

STATE OF NEW YORK
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

In the Matter of the Proceeding
Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4,
of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

MICHELLE A. VAN WOERT,

a Justice of the Princetown Town Court,
Schenectady County.

**AGREED
STATEMENT OF FACTS**

Subject to the approval of the Commission on Judicial Conduct

("Commission"):

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between Robert H. Tembeckjian, Esq., Administrator and Counsel to the Commission, and Honorable Michelle A. Van Woert ("respondent"), who is represented in this proceeding by John R. Seebold, Esq., that further proceedings are waived and that the Commission shall make its determination upon the following facts and exhibits, which shall constitute the entire record in lieu of a hearing.

1. Respondent is not an attorney. She has been a Justice of the Princetown Town Court, Schenectady County, since 1997. Respondent's current term expires December 31, 2013. At all times relevant herein, respondent has been the only Justice of the Princetown Town Court. She also serves as one of two court clerks in the Princetown Town Court.¹

¹ Although the Commission considers the positions of justice and clerk of the same town court to be incompatible, requiring that respondent vacate one or the other, respondent received an Opinion of the Advisory Committee on Judicial Ethics, distinguishing her situation from others in which it previously

2. Respondent was served with a Formal Written Complaint dated January 10, 2012, and submitted a Verified Answer dated February 2, 2012.

3. Matthew and Mark Van Woeart are respondent's sons, now approximately 24 and 29 years of age, respectively.

As to Charge I

The tickets issued on or about September 23, 2009

4. On September 23, 2009, Dawn Campochiaro, the Princetown Animal Control Officer ("ACO"), issued appearance ticket number 541 to Matthew Van Woeart and appearance ticket number 542 to Mark Van Woeart for Dog Running at Large, a violation of Section 3 of the Princetown dog-control ordinance.² The tickets, copies of which are annexed as Exhibit A, were returnable before respondent in the Princetown Town Court on October 7, 2009.

5. Tickets for violations of the local ordinance are issued in triplicate as follows: the white copy is to be served upon the defendant, the pink copy is to be filed in the court and the yellow copy is maintained by the ACOs.

declared such positions incompatible (Opinion 11-92). Judiciary Law 212(2)(1)(iv) provides as follows: "Actions of any judge or justice of the uniform court system taken in accordance with findings or recommendations contained in an advisory opinion issued by the [Advisory Committee] shall be presumed proper for the purposes of any subsequent investigation by the state commission on judicial conduct." Although the Opinion at issue was issued in the course of the Commission's investigation, the Commission did not consider it appropriate to proceed further against respondent with regard to her simultaneously holding the town court justice and town court clerk positions.

² The tickets of September 23, 2009, and October 28, 2009, issued to Mark Van Woeart, both misspell his first name as "Marc."

6. Ms. Campochiaro attached each defendant's white ticket on the door of his residence. Since Matthew Van Woeart lived at respondent's home, his copy was attached to the door of their joint residence.

7. Ms. Campochiaro placed the court's pink copies and the supporting depositions in the court clerk's window slot at the courthouse, which was the protocol for filing with the court when the office was not open.

8. Prior to the October 7, 2009, return date, respondent knew that a copy of each ticket and supporting deposition had been filed in the Princetown Town Court, knew that her sons were named defendants on the tickets, and knew that the tickets were returnable in her court. Neither Ms. Campochiaro nor the defendants appeared in court on the return date.

The tickets issued on or about October 28, 2009

9. On October 28, 2009, Ms. Campochiaro issued appearance ticket number 560 to respondent and Matthew Van Woeart and appearance ticket number 561 to Mark Van Woeart for Dog Running at Large, a violation of Section 3 of the Princetown dog-control ordinance. The tickets, copies of which are annexed as Exhibit B, were returnable before respondent in the Princetown Town Court on November 4, 2009.

10. These tickets were also issued in triplicate, in accordance with the usual practice. Ms. Campochiaro attached the white copy of Mark Van Woeart's ticket to the door of his house. She brought the white copy of the ticket issued to respondent and

Matthew Van Woeart, along with the court's pink copies of both tickets and the supporting depositions, to the Princetown court clerk's office.

11. Prior to the November 4, 2009, return date, respondent knew a copy of each ticket and supporting deposition had been filed in the Princetown Town Court, knew that she and her sons were named defendants on the tickets, and knew that the tickets were returnable in her court. Neither Ms. Campochiaro nor any of the defendants, including respondent, appeared in court on the return date.

Respondent's conduct with respect to the tickets

12. On October 28, 2009, Ms. Campochiaro informed respondent by email that she had placed Matthew's and respondent's copy of the October 28, 2009, ticket in the court clerk's mail slot and asked whether the September 23, 2009, tickets had been transferred to the Town of Rotterdam.

13. On October 29, 2009, at 9:27 AM, respondent replied to Ms. Campochiaro by email that the "case has to go to the county court judge to be transferred." Respondent also advised Ms. Campochiaro to "look at the cpl for service of appearance ticket." Copies of Ms. Campochiaro's October 28 email and respondent's reply of October 29 at 9:27 AM are annexed as Exhibit C.

14. Later that day at 5:57 PM, respondent sent Ms. Campochiaro a second email. Respondent wrote, "[I] read Mr. Lee's deposition and agree he shouldn't have to feel threatened in his own driveway. But he said when he rode by the house he saw the dogs loose. Correct me if I'm wrong, but I don't think our dog law says dogs have to be leashed on our own property." Respondent also stated, "I will let you know

when Judge Drago sends these matters to another court.” A copy of the email is annexed as Exhibit D.

15. On November 8, 2009, in another email to Ms. Campochiaro, respondent said she was unable to request a transfer of the case and asked Ms. Campochiaro to come to the court. Respondent further advised Ms. Campochiaro that “[i]t’s an easy fix though.” A copy of the email is annexed as Exhibit E.

16. On November 23, 2009, Ms. Campochiaro went to the court and, at the behest of respondent, signed accusatory instruments for the tickets issued on October 28, 2009. Respondent did not request the execution of an accusatory instrument for the September 23, 2009, tickets. Copies of the accusatory instruments are annexed as Exhibit E.

17. Respondent did not request that the tickets be removed from her court until January 5, 2010. On that date, by letter to County Court Judge Drago, respondent requested that the “attached violations of the Princetown Town Law” be transferred to another jurisdiction. A copy of the letter is annexed as Exhibit G. Respondent did not advise Ms. Campochiaro of this request.

18. Judge Drago issued an order dated January 12, 2010, transferring the matters to Duanesburg Town Court. A copy of the order is annexed as Exhibit H. Respondent did not advise Ms. Campochiaro that the matters had been transferred.

19. By letter dated January 26, 2010, respondent sent the judges of the Duanesburg Town Court “[a]ll necessary paperwork relative to this case” and the order of transfer. While respondent does not recall what specific “paperwork” she sent to the

Duanesburg Town Court, all of the original tickets and documents were in the disposing court's file prior to resolution.

20. In the January 26, 2010 letter, respondent informed the transferee justices that she had recused herself because the "alleged violations have named [her] sons." She further advised "that service was not complete, due to the appearance tickets being left at the house, taped to the door on the case involving my son, Mark Van Woert and his dog Hanna," and that her copy had been left in her office. Respondent also alleged that the dog "Sophie" was registered to her son Matthew and stated that she was "[h]opeful of getting my name removed from the informations" because "[I] was unnecessarily named on the appearance ticket and information." A copy of the letter is annexed as Exhibit I. Respondent did not advise Ms. Campochiaro that the matters were sent to Duanesburg Town Court or provide her with a copy of the letter.

21. Respondent acknowledges that the statements contained in Exhibit I were *ex parte* communications to the transferee judges, expressed her biased judicial opinion on a matter from which she had recused herself, and were improper.

22. By letter dated February 1, 2010, Duanesburg Town Justice Robert B. Butler recused himself from the matter due to his familiarity with respondent. By letter dated February 3, 2010, Duanesburg Justice Rita LaBelle recused herself because of her familiarity with respondent's family. By order dated February 5, 2010, Judge Drago removed the matters to Scotia Village Court, where they were disposed of on June 23, 2010. Respondent was granted a six-month adjournment in contemplation of dismissal, without the imposition of a fine or conditions.

Respondent failed to keep adequate records

23. Respondent acknowledges that she did not keep complete and accurate records of the above proceedings pertaining to her and her sons, as required by Sections 214.11 of the Uniform Civil Rules for the Justice Courts. The only record respondent maintained in the Princetown Town Court of the tickets issued to her and her sons was a large envelope with a hand written label entitled *Town of Princetown versus Van Woeart*.

- A. This record did not have a docket number assigned to it and did not contain a copy of the September 23, 2009, or October 28, 2009, appearance tickets.
- B. Copies of the emails between respondent and the ACO were not maintained in this envelope.
- C. There was no record of the documents sent to Judge Drago on January 5, 2010.
- D. There was no record of the documents forwarded to the transfer court on January 26, 2010.
- E. None of the September or October 2009 tickets were entered into the Princetown Town Court computer system.

Respondent failed to follow her own protocol in processing and transferring the appearance tickets

25. Respondent acknowledges that she failed to follow her own court's regular procedure for processing and transferring appearance tickets, in that she failed to input information from the appearance tickets issued to her and to her sons in September and October 2009 into the court's computer system, failed to generate a docket number, failed to affix a label with the computer generated docket number and case name onto the

file folder and failed to maintain copies of the original documents in the file folder once the matter was transferred.

26. By reason of the foregoing, respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article 6, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that respondent failed to uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary by failing to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety, in that she failed to respect and comply with the law and failed to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules, allowed a personal relationship to influence her judicial conduct and judgment, in violation of Section 100.2(B) of the Rules, and lent the prestige of judicial office to advance the private interests of the judge and others, in violation of Section 100.2(C) of the Rules; and failed to perform the duties of judicial office impartially and diligently, in that she engaged in *ex parte* communications concerning a pending or impending matter, in violation of Section 100.3(B)(6) of the Rules, failed to diligently discharge her administrative responsibilities without bias or prejudice, in violation of Section 100.3(C)(1) of the Rules, and failed to disqualify herself promptly in proceedings in which her impartiality might reasonably be questioned, in violation of Section 100.3(E)(1)(d)(i) of the Rules.

As to Charge II

27. In 2005, on two separate occasions, respondent was warned by Darrell Corbett, the Princetown Animal Control Officer (“ACO”) that her dogs were running onto neighbors’ property. In one instance the dogs allegedly tore up garbage and killed wild ducks; in another instance the dogs allegedly attacked and injured a neighbor’s dog. Respondent paid the veterinarian bill for the injured dog.

28. On March 11, 2006, Mr. Corbett received a complaint from April Lopuch regarding respondent’s dogs being on her property. On that date, Mr. Corbett took a supporting deposition from Ms. Lopuch.

29. On March 11, 2006, before Mr. Corbett had issued any tickets to respondent, respondent advised him that the dogs were “going to run free” and that he should just “write [her] a ticket.”

30. On March 13, 2006, Darrell Corbett issued appearance ticket number 545 to respondent and appearance ticket number 544 to Mark Van Woeart for Dog Running at Large, a violation of Section 3 of the Princetown dog-control ordinance, and Dangerous Dog under Section 121 of the Agriculture & Markets Law.³ The tickets, copies of which are annexed as Exhibit J, were returnable before respondent in the Princetown Town Court on March 29, 2006.

31. These tickets were issued in triplicate, in accordance with the usual practice. Mr. Corbett personally served Mark Van Woeart by handing him a copy of his ticket at his home and personally served respondent by handing her a copy of her ticket at

her home. Mr. Corbett filed the court's copies of the tickets by handing them to respondent at the Princetown town courthouse.

32. Prior to the March 29, 2006, return date, respondent knew a copy of each ticket had been filed in the Princetown Town Court, knew that she and her son were named defendants on the tickets, and knew that the tickets were returnable in her court. Mr. Corbett did not appear in court on the return date and did not file an accusatory instrument for either of the tickets.

33. Respondent did not request that the tickets be removed from her court. There is no record that the tickets were transferred to another court. There is no record of the disposition of the tickets.

34. Respondent failed to keep complete and accurate records of the proceedings as required by Sections 214.11 of the Uniform Civil Rules for the Justice Courts and/or failed to properly supervise court personnel, with the result that the records required by that section were not maintained.

- A. There is no record at all of the tickets in the Princetown Town Court.
- B. There is no file.
- C. There is no docket number.
- D. There are no copies of the tickets or supporting depositions.
- E. There is no request for removal to another court.
- F. There is no order of transfer.
- G. There is no record that the tickets were ever entered into the Princetown Town Court computer system.

³ Section 121 of the Agriculture & Markets Law has since been renumbered Section 123.

35. By reason of the foregoing, respondent should be disciplined for cause, pursuant to Article 6, Section 22, subdivision (a), of the Constitution and Section 44, subdivision 1, of the Judiciary Law, in that respondent failed to uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary by failing to maintain high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary would be preserved, in violation of Section 100.1 of the Rules; failed to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety, in that she failed to respect and comply with the law, failed to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary, in violation of Section 100.2(A) of the Rules, allowed a personal relationship to influence her judicial conduct and judgment, in violation of Section 100.2(B) of the Rules, and lent the prestige of judicial office to advance the private interests of the judge and another, in violation of Section 100.2(C) of the Rules; failed to perform the duties of judicial office impartially and diligently, in that she failed to diligently discharge her administrative responsibilities without bias or prejudice and maintain professional competence in judicial administration, in violation of Section 100.3(C)(1) of the Rules, and failed to require court staff to observe the standards of fidelity and diligence that apply to the judge, in violation of Section 100.3(C)(2) of the Rules; and failed to conduct her extra-judicial activities as to minimize the risk of conflict with judicial obligations, in that she failed to conduct her extra-judicial activities so that they do not cast reasonable doubt on her capacity to act impartially as a judge, do not detract from the dignity of judicial office, do not interfere with the proper performance of judicial duties and are not

incompatible with judicial office, in violation of Sections 100.4(A)(1), (2) and (3) of the Rules.

Additional Observations

36. Respondent has been cooperative with the Commission and its staff throughout the investigative and adjudicative proceedings in this matter.

37. Respondent has admitted the charges, is remorseful, and assures the Commission that lapses such as occurred here will not recur.

38. With respect to the appearance tickets issued in September and October 2009, while respondent failed to immediately disqualify herself, she ultimately effectuated transfers to the Duanesburg Town Court once the ACO filed an accusatory instrument.

39. With respect to the appearance tickets issued on March 13, 2006, no charge was actually pending before respondent since the ACO never filed any accusatory instruments with respect to the appearance tickets and never followed up on the matter.

IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED that respondent withdraws from her Answer any denials or defenses inconsistent with this Agreed Statement of Facts.

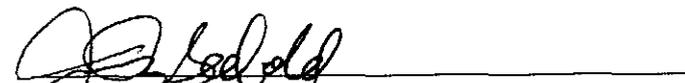
IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED that the parties to this Agreed Statement of Facts respectfully recommend to the Commission that the appropriate sanction is public Admonition based upon the judicial misconduct set forth above.

IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED that if the Commission accepts this Agreed Statement of Facts, the parties waive oral argument and waive further submissions to the Commission as to the issues of misconduct and sanction, and that the Commission shall thereupon impose a public Admonition without further submission of the parties, based solely upon this Agreed Statement. If the Commission rejects this Agreed Statement of Facts, the matter shall proceed to a hearing and the statements made herein shall not be used by the Commission, the respondent or the Administrator and Counsel to the Commission.

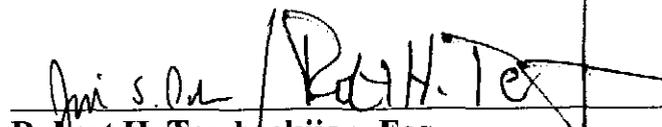
Dated: 4-24-12


Honorable Michelle A. Van Woeart
Respondent

Dated: 4-24-12


John R. Seebold, Esq.
Capasso & Massaroni LLP

Dated: 4-24-2012


Robert H. Tembeckjian, Esq.
Administrator & Counsel to the Commission
(Jill S. Polk, Of Counsel)

Agriculture and Markets
Dog ID and Control

APPEARANCE TICKET

541

DEFENDANT (Last Name, First, M.I.) Matthew Phone No. 352-5557 Dog Breed and Color German Shepherd Black/TAN
Address 1924 Scotch Ridge Rd, Schuyl City NY State NY Zip Code 12306 Dog I.D. No. 4924955 Dog Sex F

You are hereby directed to appear before Presiding Judge or Justice Michelle VanLubeart at Princeton Court Schenectady N.Y. 12306 on October 7, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.

Defendant accused of the offense of Dogs running at large, Chasing people and barking aggressively a violation of Section 3 Sub. B.C.T.O. committed on Aug 6, 13, 15 at Various times M. at Scotch Ridge Rd in the Town of Princetown of Schenectady County, N.Y.

NOTE: 1. YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY RESULT IN A WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST.
2. A PLEA OF GUILTY TO THIS CHARGE IS EQUIVALENT TO A CONVICTION AFTER TRIAL.

OFFICER'S NAME, TITLE & I.D. NO. Dawn M. Campochiaro, DCO Date 9/23/09 Officer's Signature Dawn M. Campochiaro

CODE
WHITE - Defendant's Copy
CANARY - Officer's Copy
PINK - Court Copy

(more follows)

Agriculture and Markets
Dog ID and Control

APPEARANCE TICKET

542

DEFENDANT (Last Name, First, M.I.) MARC Phone No. Dog Breed and Color German Shepherd Black/Brown
Address 2008 Scotch Ridge Rd, Schenectady, NY City NY State NY Zip Code 12306 Dog I.D. No. 4390928 Dog Sex F

You are hereby directed to appear before Presiding Judge or Justice Michelle VanLubeart at Princeton Court Schenectady N.Y. 12306 on October 7, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.

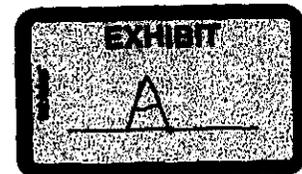
Defendant accused of the offense of Dogs running at large, Chasing people and barking aggressively a violation of Section 3 Sub. B.C.T.O. committed on Aug 6, 13, 15 at Various M. at Scotch Ridge Rd in the Town of Princetown of Schenectady County, N.Y.

NOTE: 1. YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY RESULT IN A WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST.
2. A PLEA OF GUILTY TO THIS CHARGE IS EQUIVALENT TO A CONVICTION AFTER TRIAL.

OFFICER'S NAME, TITLE & I.D. NO. Dawn M. Campochiaro Date 9/23/09 Officer's Signature Dawn M. Campochiaro

CODE
WHITE - Defendant's Copy
CANARY - Officer's Copy
PINK - Court Copy

(more follows)



Agriculture and Markets
Dog I.D. and Control

APPEARANCE TICKET

560

DEFENDANT (Last Name, First, M.I.) Van Weast Matthew Michelle		Phone No. 351-5557	Dog Breed and Color German Shepherd Black/tra		
Address 1924 Scotch Ridge Rd Schuyl NY 12306	City Schuyl	State NY	Zip Code 12306	Dog I.D. No. 4904955	Dog Sex F
You are hereby directed to appear before Presiding Judge or Justice Michelle Van Weast at Princeton Court, Schenectady N.Y. 12306 on November 4 th at 3:00 PM					
Defendant accused of the offense of Dog running at large and barking aggressively a violation of					
Section 3 Sub. B.C.I. committed on					
at Van Weast M. at Scotch Ridge Rd in the Town of Princeton of Schenectady County, N.Y.					

NOTE: 1. YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY RESULT IN A WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST.
2. A PLEA OF GUILTY TO THIS CHARGE IS EQUIVALENT TO A CONVICTION AFTER TRIAL.

OFFICER'S NAME, TITLE & I.D. NO. Dawn M. Campochiaro	Date 10/28/09	Officer's Signature Dawn M. Campochiaro
---	------------------	--

CODE
WHITE - Defendant's Copy
CANARY - Officer's Copy
PINK - Court Copy

(more follows)



Agriculture and Markets
Dog I.D. and Control

APPEARANCE TICKET

581

DEFENDANT (Last Name, First, M.I.) <u>Van Woerdt, Marc</u>	Phone No. <u>376-0063</u>	Dog Breed and Color <u>German Shepherd Black/W</u>
Address <u>518 Scotch Ridge Rd Schuyl</u>	City <u>NY</u>	State <u>12306</u>
Zip Code <u>12306</u>	Dog ID No. <u>4390928</u>	Dog Sex <u>F</u>
You are hereby directed to appear before Presiding Judge or Justice <u>Michelle Van Woerdt</u> at <u>Prince town</u> Court <u>Schenectady</u> N.Y. <u>12306</u> on <u>November 4th</u> at <u>7:00 P.M.</u>		
Defendant accused of the offense of <u>Dog running at large</u> a violation of		
Section <u>3</u>	Sub. <u>B C E</u>	committed on <u>Various approx 9-12 months</u>
at <u>Various</u> M. at <u>Scotch Ridge Rd</u>	in the <u>Town of Princeton</u>	
of <u>Schenectady</u>	County, N.Y.	

NOTE: 1. YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY RESULT IN A WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST.
2. A PLEA OF GUILTY TO THIS CHARGE IS EQUIVALENT TO A CONVICTION AFTER TRIAL

OFFICER'S NAME, TITLE & I.D. No. Dawn M Campanaro Date 10/28/09 Officer's Signature [Signature]

CODE
WHITE - Defendant's Copy
CANARY - Officer's Copy
PINK - Court Copy

(more follows)

From: micourt2@hotmail.com
To: Dawn Campochiarra <dcampochia@aim.com>
Subject: RE: dogs
Date: Thu, Oct 29, 2009 9:27 am

Im not sure which dog you are referring to. My dog is the old shepherd, heidi. She was probably at my house. She only goes between mine and mark's house. Also hanna was probably at marks and sophie was here at my house.

The case has to go to the county court judge to be transferred. It's not necessarily going to be rotterdam. also you need to look at the cpl for service of appearance ticket. FYI.

Michelle

To: micourt2@hotmail.com
Subject: dogs
Date: Wed, 28 Oct 2009 21:44:15 -0400
From: dcampochia@aim.com

Hi Michelle,

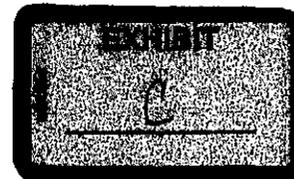
Just wanted to give you a heads up, that I had another neighbor sign a supporting deposition about the dogs..I went to townhall tonight to talk to you but you were gone. We have had several other calls from other people on that road..

I am confused about something though...I went to Marc's house and there was a shepherd there, then I went to your house and there was two shepherd's and the young one Sophia was chasing my car and barking and being very aggressive even when I was calling her name. Who does the other dog belong to? I was unable to leave the appearance ticket. I put the appearance ticket and the supporting deposition under the silver door in Rebecca's office.

The Lopuch's called me and wanted to know the status on the other tickets..did they go to Rotterdam?

Sorry...
Dawn

Windows 7: I wanted more reliable, now it's more reliable. Wow! =



From: micourt2@hotmail.com

To: Dawn Campochiarra <dcampochia@aim.com>

Subject: RE: dogs

Date: Thu, Oct 29, 2009 5:57 pm

Hi Dawn: I wanted you to know a couple of things. Tonight Sophie chased Matt down the driveway because she was out with him. I called her back and she was on the bottom of Lopuch's driveway. She did come back when I called her. Also I read Mr. Lee's deposition and agree he shouldn't have to feel threatened in his own driveway. But he said when he rode by the house he saw the dogs loose. Correct me if I'm wrong, but I don't think our dog law says dogs have to be leashed on our own property. I will let you know when Judge Drago sends these matters to another court. Thanks

Michelle

To: micourt2@hotmail.com

Subject: dogs

Date: Wed, 28 Oct 2009 21:44:15 -0400

From: dcampochia@aim.com

Hi Michelle,

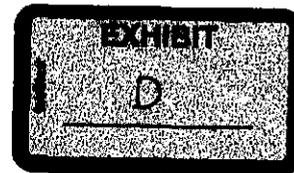
Just wanted to give you a heads up, that I had another neighbor sign a supporting deposition about the dogs. I went to townhall tonight to talk to you but you were gone. We have had several other calls from other people on that road.

I am confused about something though...I went to Marc's house and there was a shepherd there, then I went to your house and there was two shepherd's and the young one Sophia was chasing my car and barking and being very aggressive even when I was calling her name. Who does the other dog belong to? I was unable to leave the appearance ticket. I put the appearance ticket and the supporting deposition under the silver door in Rebecca's office.

The Lopuch's called me and wanted to know the status on the other tickets..did they go to Rotterdam?

Sorry...
Dawn

Windows 7: It works the way you want. [Learn more.](#) =



From: micourt2@hotmail.com

To: Dawn Campochiarra <dcampochia@aim.com>

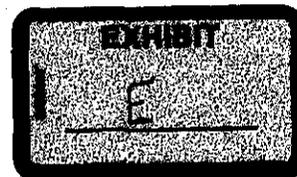
Subject: Dogs

Date: Sun, Nov 8, 2009 11:23 am

Dawn: Can you stop in at work sometime this week? I cannot request the County Court Judge to transfer this case. I'll explain when you come in. It's an easy fix though.

Michelle

Find the right PC with Windows 7 and Windows Live. [Learn more.](#) =



STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF Schenectady
TOWN/VILLAGE OF Princeton

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

ACCUSATORY INSTRUMENT
INFORMATION
C.P.L. §100.15

Michelle & Matthew Van Ueber Defendant(s)

I, Dawn Compadore the COMPLAINANT herein, am a Dog Control Officer
of the Town of Princeton
(If police officer give rank & department) (If not police officer, specify residence)

I ACCUSE Michelle & Matthew Van Ueber (jointly), the Defendant(s) in this action, and charge that on or about the 28th day of October, at 8:00pm the Town of Princeton County of Schenectady New York, said Defendant(s) did* intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, unlawfully, wilfully, with criminal negligence, commit the offense(s) of (1) (2) contrary to the provisions of Section 3, Subdivision B,C of the Town Law of the State of New York, a Class petty offense. Each of said defendants is jointly charged with every offense alleged therein. The facts upon which this accusation is made are as follows:

***Of my own knowledge:

Upon information and belief:** of the attached deposition

WHEREFORE, I pray the defendant be dealt with in accordance with the Criminal Procedure Law.

Dawn M Compadore
Complainant

Sworn to before me this 23rd
day of November, 2009
Title Dog Control Officer

Verification of this instrument is made pursuant to Section 100.30(d) of the Criminal Procedure Law and I know that a false statement herein is punishable as a Class A misdemeanor pursuant to Section 210.45 of the Penal Law of the State of New York.

Dawn M Compadore
Complainant

Dated: 23rd day of November, 2009

*Strike out words not applicable.
**Attach supporting depositions of fact.
***See C.P.L. Section 100.40

Copies must be sent to the following: Court, Defendant, Agency and District Attorney



STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF Schenectady
TOWN/VILLAGE OF Princeton

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

ACCUSATORY INSTRUMENT
INFORMATION
C.P.L. §100.15

v.

Marc VanWoert Defendant(s)

I, Dawn Campochiaro, the COMPLAINANT herein, am a Dog Control Officer
of the Town of Princeton
(If police officer, give rank & department) (If not police officer, specify residence)

I ACCUSE Marc VanWoert (jointly) the Defendant(s) in this action, and charge
that on or about the 28 day of Oct, 2009, at Schenectady in the Town of Princeton County
of Schenectady New York, said Defendant(s) did* intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, unlawfully,
wilfully, with criminal negligence, commit the offense(s) of (1) 3 (2) 3 contrary to
the provisions of Section 3, Subdivision C, F of the Town Law of the State of New York, a
Class 3 petty offense. Each of said defendants is jointly charged with every offense alleged
therein. The facts upon which this accusation is made are as follows.

***Of my own knowledge:

Upon information and belief** of the said attached
deposition.

WHEREFORE, I pray the defendant be dealt with in accordance with the Criminal
Procedure Law.

Dawn M. Campochiaro
Complainant

Sworn to before me this 23rd
day of November, 2009
Title Dog Control Officer

Verification of this instrument is made pursuant to Section 100.30(d) of the Criminal Procedure Law
and I know that a false statement herein is punishable as a Class A misdemeanor pursuant to Section
210.45 of the Penal Law of the State of New York.

Dawn M. Campochiaro
Complainant

Dated: 23rd day of November, 2009

*Strike out words not applicable.
** Attach supporting depositions of fact.
*** See C.P.L. Section 100.40

Copies must be sent to the following: Court, Defendant, Agency and District Attorney



Princetown Town Court
Town of Princetown
165 Princetown Plaza
Schenectady, NY 12306

Hon. Michelle A. VanWoeart
Phone: (518) 357-4047
Fax: (518) 357-4049
www.princetown.net

January 5, 2010

VIA FAX ONLY

Honorable Karen A. Drago
County Court Judge
Schenectady County Courthouse
612 State Street
Schenectady, NY 12306

RE: Town of Princetown
Violations of the "Dog Law"

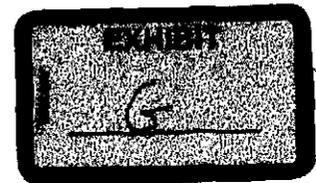
Dear Judge Drago:

I hereby respectfully request you transfer the attached violations of the Princetown Town Law to another jurisdiction. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Michelle VanWoeart
Town Justice

Enc.



STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY COURT

COUNTY OF SCHENECTADY

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK,

-against-

Order Removing Action
Case No. Unk

Michelle & Matthew VanWoeart,

Defendant.

Upon the recusal of Michelle VanWoeart in the above entitled matter, it is hereby

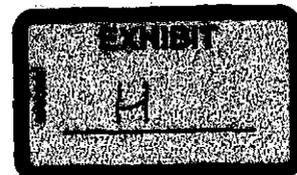
ORDERED, that the above entitled action now pending in Princetown Town Court is hereby removed from said court to the Duaneburg Town Court, State of New York, County of Schenectady, and it is further,

ORDERED, that the Clerk of the Princetown Town Court, upon filing with him or her a certified copy of this order, shall forthwith deliver to the Clerk of the Duaneburg Town Court of the State of New York, County of Schenectady, all papers and records in the aforesaid action and certified copies of all minutes and entries.



Hon. Karen A. Drago
Schenectady County Court Judge

Dated: January 12, 2010





Princetown Town Court
Town of Princetown
165 Princetown Plaza
Schenectady, NY 12306

Hon. Michelle A. VanWoeart
Phone: (518) 357-4047
Fax: (518) 357-4049
www.princetown.net

January 26, 2010

Honorable Robert Butler
Honorable Rita LaBelle
Duanesburg Town Justices
Duanesburg Town Court
5853 Western Turnpike
Duanesburg, NY 12056

RE: Dog Matter

Dear Judges Butler and LaBelle:

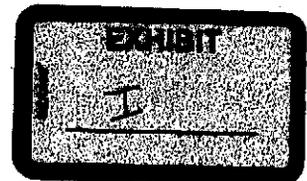
I have enclosed paperwork and ORDER transferring the Dog violations to your town. Since the alleged violations have named my sons on this matter, I have recused myself from this case. I have enclosed a copy of the Animal Control Law for the Town of Princetown and all necessary paperwork relative to this case.

I would like you to be aware, however, that service was not complete, due to the appearance tickets being left at the house, taped to the door on the case involving my son, Mark VanWoeart and his dog Hanna. The appearance tickets were left at my office slid under my window. I am hopeful of getting my name removed from the informations regarding my other son Matthew's dog, Sophie. She is registered to him and I feel I was unnecessarily named on the appearance ticket and information.

Contact me if you need anything further.

Sincerely,

Michelle A. VanWoeart
Town Justice



Agriculture and Markets
Dog I.D. and Control

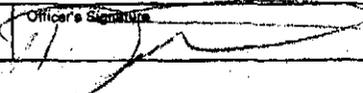
APPEARANCE TICKET

545

DEFENDANT (Last Name, First, M.I.) <u>VanWarant, Michelle</u>		Phone No.	Dog Breed and Color <u>German Shepard</u>	
Address <u>1924 Scotch Ridge Rd Schdy NY</u>	City <u>12306</u>	State <u>NY</u>	Zip Code <u>12306</u>	Dog Sex <u>Female</u>

You are hereby directed to appear before Presiding Judge or Justice _____ at
Princeton Town Court, Princeton Plaza, Princeton, N.Y., 12306 on
Wed. March 29, 2006 at 7:00 P.M.
 Defendant accused of the offense of Dogs Running at large and The Dangerous dogs
law, to chase or worry any domestic animal. a violation of
 Section 121 Sub. 2 committed on March 11, 2006
 at 5:00 P.M. at 1838 Scotch Ridge Rd in the Town of Princeton
 of Schenectady County, N.Y.

NOTE: 1. YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY RESULT IN A WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST.
 2. A PLEA OF GUILTY TO THIS CHARGE IS EQUIVALENT TO A CONVICTION AFTER TRIAL

OFFICER'S NAME, TITLE & I.D. NO. <u>Darrell Corbett ACC</u>	Date <u>3/13/06</u>	Officer's Signature 
--	------------------------	---

CODE
 WHITE - Defendant's Copy
 CANARY - Officer's Copy
 PINK - Court Copy

(more follows)

Agriculture and Markets
Dog I.D. and Control

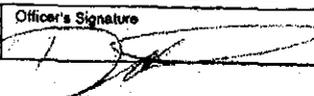
APPEARANCE TICKET

544

DEFENDANT (Last Name, First, M.I.) <u>VanWarant, Mark</u>		Phone No.	Dog Breed and Color <u>German Shepard</u>	
Address <u>2008 Scotch Ridge Rd Schdy NY</u>	City <u>12306</u>	State <u>NY</u>	Zip Code <u>12306</u>	Dog Sex <u>Female</u>

You are hereby directed to appear before Presiding Judge or Justice _____ at
Princeton Town Court, Princeton Plaza Princeton, N.Y., 12306 on
Wed. March 29, 2006 at 7:00 P.M.
 Defendant accused of the offense of Dogs Running at large / The Dangerous Dogs law
to chase or worry any domestic animal. a violation of
 Section 121 Sub. 2 committed on March 11, 2006
 at 5:00 P.M. at 1838 Scotch Ridge Rd in the Town of Princeton
 of Schenectady County, N.Y.

NOTE: 1. YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY RESULT IN A WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST.
 2. A PLEA OF GUILTY TO THIS CHARGE IS EQUIVALENT TO A CONVICTION AFTER TRIAL

OFFICER'S NAME, TITLE & I.D. NO. <u>Darrell Corbett ACC</u>	Date <u>3/13/06</u>	Officer's Signature 
--	------------------------	---

CODE
 WHITE - Defendant's Copy
 CANARY - Officer's Copy
 PINK - Court Copy

(more follows)

