

## **Pro 8 News.com Laredo, Texas**

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# **Pro 8 Exclusive: Dog not euthanized after attacking 12 year old boy**

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A 12-year-old boy who was mauled by a dog last week is out of the hospital but has a long road ahead to recovery. The boy is unable to walk due to stitches and bruises all over his body, leaving him with sore reminders of the gruesome attack.

12-year-old Calvin Amerson was bitten all over his body, including his face. According to the executive director of the animal shelter, if a person is bitten anywhere above the shoulders, the animal is to be euthanized immediately.

A 12-year-old boy was attacked last week by his neighbor's dog while attending a party at this north Laredo residence.

It's unclear what set the dog off, but by the end of the attack the victim was left with bite marks all over his body, even on the young boy's face!

"The dog responsible for Thursday's vicious attack is this husky right here. Now, he has to be quarantined here for a total of 10 days and as you can see he's very aggressive."

"If they are bitten above the shoulders the animal is to be euthanized immediately and the head is to be sent to Austin for testing for further testing for rabies."

Clearly, procedure was not followed in this case. The dog is still here and this upsets her.

"Animal control is suppose to be or should have had that dog put down immediately or should have notified one of our euthanasia technicians to euthanize the animal immediately."

But why did this dog attack? The husky breed is non aggressive.

The owner reportedly told animal control that the dog has never bitten before.

So, what provoked the attack on the boy?

Local veterinarian, Dr. Sandra Leyendecker gives us some insight.

"I don't know if this child knew anything about animals, but sometimes when you're raised around animals you have certain behaviors and mannerisms that are friendly towards animals. Kids that have not been raised around animals may have gone and pulled the dog's tail, grabbed hair, or done something and the dog turned around and bit."

According to shelter documents, the dog's owner wants to take the animal home after the 10-day quarantine period expires, but shelter officials say that will not be an option.

"Its a sad thing because this should have been explained to the owner at the time they picked up their animal."

The boy's father says the incident was an accident. He says they are waiting for their son's face swelling to go down to better determine whether or not their son will in fact need plastic surgery.