecured animal the owner knows to be dangerous attacks someone away from the owner's property. A third-degree felony brings a punishment of from two to 10 years in prison and a fine not to exceed \$10,000.

The law goes into effect Sept. 1.

To comment on this story:

[eric.finley@lubbockonline.com](mailto:eric.finley@lubbockonline.com) 766-8725

[james.gallagher@lubbockonline.com](mailto:james.gallagher@lubbockonline.com) 766-8706

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