

## Wolf Dog Hybrid Attacks Pa. Woman

**AP** Associated Press

WATTSBURG, Pa. (AP) - June 12, 2007 - A man whose wolf-dog hybrid attacked a woman was charged with illegally owning the animal.

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Richard Staub, 61, of Wattsburg, allegedly had the animal chained to a barn at his property when it broke free and bit the woman at his house. The woman was trying to retrieve her child, who had gotten away from her.

The wolf-dog hybrid had been purchased in Tennessee and brought illegally into Pennsylvania, where Staub's son owned it for nearly seven years, the Pennsylvania Game Commission said in a statement.

Staub's son had since moved away and left the animal.

Wildlife Conservation Officer Darin L. Clark filed the charge in Erie District Judge Susan Strohmeier's office on June 3. If convicted, Staub faces a \$75 to \$200 fine.

Individuals in Pennsylvania may possess certain exotic animals, including wolves, but are required to adhere to permit and caging regulations.

Wolf-dog hybrids are the offspring of wolves bred with domesticated dogs, typically malamutes, huskies or German shepherds. The term may also refer to any animal that has wolf in its breeding background, according to experts.

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