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## Dog bites 2 Fort Worth police officers

BY BILL MILLER

[wmiller@star-telegram.com](mailto:wmiller@star-telegram.com)

FORT WORTH -- Two police officers were bit early today by a dog that lunged at them as they responded to a domestic disturbance in east Fort Worth, according to reports.

It was the second incident involving police and a dog within about nine hours in that east side neighborhood.

The officers were dispatched at 1:10 a.m. to the home in the 5000 block of Nell Street, said Lt. Paul Henderson, police spokesman.

When they got to the door, Henderson said, they saw a woman inside holding a tan, medium-size female dog by the collar; they asked if the dog was OK and she replied that the animal was friendly.

But when they entered the home, the woman let go of the dog which charged one of the officers, Henderson said.

The officer grabbed the dog's collar and wrestled with it for a few seconds, but when he reached for the dog's snout it chomped his hand, Henderson said.

The other officer also was bitten on the hand as he tried to help, Henderson said.

The woman put a leash on the dog which was taken outside, Henderson said.

She told officers that the dog, named Missy, did not belong to her but she was taking care of it for a friend, Henderson said.

The woman did not have any records relating to rabies vaccinations on the dog, so it was turned over to animal control officers.

It will be quarantined for 10 days to check for signs of rabies, said Amy Casas, spokeswoman for the city's Public Health Department.

The earlier incident involving police and a dog happened at about 4 p.m. Wednesday, one street east of Nell Street, in the 4800 block of Flamingo Road.

A police officer responding to a report of an erratic person fatally shot 68-year-old Clarence McNeill, who pointed a gun at three officers, Henderson said.

But as officers entered the yard to help the man, a dog rushed toward them "aggressively," so a second officer shot the dog, Henderson said.

He noted that the black-and-white mix breed dog, which belonged to McNeill's daughter, was turned over to animal control officers.

Animal control officers took the dog to a 24-hour veterinary clinic.

"As far as we know the dog is still alive at the vet's office and is stable," Casas said. "Its right leg was badly shattered in the incident; it had three wounds."

Casas said the dog's owner will determine what happens to it next.