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## Infant attacked by family dog 🐕

10:39 PM PDT on Tuesday, August 11, 2009

By [ELISA HAHN](#) / KING 5 News

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Video: Baby bitten by family dog back home

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MOUNT VERNON, Wash. – A Skagit County woman faces assault charges after her granddaughter was attacked twice by the family dog. But there are some apparent discrepancies as to how badly the child was hurt.

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office says on August 2, the girl's grandmother, DeEtta Dezarn, was watching the baby when their dog, a Rhodesian Ridgeback / Lab mix, bit 10-month-old Olivia Dezarn several times as she crawled across the floor.

It was the second time, police say, the dog had bitten the child in 24 hours.

The sheriff's office statement Tuesday night said the girl was airlifted to Seattle's Children's Hospital with life threatening injuries, a depressed skull fracture and "is currently in pediatric intensive care."

But with a simple act Tuesday, Olivia's mother showed reporters that her baby is not in a hospital, but at home. She has some bite wounds still healing on her face, but she looked happy and healthy in her mother's arms. Doctors tell the family Olivia will make a full recovery.

DeEtta Dezarn, who could face Third Degree Assault charges, is too afraid to talk about what happened.



KING

Olivia Dezarn is held by her mother outside their home near Concrete, Wash. on Tuesday, August 11, 2009. She still shows scars from where she was bitten by the family dog.

“I think it's really sad for the family and I hate to see them exploited,” said neighbor Angie Spangler. She has lived across the street from the Dezarns for ten years. She says DeEtta is a wonderful mom and grandmother.

“She's probably more protective than most parents would have been,” said Spangler.

The family is in no way downplaying what happened to the girl. They say the dog will not return to the house.

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office did not immediately return calls by KING 5 News Tuesday night to explain the discrepancies in this story.