



Cattle dog nearly kills two-year-old boy; neighbors fighting over who is responsible

by Amanda Stanzilis / KENS 5

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On Sunday around 7 p.m., Jana Juhasz was watching roping practice at the Fallen Badge Arena in the small town of Christine. Juhasz had been to the property before, but this time, she watched her two-year-old son nearly get killed in front of her.

Juhasz says her toddler, Brock, was playing with some of the Australian Cattle dogs, or Blue Heelers. But then Brock tripped over one of the dogs, and the dog turned on him.

Juhasz says the dog, "wasn't just mad. It wasn't just intending to hurt him. It was out to kill him." She ran toward her son, and started kicking the dog until he got off the toddler.

It took a 6 hour surgery to save Brock's life. He needed more than 300 stitches to his face, and screws to wire his fractured jaw. He also lost a great deal of blood, and may still need a metal plate in his head. He will have to be fed by a syringe for the next 6-8 weeks, and there is concern he may lose too much weight during that time.

Brock's parents are both very angry with the dog's owners. They claim the owners saw the attack and didn't do anything to stop it.

But the owners say they only heard the commotion, and never witnessed what exactly was happening. They say that once they realized the young boy had been mauled, they called 911 in an effort to help.

Juhasz says she wants an apology, but the owner says she has nothing to apologize for. She says, "We have a beware of dog sign. It was an accident. It wasn't our fault.

Of course, you feel bad, but we did all we could." Juhasz also wants the dog put down, but the owners say they see no reason for it.

The Atascosa County Sheriff's Office says there are no animal ordinances at all in the county. However, the dog's owners were told to put the dog in quarantine for 10 days. However, in Atascosa County, that just means they have to keep the dog confined on their own property and a county worker may come check to see if it is actually confined.

Brock's family is planning a benefit to help with the young boy's steep medical bills. It will take place on Saturday, June 12 at 6pm at the Jourdanton fire station. Anyone with questions is asked to call the boy's grandmother at 830-480-9103. The family also says people can mail any donations to Jourdanton Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 821, Jourdanton, Texas 78206.

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