

TX-RPOA E-News

From RPOA Texas Outreach and  
Responsible Pet Owners Alliance  
"Animal welfare, not animal 'rights'  
and, yes, there is a difference."  
Permission granted to crosspost.

March 19, 2009

Forgive us ... as RPOA will be sending out more messages with the legislature in session until adjournment June 1st. We try not to overwhelm our list and only post those of most importance. There are many pet law chat lists nationally and in Texas that spread the information on the onslaught of anti-pet "animal rights" legislation in other states. You should also subscribe to them. Right now Texas is all we can handle but this message below is of prime importance. Italy and the Netherlands have repealed Breed Specific Legislation recently. Italy had listed 17 breeds on their Breed Blacklist, including Rottweilers, pit bull terriers, bull mastiffs, Anatolian Shepherd and American Bulldogs.

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From the AKC State Federations List:

--- In [Pit-Bull-Crusaders@yahoo.com](mailto:Pit-Bull-Crusaders@yahoo.com), heartsogoldpitrescue

Dear Everyone!

It is my distinct pleasure to inform you that WE WON today's BSL hearing in Dade~County, Fl. For the first time in 20 years, this ordinance was challenged! The challenge was well met. This case was about an alleged Pit Bull mix that met their fictitious 51% Pit scale/chart and was banned from this county. The owner took the Apollo (dog) to relatives in Palm Beach County and fought it with us. Edel Miedes gave an outstanding deliberation on the specifics of the breed(s). He examined the dog himself and came prepared to defend it. Our attorney Rima...simply kicked ass! She was right on the money! Yours truly went head on with the county attorney who was representing the county in all they are still scratching their heads. However, most of the animal investigators for this county that were present were courteous, professional and congratulated us. This is as a result of most of them wanting BSL outta here too. Channel 7 covered this story to the end and I'm told it already aired on the news at 5 today however it will air again at 10 pm news tonite!

The judge ruled in our favor as a result of the county not meeting the burden (of proof). This was based on the facts presented; the ordinance's description of the dogs was vague, they used 3 different combined breeds on their 51% chart, instead of individual ones per breed, and this chart is nowhere in the ordinance, the UKC & AKC's standards, which the county uses illegally to describe the breed, have not been revised since 1978 the full breed descriptions of these clubs are not attached. Mostly... any number of dogs could fall into the physical characteristics stated in this ordinance.

So there you have it...pat yourselves on the back and give your pets a big sloppy kiss!  
BSL will soon be a thing of the past!

Looking forward to a successful venture in totally repealing BSL and your participation  
in such! Many dogs were slaughtered in 20 years this ordinance has been allowed to  
stay in place. In their memory we fight!

Respectfully,

Dahlia Canes

The Miami Coalition Against Breed Specific Legislation.

(305) 323~3960

RPOA Texas Outreach (501 C4)

Responsible Pet Owners Alliance (501 C3)

900 NE Loop 410 #311-D

San Antonio, TX 78209

Website: [www.responsiblepetowners.org](http://www.responsiblepetowners.org)

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