

## Dogs Attack Sheep Without Consequence



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Nine exotic sheep were slaughtered by a pack of dogs. Now, the owner of those sheep is worried another attack could happen because of a loophole in the current animal ordinance.

The sheep were killed in the Oakland Estates Community on the northwest side.

Ike the lamb was the only one in his flock that survived the dog attack. An agriculture expert told News 4 those nine sheep were worth about \$3,400.

News 4 talked with Edwin Ray, the owner of the sheep, about the attack. He said he had raised the sheep for the past 15 years.

"It was just devastating," said Ray. "I've had them all these years."

Ray will never get his sheep back, but the dogs that killed his animals are back home. That has some neighbors upset.

"When we found out that these animals were released back to the owner, to a yard that they had previously gotten out of, we were very concerned," said Sue Snyder, the Vice President of the neighborhood association.

Neighbors fear that the dogs could get loose again and attack other animals without consequence. As the current city animal ordinance stands, animals like sheep and horses are not protected.

"The strict interpretation of the ordinance leaves livestock out of that," explained Snyder.

So because Ike is not a dog, a cat, or a human, he's not protected. Snyder and Ray brought the issue to City Councilwoman Diane Cibrian's attention. She told News 4 something needs to be done.

"I will be meeting with the City Attorney's Office about looking at laws to protect neighborhoods that own livestock against vicious animal attacks," said Cibrian.

A petition is circulating around the Oakland Estates neighborhood, asking people to support a change in the current animal ordinance.