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News

NJ man charged in dog attack of girl, 4

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By The Associated Press

ALLOWAY, N.J. (AP) — The owner of a champion Rhodesian ridgeback dog who allegedly attacked a 4-year-old girl and bit off one of her ears has been charged in the case.

The charges against Robert Taffet follow an incident that happened at Taffet's family farm in Alloway last month.

According to the girl's mother, her daughter walked into a barn on the property with Taffet's teenage daughter when she fell over and the dog, named Duke, lunged at her.

The girl underwent surgery to reattach her ear.

Alloway Township's animal-control officer Ned Shimp says Taffet was formally charged with owning a vicious dog and could be forced to have the dog euthanized.

Taffet's dogs, which have won a number of area dog shows, have landed him in court before and are alleged to have attacked at least four other people in separate incidents.

A message left for Taffet was not returned Wednesday.

URL: <http://www.trentonian.com/articles/2009/12/30/news/doc4b3b8f199125f896628861.prt>

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