***If the Snout Won’t Fit You Still Shouldn’t Acquit***

Boston Dog Lawyers represents responsible pet parents who may have made a mistake at one time. Perhaps the dog was not leashed on the way to the car or the gate was left open and she got out. As all pet parents know, *poop happens*. What matters more-so is they react to the consequences of their error. We want our clients to be front and center with taking accountability and acknowledging that they will be better managers of their pet tomorrow than they were yesterday. Raise your hand, admit it was your fault and present the plan to fix things. There is our recipe for winning. Usually we represent the pet parent of the biting dog but sometimes we need to interject and advocate for the victims as we did with Madoc and Parker. Again, we represent responsible pet parents and he who managed Brady, the biting dog, is not worthy of our passion or reputation and we are on the right side of the street with this one.

Madoc and Parker were being walked on their leashes along a sidewalk in their neighborhood. They weigh 9 and 13 lbs. respectively. On a May day they were sniffing the freshly grown grass when a snout came out of the gaps in the vertical pickets where they intersect with the nearly 8-inch-high space at the bottom of the fence. Parker was bitten in the face and wrerstled free with such a loud cry that Madoc looked up and soon his head was being attacked by the snout. Madoc suffered a broken jaw and has to be fed by syringe during this summer through a muzzle that cannot come it. It is there to help his mouth heal, but because of his facial type, he cannot pant through the muzzle. Madoc has to spend his summer indoors and must be cooled so as to not overheat since he can’t pant. And now he can’t exercise either. Parker is having his mouth surgery pushed to the beginning of the fall once Madoc has healed. The bills are approaching $2,000 and will keep growing.

I appeared at the dangerous dog hearing and in a reversal of my usual role, I am advocating for the injured pups. We certainly do not want to see anything negative happen to Brady but his human father has some fixing up to do. In fact at the time of the attack, a fence company representative was at the scene to give a quote to fix the broken fence. The problem is that Michael, Brady’s owner, says his dog did not bite the two little ones. Sure he acknowledges leaving his dog outside without anyone home and confirms that his fence needs to be rebuilt. Michael brought in a picture of a tape measure draped over his dog’s snout and it measured 4 inches. He then showed a picture of the space on the fence where he believes the bite occurred and showed the measuring tape pulled across a picket showing 3 inches. His argument which I have relabeled as *if the snout don’t fit, you must a*cquit. Problem is that because so many pickets are missing on his fence he chose to produce a photo of an area other than where his dog pocked his head through. He was smirking with smartass written all over his face. He also said his dog weighed 20 lbs. Just before leaving I asked animal control how much his dog weighed and he said it was about 45 lbs. People who lie and manipulate to avoid accepting personal responsibility for their actions and failures have a special place to go to.