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Wednesday, June 27, 2007

## Tyler

Posted on Tuesday, June 26, 2007

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How great are His signs,  
And how mighty His wonders!  
His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,  
and His dominion is from generation to generation. - Daniel 4:3

## Dog Shot, Killed After Tuesday Attack

By KENNETH DEAN  
Staff Writer

Joe King, Smith County Precinct Deputy Constable, and workers at Glenwood Animal Hospital unload the body of a dog that King shot when he was attacked. (Staff Photo by Kenneth Dean)

A dog declared to be dangerous more than six months ago was shot to death Tuesday morning after he attacked one man and charged a Smith County lawman and a land owner.

Smith County Precinct 4 Deputy Constable Joe King said he was dispatched to Boney Lane Tuesday morning in reference to a dog attack where a Doberman pinscher bit a man who was making repairs to a rental property.

"I pulled up and got out of the vehicle and began walking up to the house when I saw the dog run toward me and get down on his front paws in an aggressive manner," he said.

King, one of the county's animal control officers, said the dog then lunged at him and he pulled his sidearm and fired one shot into the dog's chest.

"The dog then ran around the back of the home, through the fence and then back out toward the property owner, who fired two shots before the dog collapsed and died behind another house," he said.

King said the dog was still being very aggressive when he was shot by the property owner, who feared for his safety.

Moments after the three shots rang out in the mobile home park, located off Spur 248, residents emerged asking if the two men were okay.

"I really don't like this one bit," King said in reference to shooting the dog. "I didn't get bitten, but the dog definitely charged me to bite me and I threw the catch pole and grabbed my gun."

King said the man who was bitten was treated at a local hospital for a bite to the lower left back area.

"I certified this dog as being dangerous six or seven months ago when it was running through the neighborhood terrorizing everyone," he said. "People couldn't come out of their homes, so I caught the dog and took him to the Smith County Humane Society."

King said the owner picked up the dog and built a fence.

He added the flimsy wire fence was not adequate for a large dangerous animal. Natalie Jay, Smith County Precinct 2 deputy constable and animal control officer, shot a dog two weeks ago when she was attacked by two dogs and bitten in the left arm.

Constable Jay had used her pepper spray on the animals before using her service weapon to shoot the dog that had her arm in its mouth.

Several recent severe dog attacks have Smith County commissioners looking at ways to beef up the county's leash law and how to best enforce the law.

King said the dog's owner faces charges for not properly confining a dangerous animal and for cruelty to another dog that did not have water or shelter at the scene.

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