

## **Attorney calls woman who had dogs seized 'attentive' owner as she faces more charges**

OSSIPEE — Christina Fay, previously accused of two misdemeanor charges of animal cruelty after police found 84 Great Dane dogs living in squalor in her \$1.5 million dollar mansion back in June, is now facing a dozen more animal cruelty charges.

The new animal cruelty charges highlight the many specific medical conditions the dogs are facing from living in squalor.

Those charges include:

1. Holding an adult female Great Dane in a chain-link kennel in the basement of the home with little lighting or ventilation and a high ammonia level as the floor was covered in a layer of feces and urine. That dog was underweight, suffered from conjunctivitis in both eyes, had moist dermatitis of her feet, she was covered in feces, had a tail tip which was ulcerated and ultimately had to be partially amputated to alleviate her suffering.
2. Holding a juvenile female Great Dane with 10 other Great Dane dogs in the foyer of the home with the floor covered in feces and urine. This dog suffered from "cherry eye" and conjunctivitis in both eyes which was so severe she was blind. She also suffered from oral papilloma lesions.
3. Holding an adult male Great Dane male in the basement covered in feces and urine with no food or water present. This dog had an ulcerated and bleeding tail tip, ear infections in both ears, entropion and conjunctivitis in both eyes, many pressure sores on his feet and a sore on his right hind limb that was ulcerated and pus-filled.
4. Holding a female blue Great Dane in a closed-off bedroom where the floor was covered in urine and feces and no food or water available in the room. This dog was underweight, had eye infections in both eyes, ear infections in both ears, suffered from entropion and ectropion known as "diamond eye" and was suffering from a severe case of conjunctivitis.
5. Holding an adult black male in the basement with a floor covered in urine and feces. This dog was underweight, had many pressure sores on his legs, papilloma lesions, ulcerated and oozing lesions all over his body, ear infections, conjunctivitis and entropion.
6. Having more than 70 Great Dane dogs in the home with "cherry eye" condition and not properly treating them, or treating them at all.
7. Having more than 70 Great Dane dogs in the home with giardia and not properly treating them, or treating them at all.
8. Having more than 70 Great Dane dogs in the home with papilloma infections and not properly treating them, or treating them at all.
9. Having more than 70 Great Dane dogs in the home with heartworm infections and not properly treating them, or treating them at all.

10. Having more than 70 Great Dane dogs in the home and depriving them of proper care or sustenance by feeding them food infested with maggots.
11. Having more than 70 Great Dane dogs in the home and depriving them of proper care or sustenance by not making water available to the dogs.
12. Having more than 70 Great Dane dogs in the home with ear infections and not properly treating them, or treating them at all.

Tina Fay's attorneys also presented to the court Wednesday a motion to quash civil forfeiture notices. The Wolfeboro Police Department served Fay with the notices after she only paid for one group dog license, which included up to 30 dogs. Fay was served with 45 civil forfeiture notices meaning she failed to license 45 dogs with the town. Fay's attorneys are arguing the 30 dog max is an arbitrary number and nowhere on the town website does it say that. She is also requesting the town pay her "reasonable attorney's fees and costs."

Fay's attorneys also presented another motion requesting the court stop the Humane Society of the United States from allowing veterinarians to perform surgeries on any of the dogs. In the motion, her attorneys outline Fay as a humane and competent caretaker to the dogs.

"Mrs. Fay is a very fastidious and attentive dog owner. Prior to their seizure and removal from Mrs. Fay's home, the dogs received highly competent and appropriate medical care and treatment. She submits that none of the dogs had a serious medical condition while in her care that was not addressed in a timely fashion by the veterinarian ... Mrs. Fay has had no contact with the dogs since the seizure and has only learned recently that two puppies have died while in the care of the Humane Society of the United States. One dog had surgery to remove an object that was, presumably, ingested while at the Humane Society shelter."

Fay's attorneys went on to say using surgery to fix "cherry eye" is not an emergency or necessary.

An agreement between Fay's attorneys and the state has been reached to allow a veterinarian or vet-tech go to the undisclosed location where the dogs are to observe them. That person cannot disclose the location of the emergency shelter.

A third motion presented by Fay's attorneys asks the court to dismiss the original two charges against the defendant arguing the complaints lack facts and details, or the other option being the state provide more detail in how the defendant was cruel or inhumane to the the dogs.

A criminal motion hearing is scheduled for Oct. 3. The trial is scheduled to start Oct. 25.

Fay has plead not guilty to the newest charges.