

CALL RESPONSE RUN REPORT
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

ADMIN	AGENCY ORI/NAME: 0730000 MCCRACKEN COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE					CALL/CAD EVENT NUMBER: 24-035336		
	REPORTING OFFICER Miller, Lindsey		BADGE/I.D. # 17	BEAT/POST 2	REVIEWED BY Hardin, Trent			
CHARGE, LOCATION & TIME	CALL TYPE OTHER		CALL TYPE OTHER ANIMAL INCIDENT		FATALITY?	REPORTED BY POLICE OFFICER		
	LOCAL ORDINANCE VIOLATION				LOCATION TYPE DRUG STORE, DOCTOR'S OFFICE, HOSPITAL			
	INCIDENT DATE 10/10/2024	INCIDENT TIME 10:00	DAY OF WEEK Thursday	EXACT/ESTIMATE ESTIMATE	TIME RECEIVED	TIME DISPATCHED	TIME ARRIVED TIME CLEARED	
	EXACT LOCATION OF INCIDENT	CEGLINSKIS						
		ADDRESS: US62						
		CITY: PADUCAH				STATE: KY	ZIP CODE: 42001	
		COUNTY: MCCRACKEN		LATITUDE: 37 DEG	3.100 MIN	LONGITUDE: 88 DEG	40.442 MIN	
	IN CITY LIMITS: YES		MILES FROM CITY:					
	LOCAL CITATION NUMBERS:							
	INVOLVED PERSON INFORMATION	PERSON SEQUENCE 1 of 1		PERSON TYPE Reported By				
INVOLVED PERSON NAME: ANIMAL CLINIC, CEGLENSKI					PHONE:			
ADDRESS: 5401 BLANDVILLE								
CITY: PADUCAH		STATE: KY	ZIP CODE: 42001		SSN:			
DATE OF BIRTH: Unknown		SEX:	ETHNIC ORIGIN:		RACE:			
PERSON SEQUENCE of		PERSON TYPE						
INVOLVED PERSON NAME:					PHONE:			
ADDRESS:								
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP CODE:		SSN:			
DATE OF BIRTH:		SEX:	ETHNIC ORIGIN:		RACE:			

NARRATIVE

On 10/10/24, Ceglinski animal clinic contacted animal control regarding an incident that occurred in their lobby. It was reported that a dog had possibly attacked another dog causing its death. This deputy was out of town at the point of this incident was not able to follow up or conduct interviews until 10/18/24.

Prior to the investigation being completed, WPSD ran a news report on 10/11/24, regarding this incident. It was advised to WPSD by animal control that the incident was under investigation and no comment would be made.

Animal control looked to see if there have ever been any report of [REDACTED] owning an aggressive dog and there were no reports. Ceglinski also looked at her history while I was present and stated there was no notation advising any of [REDACTED] dogs were aggressive. Animal control did take photographs of the injuries to Taz. Those photos were uploaded to Axon. Animal control did speak with Dr. Church, [REDACTED] and Wilma Shepard the day of the incident. I took over the investigation 10/14/24, and advised animal control I would complete all investigation paperwork.

On 10/18/24, I went to attempt to speak to Dr. Church at Ceglinski's but she was out of town; she did call me later on. While there I did speak to the front desk clerk Lauryn Finken, who was checking out the owner of the two dogs, [REDACTED] when this incident occurred. [REDACTED] was there weighing her dogs due to needing an accurate weight for medicine. According to Finken, she was seated behind the

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counter and [redacted] was bent over holding her two dogs close to her; Chiquita was on a harness and Diesel the 5 month old puppy was on a pinch collar.

Finken stated she observed Wilma Shepard walk into the front door holding her Yorkie Taz in her arms. Finken advised she observed the larger of [redacted] two dogs, Chiquita, pull [redacted] arm in a brief tug behind her. Finken stated Chiquita went towards Shepard in an excited manor. Chiquita is a 55 lbs 3 year old dog, Diesel is a 18 lbs 5 month old puppy. Finken advised that she then saw Wilma step back quickly throwing her arms in the air and dropping Taz. Finken stated Chiquita never barked, growled or jumped up on Shepard. It was stated that once Taz was on the floor, Chiquita picked Taz up into her mouth, [redacted] immediately realized what had happened and smacked Chiquita on the head and Chiquita immediately dropped Taz. Finken advised Shepard afterward began screaming and approximately 15 second later Dr. Church ran out, picked up Taz, and brought him into the back to begin life saving treatment. The other witness [redacted] who was also in the waiting room when it happened, went and sat with Shepard in an attempt to console her. About 15-20 minutes later Dr. Church came back to the front to bring Shepard into the back room and advised her Taz was unable to be brought back to life. About 20-25 minutes later Shepard's daughter Jenna arrived on scene and began screaming, cursing, and making threatening statements towards the staff and the other dogs.

After speaking with Finken I contacted [redacted] who met with myself and Animal Control. [redacted] stated she was at Ceglinski's to have the same process that Taz was having done. She stated Shepard and her usually were at the office at the same time. According to [redacted] she was sitting in the waiting room when [redacted] initially came in with her two dogs. [redacted] stated that while sitting there Chiquita excitedly came over to her; she also had her small dog in her lap. [redacted] stated the leash was not long enough for Chiquita to reach her, but she could tell Chiquita was wanting to come say hi. [redacted] advised neither of the dogs showed any sign of aggression, but more of curiosity and wanting to play. Chiquita then was weighed and the three of them, owner and two dogs, walked back to the front desk to check out. [redacted] advised Finken and [redacted] were chitchatting and she overheard [redacted] say she needed to order a muzzle. [redacted] was not sure what the comment was referencing because she could only heard part of the conversation. [redacted] advised she did see Shepard walk in and did see Taz in her arms while [redacted] and her two dogs were still at the counter. [redacted] advised the two dogs turned and faced Shepard. According to [redacted] Shepard appeared to be startled and took a step back. [redacted] advised the dogs seemed to be still attempting to move towards Shepard and it caused Shepard to go off balance, to the point [redacted] thought she was going to fall, and when she did she dropped Taz. [redacted] advised Shepard threw her hands in the air while falling backwards off balance, then gained her balance again. [redacted] advised Taz fell right next to the black dog (Chiquita). Chiquita then picked up the dog in her mouth, not in an aggressive way, but more like, "oh a toy."

[redacted] stated seconds later. Dr. Church came out of the back, picked up Taz off the floor and rushed him to the back. She stated Dr. Church was back there with Taz for approximately 15-20 minutes before coming back to Shepard and telling her that Taz didn't make it. Shepard then went to the back with Dr. Church. [redacted] stated she saw the dog and saw what appeared to be two puncture marks and almost no blood, but nothing that would make her think the dog was attacked. [redacted] never saw the dogs shake Taz, never heard any aggressive sounds come from them, and neither of them ever jumped up at Shepard.

Later on in the day I did receive a phone call from Dr. Church. Dr. Church advised that she did not see any of the events that let up to the incident. Dr. Church stated that neither of the dogs Chiquita or Diesel or any dog that [redacted] has owned had any flags in their system regarding being vicious.

Dr. Church said Taz had been receiving transfusions for kidney issues. According to Dr. Church Taz had been receiving treatment for approximately 2 years.

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Below is a copy and paste of Taz's medical records showing the notation of what was believed to be the cause of death and life saving attempts by Dr. Church and Dr. Wynn. Dr. Church advised she believed they did CPR and life saving measures for approximately 7-8 minutes.

I heard a scream in the lobby and took off running to the front
Taz was on the ground lifeless
I grabbed him and ran to pre-op
Dr Wynn met me in pre-op and started compressions. I tubed Taz and O2 therapy was then given
Taz's eye were fixed and dilated, no heart sounds, no lung sounds
IV start (fed well on first stick) 0.1ml Atropine given IV and flushed through. 0.1ml Epi given IV and flushed through
no response
Epi and Atropine were repeated
No response
It is my opinion that Taz died on impact when he hit the floor.
He had a large bruise forming in flank on right side and a small puncture at lower rib cage on right side
There was no froth, blood, or fluid from nose or mouth

When I spoke to Dr. Church she again stated to me that she believed Taz died from blunt force trauma and there was no indication that Taz had been attacked aside the two very shallow puncture marks.

On 10/21/24, I spoke with [REDACTED] at her residence. [REDACTED] showed us the muzzle she had purchased prior to the incident, but had not arrived yet, the harness (used for Chiquita), and pinch collar (used for Diesel). On the leash that was attached to the harness there were two loops, one high and one close to the clasp; [REDACTED] stated she was holding Chiquita at the lower end of the leash during this incident. According to [REDACTED] she had gone to Ceglinski's that day to purchase medicine and needed to weigh both her dogs. [REDACTED] stated there was a woman sitting on the bench ([REDACTED]) holding her small dog. While waiting for the scale Chiquita had walked up to her [REDACTED]. Chiquita never lunged, barked, or showed any sign of aggression, said hello to her and her dog then got on the scale. After being weighed they went to the front counter to pay. She advised she observed Shepard walk in and saw the little dog in her arms, but turned back to the counter. [REDACTED] stated a few moments later she felt a small tug at her arm, nothing about the tug was forceful or alarming to her. She advised after the tug she realized what was going on and saw Chiquita with Taz in her mouth. [REDACTED] stated she struck Chiquita three times at which time Chiquita dropped Taz then sat down. [REDACTED] advised she grabbed up both her dogs, apologized several times to Shepard before going and sitting in her car and waiting to be told about Taz. Dr. Church did come out and advised her that the dog had passed at which time [REDACTED] went home and waited to be contacted by animal control.

[REDACTED] was asked why she was purchasing a muzzle. [REDACTED] advised that Chiquita likes to eat dirt and sticks and initially had bough the muzzle to prevent her from doing that. [REDACTED] stated Chiquita had blood in her stool at one point and when she did testing at the vet they determined it was coming from her eating those items. [REDACTED] advised she also got it to avoid any issues like the incident that happened at Ceglinski's. [REDACTED] advised that Chiquita has never been aggressive towards any other animal or person before and did have a video of her playing with a dog outside that was also about the size of Taz.

On this date I also was able to speak with Shepard. Shepard advised that she had come to Ceglinski's to get Taz's infusion, like she always does. She advised when she walked in two large vicious dogs attacked her and grabbed Taz out of her arms, chewed on him on the floor and killed him in front of her. I did attempt to explain the situation to Shepard and I did tell her it was the belief after conducting interviews with everyone that she had actually dropped Taz which was how he died. Understandably, Shepard did not want to believe what I had to say and was convinced that Chiquita had ripped Taz out of her arms.

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Shepard advised there was no way that she would have dropped Taz. After several attempts to speak to her about this, the conversation began to go in circles and Shepard began repeating herself several times. Shepard seemed upset that there were dogs even allowed to be in the lobby of a veterinary clinic to begin with. She was also very upset that Dr. Church had sent her a sympathy card advising that she was glad Taz did not suffer. Shepard advised that of course Taz suffered. After approximately a 30 minutes conversation I advised Shepard that this report would be ready on Friday 10/25/24. I also advised her to tell her daughter Jenna and her friends to stop calling Ceglinski's and harassing them and also to stop calling the courthouse repeatedly. I was advised they were calling the courthouse that afternoon.

I did also speak to Shepard's other daughter the next day regarding my findings.

After speaking with the Judge executive, county attorney, and superiors at the Sheriff's office it was unanimously determined that no crime was committed during this incident and no criminal report would be completed. None of the elements of this situation fit any ordinance or statute.

L. Miller, Unit 17