

Originally appeared on News-Journal Online at

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March 23, 2008

Child mauled by dog

Staff Report

A 2-year-old Deltona child was taken to Halifax Health Medical Center in serious condition after being attacked by a dog Saturday morning.

"The child was seriously hurt," EVAC spokesman Mark O'Keefe said.

The attack occurred on Whitehorse Street, officials said.

"A deputy showed up, but the child had already been taken to the hospital and there was no one there to talk to," about the incident, Volusia County Sheriff's spokesman Brandon Haught said.

Deltona Animal Control officials are investigating the incident further, Haught said. No details were available on how or when the attack occurred.

The dog is believed to be a golden retriever or yellow labrador, Deltona spokesman Lee Lopez, said. When the code officer arrived at the scene, the family was on the way to the hospital, he said.

Only one dog was seen inside the house. It is not clear if it is the family's pet that attacked the child.

"The family will have the option to surrender the dog," Lopez said Saturday. "Or, the city can seize the dog under the dangerous dog statute."

Either way, he said nothing is likely to be done until today.

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