

Leashed dog bites woman's leg while she's out walking

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Palm Beach police are investigating a dog bite that occurred Wednesday morning in the 600 block of North County Road.

According to the report, a 67-year-old woman was walking north on the sidewalk when she was bitten on the middle of her lower left leg by a dog on a leash with professional dog walker John Hirsekorn.

He was walking two dogs at the time, both leashed, and was heading south when the reported bite occurred.

The woman said that "the dog did not bark and gave little warning prior to the attack," the report says.

Hirsekorn told police he was distracted by an incoming cell phone call as he approached the woman. According to police, he stayed with the woman, called for help and let her use his phone.

She was bleeding from the bite and attended to by Palm Beach Fire-Rescue, but declined to go to the hospital.

Police described the dog that bit the woman as a 6-year-old mixed breed weighing about 30-35 pounds.

"I did not observe any aggressive behavior from the animal at the scene, or later, at the house," the officer said in the report.

"I had no idea the dog would behave that way," Hirsekorn said Friday. "It was as much of a shock to me as it was to her."

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