

Timeline - Jayden Henderson Fatal Dog Mauling

December 23, 2019

Athena, a heavily scarred female pit bull, was adopted to Joseph and Amanda White from the Wake County Animal Shelter in Raleigh. Amanda posted Athena's "freedom ride" home video to her Instagram page.

April 27, 2021

Jayden Belle Henderson, 7-years old, was killed by two pit bulls and her mother, Heather Trevaskis, who works for WRAL News, was critically injured. The two were helping to care for their neighbor's dogs while they were out of town. The attack occurred inside the neighbor's fenced-in yard.

Off duty Raleigh officer, Blake Dicello, who lives across the street, was the first person at the scene. He stopped the attack and saved Heather's life.

The two pit bulls belong to Joseph and Amanda White at 156 Roan Drive.

Both dogs, Blitzen (male) and Athena (female) were taken into custody by the Wake County Animal Shelter. At this time, it is reported that Garner Animal Control could not accept the dogs due to "short staffing."

April 28, 2021

The Whites had heavily promoted both dogs on social media -- each dog had their own Instagram page. The pages were later removed by the Whites. Both dogs were also seen in "service dog" vests. Blitzen, is seen wearing a shock collar in a PTSD service dog vest and Athena wearing an ESA vest.

Donations to Jayden's family reached \$28,000 by this date. The GoFundMe was started by Jenny O'Donnell, the Vandora Pines HOA Vice-President.

Wake County Animal Services Director, Jennifer Federico, falsely claimed that more children than adults are killed by dogs to WRAL News. To obfuscate dogs that inflict "human killing aggression" and dogs that inflict "bites," Federico also stated that all dogs "have teeth" and "they can all bite."

May 4, 2021

The Garner Police Department declares both dogs dangerous.

May 10, 2021

Joseph [submits letter to appeal the dangerous dog case](#). In the letter, which is filled with typos and accusations, he states the training organization (Sit Means Sit, in Apex, NC, a franchise operation) for Blitzen. He also states that

he dropped \$3,000 on a “sturdy new wooden fence” prior to leaving to San Diego so that so that his “in-laws wouldn’t have to leash and walk the dogs.”

May 17, 2021

The Whites file an application for a dangerous dog permit to keep their dogs. The dangerous dog permit law in the Town of Garner was passed in February.

May 18, 2021

Vandora Pines HOA board member, Patrice Johnson, and other residents, [speak at Garner town council meeting](#), voicing their concerns about the dogs being returned. Raleigh Police Officer Blake Dicello also speaks about the attack for the first time. “That day will change me forever. I did not see two dogs defending their property. That’s not what I saw. I saw two dogs viciously attacking and mauling two unconscious people,” he told council members.

A “For Sale By Owner” sign is seen in front of the White’s home.

May 21, 2021

WRAL News reports that nearly every resident of the neighborhood where the attack happened has signed a petition asking Garner Police Chief Joe Binns not to return the dogs to the Whites or their neighborhood.

[Online petition is started](#) asking that the dogs be “humanely euthanized in consequence as justice to her and her family and for the safety of the community.” The petition was started by Kareem Schnelle Monteleone.

May 24, 2021

Garner police announced the dogs will be euthanized. [Police denied the Whites dangerous dog permit application](#). “We believe that the dogs are just too dangerous to be allowed to be returned to their owners,” said Chief Joe Binns. “After reviewing all the information, the attack appeared to occur without warning or provocation. Allowing the dogs to be released would create a substantial and unnecessary danger to the public.”

June 21, 2021

WRAL News reports that the Whites intend to sell their home and move to Franklin County when the dogs are returned to them.

June 29, 2021

[The Whites file a lawsuit against the Town](#), stating they have moved to Franklin County, and that the Town has no right to maintain possession of their dogs. The Whites allege the Town made errors in denying their application. There are 61 allegations in the Complaint, including that Blitzen has “22 hours of obedience training” and that neither dog had a history of aggression to people or dogs. Represented by attorney John Kirby.

July 1, 2021

Wake County Superior Court Judge Becky Holt grants the Whites a temporary restraining order to stop the Town from euthanizing the dogs. The order allows the dogs to be kept alive until a hearing on July 8. The attorney for Jayden's parents filed a "motion to intervene" in the case.

[Heather](#) and [Dave](#) file affidavits. Heather states that Blitzen attacked Jayden first. "Blitzen attacked and bit Jayden's head and scalp. The other dog (Athena) then joined the attack on Jayden, primarily biting Jayden's legs." Athena then attacked Heather. "Blitzen moved from biting Jayden's head to her neck, locking his jaws and teeth deep into her neck," she states.

It becomes public that Franklin County will not cooperate with the Whites moving to their county with their dogs. "We don't want dangerous dogs in our county," Boyd Sturges, Franklin County attorney, told WRAL News.

July 8, 2021

Wake County Superior Court Judge Vince Rozier grants a preliminary injunction, barring the Town from putting down the White's dogs for 60 days. Judge Rozier did not allow Jayden's parents to "intervene" in the hearing, but did allow their attorney William Plyler to [deliver a victims' impact statement](#).

July 14, 2021

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners [passed an emergency ordinance](#) that states that any dog which has killed a human will be confiscated and put down. The law became effective immediately.

July 18, 2021

[Online petition](#) calling for "[Jayden's Law](#)" launches that would require North Carolina to euthanize dogs that have killed human beings without provocation. Kinley Borum, Jayden's babysitter, started the petition.

September 5, 2021

The Whites launch a major PR campaign prior to the September 10 hearing, including launching an [Instagram](#) page, [website](#) and a [petition to "save" Blitzen and Athena](#). The Instagram page states, "Website coming soon."

September 6, 2021

The White's PR campaign goes live. The Whites block DogsBite.org from the @saveblitzenandathena Instagram page.

September 8, 2021

DogsBite.org publishes about Blitzen's 22 day training at Sit Means Sit Dog Training, which is primarily based on shock collar training. The nonprofit also details the many photos of Blitzen wearing a "service dog" vest while also

wearing a shock collar. On day 16 of the boarded training (the owners are not present), Blitzen still lacks “impulse control,” states his training card.

September 10, 2021

Wake County Superior Court Judge Vince Rozier ruled that the Town of Garner can determine the fate of two pit bulls that killed Jayden. “This has gone farther than it should have,” Judge Rozier said. “To the parents, I’m sorry you’ve had to endure this.” Rozier also stated, “It’s not appropriate probably as a judge to call someone selfish, but after 15 years of being a judge, this is the most self-focused case I have ever seen in my life,” referring to the owners of the dogs. “And I don’t understand it,” he said, “because this case is about Jayden Henderson when it comes down to it.”



Wake County Superior Court Judge Vince Rozier ruled in favor of Garner.



Jayden’s Parents, Heather and Dave, seen after Rozier issued his ruling.