

Debra Thompson

From: Sarah Fine <sarah@finewalshlaw.com>
Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 2:02 PM
To: Assembly
Cc: Stephen Giesbrecht; Debra Thompson
Subject: Drug Dog not Bite Dog

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Dear Assembly:

For some time our town has discussed the possibility of bringing in a drug-sniffing dog to help prevent the proliferation of drugs like fentanyl in our community. I understand that many organizations like our ferry terminal, airport, and schools wish to screen for illegal drugs using a drug dog.

However, in all of these conversations I have not heard any desire for a K9 unit for use of force. I have heard people hope that our drug dog is "cute," not that they're dangerous.

I beg you, please, please do not approve the purchase of a dual-purpose dog. Police use of force is always frightening to witness even without a police dog involved. I never ever want to see a Petersburg resident chased down and bitten by a military-grade K9 unit. I'm horrified just thinking about it.

If you do approve a drug dog, please only approve a single-use dog, not a dual purpose dog. We really do not need that kind of violence in our small town.

Sincerely yours,
Sarah Fine-Walsh

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