

July 10 1981
Rescue 2 Place Pets 27
Box 161714 Sacramento
Ca 95816

RECEIVED
CITY SLEEPS OFFICE
CITY OF SACRAMENTO

To the City Council

JUN 10 4 02 PM '81

Rescue 2 Place Pets will represent
are group 2 other humane groups and
concerned citizens next Tuesday July
16th at the City Council meeting.

We are extremely concerned about
the inhumane treatment of our pets
by employees and officials at city animal
central 2127 front st.

These conditions have existed
for years and should no longer
be tolerated

attached is a news clipping
that prompted this action

By the City Council
Office of the City Clerk

JUN 16 1981

DEMONSTRATION TO BE HELD SAT. JUNE 6 th 10:30 AM.

AT CITY ANAMEL CONTROL 2127 FRONT ST. PLEASE BE

THERE

SACRAMENTO BEE MAY 16 TH.

Owner Questions Dog's Death

People could not agree about Freckles, a 60-plus pound, mixed breed dog. They did not agree on his temperament or the reasons behind his death soon after a stay in the city pound.

Freckles was taken to the pound for observation after he bit a small girl recently. Animal control officers described Freckles as "aggressive and vicious" and they put a red tag on his kennel to warn persons who might be handling him.

As any owner loyal to her pet, Julie Berrera insisted Freckles was not mean, although she admitted he once bit her.

The incident began when a 7-year-old neighbor girl was bitten slightly on the hand when she approached the dog as he was chained in front of Berrera's apartment in North Sacramento.

"The bite only required one stitch," Berrera said. But because she could not show that Freckles had been vaccinated for rabies, he was picked up two days later and

placed in the city pound for observation.

On May 6, Berrera related, city animal control officers left a note on her door telling her Freckles could be released that day. So she went to the pound on Front Street to get him. "When I got him outside," she said, "I noticed my dog's sides looked all caved in and he was bleeding from his mouth and his rectum. So I went back in and asked them, 'What have you done to my dog, he's dying?'"

Berrera said she was told to take her dog to a veterinarian and Dr. Eugene C. Story at the Midtown Hospital was recommended.

At 11 o'clock that night Freckles died, Berrera said, and the city offered to pay for an autopsy to determine what killed him.

Story's autopsy report revealed that Freckles died of shock induced by massive hemorrhaging and abdominal injuries which included a two and one-half-inch perforation of his bladder.

Berrera said she had visited Freckles at the pound two days earlier and he appeared to be in good condition.

"Someone down there (at the pound) beat my dog to death," Berrera insists, "and I want to warn everybody of what's liable to happen if their pets get there."

Deputy Animal Control Officer Ruben Mora said a Police Department investigation turned up no evidence that Freckles was beaten or treated cruelly.

On the morning of May 6 Mora said Freckles ran out of his cage as a kennel attendant opened the enclosure to wash it down.

The dog was tagged as an aggressive animal, Mora said, and the attendant had to use a restraining pole (a long stick equipped with a loop that slips over an animal's head) to get him back in the pen.

"There was quite a struggle, and another animal control officer was there to witness it, but there was no cruelty," Mora said.

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RESCUE & PLACE PETS



CITY OF SACRAMENTO

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

915 I STREET SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814
CITY HALL ROOM 203 TELEPHONE (916) 449-5426

LORRAINE MAGANA
CITY CLERK

MEMORANDUM

TO: WALTER J. SLIPE, CITY MANAGER
FROM: LORRAINE MAGANA, CITY CLERK *LM*
SUBJECT: REFERRAL OF ITEM NO. 27, COUNCIL AGENDA OF JUNE 16, 1981
DATE: JUNE 16, 1981

Pursuant to Council action, the above item was referred to you for report to the Budget and Finance Committee.

The Staff was further directed to meet with Mrs. Hart and other interested parties to discuss conditions at the Animal Control facility.

LM:sj
cc: City Engineer
Animal Control
Wanda Lynch, Secretary