Complainant



Cornell Police Dept

Incident #: 22CO00774

Reporting Officer: Glenn Rehberg - COPD

Report Time: 09/22/2022 08:56:21

Incident

Incident Nature Animal - Nuisance

09/22/2022 08:56:16

Contact 210

Disposition Date 09/27/2022

Cleared Date

Address 708 BRIDGE ST; CORNELL MIDDLE AND

HIGH SCHOOL; 1 CORNELL, Wisconsin 54732

Received By Eric Walters

Disposition Closed Case

Cleared

Clearance Report Taken

09/22/2022 08:56:16

How Received Officer Report

Miscellaneous Entry

Judicial Status

Cargo Theft Related

CORNELL HIGH SCHOOL

DOB

Address 708 BRIDGE ST CORNELL WI 54732

(715)861-6947

Phone

Race

Responding Officer(s) Glenn Rehberg - COPD

Offenses

All other offenses

Completed?

Method Of Entry

Gambling Motivated?

Premises Entered?

Location Type

Cargo Theft Related?

Statute CO10.03(7)-1 Description

Dog/Animal Violations 1st

Category

Persons

ELLIOTT, DAVID R Employee



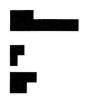
WITKUS, MARY A **Citation Issued**





SIME, NELSON D Witness







CORNELL HIGH SCHOOL Complainant

Address 708 BRIDGE ST CORNELL Wisconsin 54732

Height

Phone (715)861-6947

Sex

Weight 0

Ethnicity

Vehicles

2017 Kia SED



State Wisconsin Amount Recovered \$0.00

Involved

Color Silver/Aluminum License Type Regular Passenger Automobile

Narratives

Original Narrative

09/22/2022 11:18:00

On 9/22/22 I was at the Cornell High School when Principal David Elliott informed me he'd been told that a white pitbull with black spots had gotten out of a van and chased a kid, barking, yesterday during student release. Elliott was unsure whether the dog had bitten the student. He said that "Pat" [Nelson] Sime had witnessed the event, along with other students in the area. Elliott , from which the dog had come out. provided a license plate,

on a silver Kia passenger van. Elliott informed me that Mary Witkus was the driver of I ran that plate, which listed to on a sthat van, with children enrolled in Cornell schools.

WITNESS CONTACT:

I contacted Sime shortly after 9am to learn what he could tell me. Sime said that yesterday at student release time he had been parked behind a white or silver passenger van on the east side of the high school next to the shop area. A girl opened the left door of the van at which time a white pit bull with black spots got out of the van and started chasing a boy, growling and barking. Sime didn't know whether the boy was bitten, and the boy ran out of sight. Soon thereafter the boy ran back past the right side of Sime's truck, and the girl who had released the dog ran to the back of Sime's truck and caught the dog there. Sime said the driver of the van was female, but he didn't get a good look at her. Sime said there were many other kids in the area and the dog was barking angrily, not playfully.

I recorded Sime's statement on a Voluntary Statement form. Sime reviewed it, agreed it was accurate, and signed it.

MARY WITKUS CONTACT:

At 10:44am I telephoned Witkus and asked what happened with the dog at school yesterday. Witkus said the dog "wanted to get out and play" and briefly characterized it as a happy event, with no mention of barking or chasing. When I asked if the dog had barked or chased someone, Witkus admitted, "Yeah, because he [student] was being mean." I asked how the boy being chased was being mean, and Witkus said the boy "kept yelling at her and screaming at her" and kept "running away." Witkus said her dog didn't growl, and it doesn't growl. She later clarified that it actually does growl at times, when bothered or threatened. Witkus placed blame for the incident on the boy, who "came too close to the car." She also blamed the school for not teaching kids not to run away from dogs, which could cause the dog to chase them. She said that if a person yells and runs, her dog was "going to

We spoke further, and Witkus explained that the dog got out of the car because Witkus' kids were fighting in the car, and the dog [Mavis] doesn't like fighting. Witkus said that Mavis is actually her daughter's dog and is licensed in Eau Claire County, but is staying with Witkus because her daughter doesn't have a place for her. Witkus said Mavis is half pitbull and half an unsure other breed, but said Mavis looks like a pit. Witkus said Mavis is vaccinated for rabies. She also said Mavis isn't used to a lot of people, as they live in the county, and doesn't like excitement. She said Mavis "couldn't deal" with the excitement of the kids arguing in her

I asked Witkus if she understood people's concern when a dog that looks like a pitbull charges a person, barking, and chases that person around, and how that concern is heightened when they don't know the dog and might not know much about dogs. Witkus admitted that this could cause concern.

I informed Witkus I would be issuing a citation for Dog At Large. She said she understood what Mavis did was wrong, but wished that kids were taught better. I ended the call at 10:54am.

I prepared and mailed a citation for Dog At Large, violating Cornell ordinance 10.03(7), 1st offense.

Case closed.

Chief Rehberg