Here Kitty

It is standard practice that when a person seeks medical attention after a dog bite, the animal control officer is notified and a “dangerous dog” hearing is held. The hearing is usually before the chief of police, the board of health or the board of selectmen. Anyone can attend and be heard under the open meeting law in most states.

We did not doubt that David broke free and chased after a very small dog. The small dog’s owner was repeatedly bitten as she scooped her up. The photos were difficult to digest. Nonetheless, Boston Dog Lawyers was hired to defend David. His owner wholly believed that there was no way to win. The petition to destroy David was co-sponsored by Kitty and Michael Dukakis, our former governor and presidential candidate. While neither of them witnessed the incident, the townspeople decided to call in their heavy artillery to make sure David was killed. Our strategy was simple: demand and participate in a fair hearing which will leave little doubt that whatever the outcome, it was arrived at using facts and reason. The Dukakii lost their battle for the White House in 1988 by about 7 million votes. In the battle for David, they just needed to lose by one.

David’s attraction to the small furry animal is understandable and can be overcome by the owner redirecting with the proper use of the leash and treats. The mistake was that the leash was attached to David’s flea and tick collar which let go pretty easily. With better owner management of David, this is very preventable in the future. Through a variety of remedies and safeguards implemented by our team of behavior consultants and trainers, the likelihood of a repeat offense has been greatly reduced.

Boston Dog Lawyers is a firm that was born from the need to stop allowing the loudest voices in the room to win at dog hearings and trials. We battle against customary and accepted outcomes in order to preserve our pets through your constitutional rights. The petitioners of death here ushered their star player (only Kitty attended the hearing) to the witness stand. Cross examination was not an opportunity I could miss.

Hearings dominated by fact challenged bullies with political motives lead to sloppy decisions. Kitty testified that given her family’s contributions to the city and state, her wish to have David destroyed should be granted. Kitty also testified that she fears for the safety of her grandchildren when they visit because David lives across the street.

As is part of my client’s constitutional right to a fair and meaningful hearing, it was our turn for rebuttal. Under cross-examination Mrs. Dukakis clarified that she and her husband actually live five blocks away from David and may actually have never seen him. She and other witnesses testified that David was a 90 lb. Rhodesian ridgeback. One witness said that is a breed known for bringing down large wild animals in Africa. They wanted this scary monster destroyed. The facts are that David weighs 45 pounds and is of unknown parentage. It is understandable that neighbors want to feel safe but using alternative facts should not make anyone feel safe when doing so could lead to the death of a pet. The truth (and some very reasonable restrictions and safeguards) has set David free.