



Ukiah Police Department

Safety, Professionalism, Community Service

Chris Dewey

Chief of Police

Press Release: Dog fight / puppies taken to shelter UPD case # 16-1939

On July 3rd at about 12:26 pm, UPD officers were dispatched to a residence in the 1300 block of Berkley Way, for a report of a dog fight in progress involving multiple pit bulls. Upon arrival officers found that the dog fight was ongoing in the backyard of the residence. The dogs were eventually separated. During the investigation officers learned that there were 3 adult males, 3 adult females and 6 pit bull puppies living at the residence. Prior to the police being called, two of the adult male dogs reportedly stared at each other and a vicious fight broke out. The third male dog was tied up, but broke out of a harness to join the fight. While attempting to break-up the three fighting dogs both owners were bit and injured. Officers took custody of the three male dogs, two of which were severely injured in the fight. Officers transported the injured dogs to a local vet. The third adult male was uninjured and transported to the animal shelter to be quarantined. The owners admitted they were unable to care for the dogs and relinquished ownership. As a result of this, remaining animals were transported to the Animal Shelter.

If anyone is interested in adopting these dogs or other pets, please contact the Mendocino County Animal Control at 463-4427 or go down to the shelter at 298 Plant Road.

Safety tips when meeting an unfamiliar dog:

- Ask first before petting a dog. When meeting an unfamiliar dog, don't reach out to pet her. First, ask her pet parent, "May I pet your dog?" A strange hand in a dog's face may scare her, leading to a bite.
- After you receive permission to pet a dog, let her sniff your closed hand. Then you may proceed to pet her shoulders or chest. Avoid petting the top of the dog's head.
- Don't touch a dog who is sleeping, eating or chewing a toy. Respect her space, as startled dogs are more likely to bite.
- Avoid dogs who are barking or growling. It is also best to steer clear of dogs who are loose, behind a fence or tied up, or actively involved in a dog fight.
- If an unknown dog approaches you, stay quiet and still. Do not run or scream.

For more information you can visit the ASPCA at <http://www.aspca.org/pet-care/dog-care/dog-bite-prevention>.

As always, our mission at UPD is simple: to make Ukiah as safe as possible. If you would like to know more about crime in your neighborhood, you can sign up for telephone, cell phone and email notifications by clicking the Nixle button on our website: www.ukiahpolice.com.