

# Appendix A:

## AKC MEET THE BREEDS: American Staffordshire Terrier

Courageous and strong, the American Staffordshire Terrier (Am Staff)'s athletic build and intelligence make him ideally suited to many dog sports such as obedience, agility, tracking and conformation. He is often identified by his stocky body and strong, powerful head. The breed's short coat can be any color, and either solid colored, parti-colored or patched.

### A Look Back

Until the early 19th century, the Bulldog used for bullbaiting in England was more active and longer-legged than the breed as we know it today. It is thought that the cross of this older Bulldog and a game terrier breed created the Staffordshire Terrier. Originally called the Bull-and-Terrier Dog, Half and Half or Pit Dog, it became known as the Staffordshire Bull Terrier in England. When accepted for AKC registration in 1936, the name changed to American Staffordshire Terrier to reflect the heavier American type and to distinguish them as separate breeds.

**Right Breed for You?** The Am Staff is a people-oriented dog that thrives when he is made part of the family and given a job to do. Although friendly, this breed is loyal to his family and will protect them from any threat. His short coat is low-maintenance, but regular exercise and training is necessary.

If you are considering purchasing an **American Staffordshire Terrier puppy**, [learn more here](#).

- Terrier Group; AKC recognized in 1936.
- Ranging in size from 17 to 19 inches tall at the shoulder.
- General purpose dog.

© The American Kennel Club, Inc.

## AKC Breed Standards: American Staffordshire Terrier

**General Impression** The American Staffordshire Terrier should give the impression of great strength for his size, a well put-together dog, muscular, but agile and graceful, keenly alive to his surroundings. He should be stocky, not long-legged or racy in outline. His courage is proverbial.

**Head** Medium length, deep through, broad skull, very pronounced cheek muscles, distinct stop; and ears are set high. *Ears* - Cropped or uncropped, the latter preferred. Uncropped ears should be short and held rose or half prick. Full drop to be penalized. *Eyes* - Dark and round, low down in skull and set far apart. No pink eyelids. *Muzzle* - Medium length, rounded on upper side to fall away abruptly below eyes. Jaws well defined. Underjaw to be strong and have biting power. Lips close and even, no looseness. Upper teeth to meet tightly outside lower teeth in front. Nose definitely black.

**Neck** Heavy, slightly arched, tapering from shoulders to back of skull. No looseness of skin. Medium length.

**Shoulders** Strong and muscular with blades wide and sloping.

**Back** Fairly short. Slight sloping from withers to rump with gentle short slope at rump to base of tail. Loins slightly tucked.

**Body** Well-sprung ribs, deep in rear. All ribs close together. Forelegs set rather wide apart to permit chest development. Chest deep and broad.

**Tail** Short in comparison to size, low set, tapering to a fine point; not curled or held over back. Not docked.

**Legs** The front legs should be straight, large or round bones, pastern upright. No semblance of bend in front. Hindquarters well-muscled, let down at hocks, turning neither in nor out. Feet of moderate size, well-arched and compact. Gait must be springy but without roll or pace.

**Coat** Short, close, stiff to the touch, and glossy.

**Color** Any color, solid, parti, or patched is permissible, but all white, more than 80 per cent white, black and tan, and liver not to be encouraged.

**Size** Height and weight should be in proportion. A height of about 18 to 19 inches at shoulders for the male and 17 to 18 inches for the female is to be considered preferable.

**Faults** Faults to be penalized are: Dudley nose, light or pink eyes, tail too long or badly carried, undershot or overshot mouths.

**Approved June 10, 1936**

© The American Kennel Club, Inc.

From:

*AKC Meet the Breeds: American Staffordshire Terrier*, AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB,  
[http://www.akc.org/breeds/american\\_staffordshire\\_terrier/](http://www.akc.org/breeds/american_staffordshire_terrier/) (last visited Jan. 22, 2011)

# **Appendix B**

## **UKC: American Pit Bull Terrier Standards Terrier Group**

### **HISTORY**

Sometime during the nineteenth century, dog fanciers in England, Ireland and Scotland began to experiment with crosses between Bulldogs and Terriers, looking for a dog that combined the gameness of the terrier with the strength and athleticism of the Bulldog. The result was a dog that embodied all of the virtues attributed to great warriors: strength, indomitable courage, and gentleness with loved ones. Immigrants brought these bull and terrier crosses to the United States. The American Pit Bull Terrier's many talents did not go unnoticed by farmers and ranchers who used their APBTs as catch dogs for semi-wild cattle and hogs, to hunt, to drive livestock, and as family companions. Today, the American Pit Bull Terrier continues to demonstrate its versatility, competing successfully in Obedience, Tracking, Agility and Weight Pulls, as well as Conformation.

The United Kennel Club was the first registry to recognize the American Pit Bull Terrier. UKC founder C. Z. Bennett assigned UKC registration number 1 to his own APBT, Bennett's Ring, in 1898.

### **GENERAL APPEARANCE**

The American Pit Bull Terrier is a medium-sized, solidly built, short-coated dog with smooth, well-defined musculature. This breed is both powerful and athletic. The body is just slightly longer than tall, but bitches may be somewhat longer in body than dogs. The length of the front leg (measured from point of elbow to the ground) is approximately equal to one-half of the dog's height at the withers. The head is of medium length, with a broad, flat skull, and a wide, deep muzzle. Ears are small to medium in size, high set, and may be natural or cropped. The relatively short tail is set low, thick at the base and tapers to a point. The American Pit Bull Terrier comes in all colors and color patterns except merle. This breed combines strength and athleticism with grace and agility and should never appear bulky or muscle-bound or fine-boned and rangy. Above all else, the APBT must have the functional capability to be a catch dog that can hold, wrestle (push and pull) and breathe easily while doing its job. Balance and harmony of all parts are critical components of breed type.

*Very Serious Fault:* Any disproportionate overdone characteristic (such as short legs, excessive bone or massive head or body) that would interfere with working ability.

## CHARACTERISTICS

The essential characteristics of the American Pit Bull Terrier are strength, confidence, and zest for life. This breed is eager to please and brimming over with enthusiasm. APBTs make excellent family companions and have always been noted for their love of children. Because most APBTs exhibit some level of dog aggression and because of its powerful physique, the APBT requires an owner who will carefully socialize and obedience train the dog. The breed's natural agility makes it one of the most capable canine climbers so good fencing is a must for this breed. The APBT is not the best choice for a guard dog since they are extremely friendly, even with strangers. Aggressive behavior toward humans is uncharacteristic of the breed and highly undesirable. This breed does very well in performance events because of its high level of intelligence and its willingness to work.

## HEAD

The APBT head is unique and a key element of breed type. It is large and broad, giving the impression of great power, but it is not disproportionate to the size of the body. Viewed from the front, the head is shaped like a broad, blunt wedge. When viewed from the side, the skull and muzzle are parallel to one another and joined by a well defined, moderately deep stop. Supraorbital arches over the eyes are well defined but not pronounced. The head is well chiseled, blending strength, elegance, and character.

*Very Serious Fault:* Overly large, heavy heads.

**SKULL** - The skull is large, flat or slightly rounded, deep, and broad between the ears. Viewed from the top, the skull tapers just slightly toward the stop. There is a deep median furrow that diminishes in depth from the stop to the occiput. Cheek muscles are prominent but free of wrinkles. When the dog is concentrating, wrinkles form on the forehead, which give the APBT his unique expression.

**MUZZLE** - The muzzle is broad and deep with a very slight taper from the stop to the nose, and a slight falling away under the eyes. The length of muzzle is shorter than the length of skull, with a ratio of approximately 2:3. The topline of the muzzle is straight. The lower jaw is well developed, wide and deep. Lips are clean and tight.

*Faults:* Snipey muzzle; flews; weak lower jaw.

*Very Serious Fault:* Muzzle too short, which impairs breathing capability.

**TEETH** - The American Pit Bull Terrier has a complete set of evenly spaced, white teeth

meeting in a scissors bite.

*Fault:* Level bite.

*Serious Faults:* Undershot, or overshot bite; wry mouth; missing teeth (this does not apply to teeth that have been lost or removed by a veterinarian).

**NOSE** - The nose is large with wide, open nostrils. The nose may be any color.

**EYES** - Eyes are medium size, round and set well apart and low on the skull. All colors are equally acceptable except blue, which is a serious fault. Haw should not be visible.

*Serious Faults:* Bulging eyes; both eyes not matched in color; blue eyes.

**EARS** - Ears are high set and may be natural or cropped without preference. Prick or flat, wide ears are not desired.

## **NECK**

The neck is of moderate length and muscular. There is a slight arch at the crest. The neck widens gradually from where it joins the skull to where it blends into well laid-back shoulders. The skin on the neck is tight and without dewlap.

*Faults:* Neck too thin or weak; ewe neck; dewlap.

*Very Serious Fault:* A short, thick neck that would interfere with functional ability.

## **FOREQUARTERS**

The shoulder blades are long, wide, muscular, and well laid back. The upper arm is roughly equal in length to the shoulder blade and joins it at an apparent right angle.

The forelegs are strong and muscular. The elbows are set close to the body. Viewed from the front, the forelegs are set moderately wide apart and perpendicular to the ground. The pasterns are short, powerful, straight, and flexible. When viewed in profile, the pasterns are nearly erect.

*Faults:* Upright or loaded shoulders; elbows turned outward or tied-in; down at the pasterns; front legs bowed; wrists knuckled over; toeing in or out.

*Very Serious Fault:* Legs shorter than half the total height at the withers.

## **BODY**

The chest is deep, well filled in, and moderately wide with ample room for heart and lungs, but the chest should never be wider than it is deep. The forechest does not extend much beyond the point of shoulder. The ribs extend well back and are well sprung from the spine, then flattening to form a deep body extending to the elbows. The back is strong and firm. The topline inclines very slightly downward from the withers to a broad, muscular, level back. The loin is short, muscular and slightly arched to the top of the croup, but narrower than the rib cage and with a moderate tuck-up. The croup is slightly sloping downward.

*Very Serious Fault:* Overly massive body style that impedes working ability.

## **HINDQUARTERS**

The hindquarters are strong, muscular, and moderately broad. The rump is well filled in on each side of the tail and deep from the pelvis to the crotch. The bone, angulation, and musculature of the hindquarters are in balance with the forequarters. The thighs are well developed with thick, easily discerned muscles. Viewed from the side, the hock joint is well bent and the rear pasterns are well let down and perpendicular to the ground. Viewed from the rear, the rear pasterns are straight and parallel to one another.

*Faults:* Narrow hindquarters; hindquarters shallow from pelvis to crotch; lack of muscle; straight or over angulated stifle joint; cow hocks; sickle hocks; bowed legs.

## **FEET**

The feet are round, proportionate to the size of the dog, well arched, and tight. Pads are hard, tough, and well cushioned. Dewclaws may be removed.

*Fault:* Splayed feet.

## **TAIL**

The tail is set on as a natural extension of the topline, and tapers to a point. When the dog is relaxed, the tail is carried low and extends approximately to the hock. When the dog is moving, the tail is carried level with the backline. When the dog is excited, the tail may be carried in a raised, upright position (challenge tail), but never curled over the back (gay tail).

*Fault:* Long tail (tail tip passes beyond point of hock).

*Serious faults:* Gay tail (not to be confused with challenge tail); kinked tail.

*Disqualification:* Bobbed tail.

## **COAT**

The coat is glossy and smooth, close, and moderately stiff to the touch.

*Faults:* Curly, wavy, or sparse coat.

*Disqualification:* Long coat.

## **COLOR**

Any color, color pattern, or combination of colors is acceptable, except for merle.

*Disqualification:* Merle

## **HEIGHT AND WEIGHT**

The American Pit Bull Terrier must be both powerful and agile so actual weight and height are less important than the correct proportion of weight to height. Desirable weight for a mature male in good condition is between 35 and 60 pounds. Desirable weight for a mature female in good condition is between 30 and 50 pounds. Dogs over these weights are not to be penalized unless they are disproportionately massive or rangy.

*Very Serious Fault:* Excessively large or overly massive dogs.

© United Kennel Club

From:

*American Pit Bull Terrier*, UNITED KENNEL CLUB,

<http://www.ukcdogs.com/WebSite.nsf/Breeds/AmericanPitBullTerrierRevisedNovember12008/>  
(Revised November 1, 2008)

## Appendix C

### Department of Justice

#### *Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in State and Local Government Services*

##### Contents:

Cover Page of Report

Relevant Portion of the Report





This is an unofficial version of the revised ADA regulations. The official text will be published in the Federal Register.

## **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

### **28 CFR Part 35**

#### **CRT Docket No. 105; AG Order No.**

#### **RIN 1190-AA46**

### **Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in State and Local Government Services**

#### **AGENCY:**

Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division.

#### **ACTION:**

Final rule.

#### **SUMMARY:**

The Department of Justice (Department) is issuing this final rule in order to adopt enforceable accessibility standards under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), that are "consistent with the minimum guidelines and requirements issued by the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board" (Access Board) and to update or amend certain provisions of the title II regulation so that they comport with the Department's legal and practical experiences in enforcing the ADA since 1991. The Department has conducted the periodic review that is required by the Regulatory Flexibility Act and has made a regulatory assessment of the costs and benefits of any significant regulatory action as required by the Regulatory Flexibility Act, as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996. This rule adopts ADA Chapter 1, ADA Chapter 2, and Chapters 3 through 10 of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines (2004 ADA/ABA Guidelines), which were published by the Access Board on July 23, 2004, and are codified at 36 CFR part 1191, app. B and D (2009). Because the Department is adopting ADA Chapter 1, ADA Chapter 2, and Chapters 3 through 10 of the 2004 ADA/ABA Guidelines as part the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design (2010 Standards), once the final rule is issued, these guidelines will cease to be mere guidance with respect to the Department's title II and title III regulation, and instead will have legal effect.

Concurrently with the publication of the final rule for title II, the Department is publishing a final rule amending its ADA title III regulation. The title III regulation covers public accommodations and commercial facilities, adopts ADA Chapter 1, ADA Chapter 2, and Chapters 3 through 10 of the 2004 ADA/ABA Guidelines as its standards for title III entities, makes amendments to the title III regulation for consistency with the title II regulation, and makes amendments that reflect the Department's experience of years of enforcing the ADA.

#### **EFFECTIVE DATE:**

[INSERT DATE SIX MONTHS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Janet L. Blizard, Deputy Chief, or Barbara J. Elkin, Attorney- Advisor, Disability Rights Section, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice, at (202) 307-0663 (voice or TTY). This is not a toll-free number. Information may also be obtained from the Department's toll-free ADA Information Line at (800) 514-0301 (voice) or (800) 514-0383 (TTY).

Breed limitations. A few commenters suggested that certain breeds of dogs should not be allowed to be used as service animals. Some suggested that the Department should defer to local laws restricting the breeds of dogs that individuals who reside in a community may own. Other commenters opposed breed restrictions, stating that the breed of a dog does not determine its propensity for aggression and that aggressive and non-aggressive dogs exist in all breeds.

The Department does not believe that it is either appropriate or consistent with the ADA to defer to local laws that prohibit certain breeds of dogs based on local concerns that these breeds may have a history of unprovoked aggression

or attacks. Such deference would have the effect of limiting the rights of persons with disabilities under the ADA who use certain service animals based on where they live rather than on whether the use of a particular animal poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others. Breed restrictions differ significantly from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Some jurisdictions have no breed restrictions. Others have restrictions that, while well-meaning, have the unintended effect of screening out the very breeds of dogs that have successfully served as service animals for decades without a history of the type of unprovoked aggression or attacks that would pose a direct threat, e.g., German Shepherds. Other jurisdictions prohibit animals over a certain weight, thereby restricting breeds without invoking an express breed ban. In addition, deference to breed restrictions contained in local laws would have the unacceptable consequence of restricting travel by an individual with a disability who uses a breed that is acceptable and poses no safety hazards in the individual's home jurisdiction but is nonetheless banned by other jurisdictions. State and local government entities have the ability to determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether a particular service animal can be excluded based on that particular animal's actual behavior or history--not based on fears or generalizations about how an animal or breed might behave. This ability to exclude an animal whose behavior or history evidences a direct threat is sufficient to protect health and safety.

## Appendix D

Victoria L. Voith

### *A Comparison of Visual and DNA Identification of Breeds of Dogs*

NATIONAL CANINE RESEARCH COUNCIL

Contents:  
Report

From:

<http://nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/A-comparison-of-visual-and-DNA-identifications-of-breeds.pdf>

## A COMPARISON OF VISUAL AND DNA IDENTIFICATION OF BREEDS OF DOGS

We are all aware of the newspaper articles, magazine stories, and TV segments that show pictures of dogs and then reveal DNA breed analyses of the dogs. Surprise – the DNA results are not what were expected based on the appearance of the dogs or the owners' beliefs. Those of us who walk through shelters and animal control facilities compare the posted breed descriptions of the dogs to what they look like to us – with frequent differences of opinions. Those who have worked at shelters and similar facilities are aware that as dogs move through the steps in admission or during their stay that their breed descriptions may change. It is my impression, when visiting animal control or adoption agencies, that most medium to large size dogs with straight, short/ medium length brown hair coats are cast as German shepherds or shepherd

mixes, dogs with a black spot on their tongues are designated Chow mixes, and most medium sized, stocky, broad headed, small eared dogs with a short hair coats are pitbulls or pit-bull mixes.

**“the DNA results  
are not what  
were expected  
based on the  
appearance of  
the dogs or the  
owners' beliefs.”**

It is not easy to visually identify the breeds of dogs of unknown parentage accurately. Sometimes dogs just don't look like either parent. Scott and Fuller's work on the genetics and social behavior of dogs involved studying purebred dogs, F1 crosses of purebreds, backcrosses and F2 crosses.<sup>1</sup> Photographs of some of these F1 and F2 puppies depict that they do not resemble either purebred parent, nor do the photographs of the F2 generations dogs look like their mixed breed parents. We don't know how many of the offspring did look like their purebred ancestors, but clearly not all resembled parents or grandparents.

Shelter dog breed assignments may be based on what the dogs look like to someone at the shelter or because owners relinquishing their dogs have identified the dogs as a specific breed. Newborn and young puppies may be identified as a certain breed because the mother dog resembled a purebred dog. In the latter case, the sire of the litter could have been any breed or several dogs could have fathered puppies in the same litter. When the puppies grow up they don't look anything like their mother or litter mates. These breed or mixed breed identifications may eventually find their way into data bases – be it through population data, dog bites, serious dog attacks, behavior problems, or disease statistics.

Rarely are owners permitted to simply fill out forms that ask about the breed by only stating that the dog is a mixed breed or of unknown parentage. If they do so, the follow-up question often is “What is it mostly?”, or “What is its most predominant breed?”, or “What does it look like mostly?” This information may be solicited by insurance companies, landlords, housing associations, licensing agencies, mandatory dog bite reports, veterinary

medical records, the media, and researchers trying to determine the likelihood of involvement of specific breeds in study populations. For example, in the methodology of one elegantly designed study, owners were asked “what breed they considered their dog: if more than one breed was specified, they were asked which breed they considered to be predominant.”<sup>2</sup> This article became part of the impetus for many recommendations and restrictions intended to reduce dog bites.

High profile articles in JAMA and JAVMA have reported dog bite fatalities and listed breeds involved in such attacks.<sup>3,4</sup> The data used was obtained by “combining data from the National Center for Health Statistics

and computerized searching of news stories. Karen Delise has presented compelling arguments in her recent book, *The Pit Bull Placebo*, that undermines conclusions and implications of these reports.<sup>5,6</sup>

A short report in press in the Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science indicates low agreement between the identification of breeds of dogs by adoption agencies and DNA identification.<sup>7</sup> The dogs in this study were of unknown parentage and had been acquired from adoption agencies. In only a quarter of these dogs was at least one of the breeds proposed by the adoption agencies also detected as a predominant breed by DNA analysis. (Predominant breeds were defined as those comprised of the highest percentage of a DNA breed make-up.) In 87.5% of the adopted dogs, breeds were identified by DNA analyses that were not proposed by the adoption agencies. A breed must have been detected at a minimum of 12.5% of a dog’s make-up to be reported in the DNA analysis.

Reports of DNA analyses of percentages of pure-bred dog breed ancestry, while accurate most of the time, are not infallible. The laboratories providing such analyses may have qualifiers in their reports stating that there is an 85% or 90% validity of the results and indicate which results have lower confidence levels. Different testing laboratories

may report different results depending on which dogs were used to develop their standards and how the laboratories analyze the samples.<sup>8</sup> As the tests are refined, the same laboratory may report slightly different results at different points in time.

The discrepancy between breed identifications based on opinion and DNA

**“The discrepancy between breed identifications based on opinion and DNA analysis, as well as concerns about reliability of data collected based on media reports, draws into question the validity and enforcement of public and private policies pertaining to dog breeds.”**

analysis, as well as concerns about reliability of data collected based on media reports, draws into question the validity and enforcement of public and private policies pertaining to dog breeds.

Dr. Amy Marder, Animal Rescue League of Boston and Director for the Center for Shelter Dogs, has proposed that dogs adopted from shelters in the U.S. simply be identified as “American Shelter Dogs”. This might solve a lot of problems, as well as promote pride and ownership of an “American Shelter Dog.”

Victoria Lea Voith  
PhD, DVM, DACVB  
Professor, Animal Behavior,  
Western University





## REFERENCES

1. J P Scott, J L Fuller, (1965). *Genetics and the Social Behavior of the Dog*. The University of Chicago Press.
2. K A Gershman , J J Sacks, J C Wright J.C.( 1994). Which Dogs Bite? A Case-Control Study of Risk Factors. *Pediatrics*, 93, 913-916
3. J J Sacks, R W Sattin,, S E , Bonzo, 1989). Dog-Bite related Fatalities from 1979 through 1988. *JAMA*. 262, 1489-1492.
4. J J Sacks, L Sinclair,, J Gilchrist, et al (2000). Breeds of dogs involved in fatal human attacks in the United States between 1979 and 1998. *JAVMA*, 217, 836-840.
5. K. Delise, *The Pit Bull Placebo: The Media, Myths, and Politics of Canine Aggression*, Anubis Publishing, Ramsey, New Jersey, 2007
6. J R Berkey, DOG BREED SPECIFIC LEGISLATION: THE COST TO PEOPLE, PETS AND VETERINARIANS, AND THE DAMAGE TO THE HUMAN ANIMAL BOND, Proceedings of Annual AVMA Meeting, July 11-13, 2009, Seattle.
7. V. Voith, E. Ingram, K Mitsouras, et al, "Comparison of Adoption Agency Identification and DNA Breed Identification of Dogs, *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science*, July 2009.
8. M Kochan,( 2008, October). Can I see some I.D.? *Dogfancy*, 38-41

## Appendix E

NATIONAL CANINE RESEARCH COUNCIL

### *Media Reporting of Canine Aggression Fact vs. Fiction*

Contents:  
Report

From:

<http://nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/media-reporting-of-canine-aggression.pdf>

## Media Reporting of Canine Aggression

### Fact vs. Fiction

**FICTION:** Some breeds of dogs are more likely to seriously injure people than other breeds of dogs.

**FACT:** The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), in an open letter, states: “. . . the data contained within this report **‘CANNOT be used to infer any breed-specific risk for dog bite fatalities** [emphasis in the original] . . .”

**FACT:** The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), on its web site, states: “It [same study mentioned above] does not identify specific breeds that are most likely to bite or kill, and thus is not appropriate for policy-making decisions related to the topic.”

---

**FICTION:** Whatever the AVMA and the CDC say, a search of newspaper archives for stories about dog attacks will produce a statistically valid sampling that can identify which breeds of dog are more likely to injure people.

**FACT:** The AVMA Task Force on Human-Canine Interaction reported: “An often-asked question is what breed or breeds of dogs are ‘most dangerous’? This inquiry can be prompted by a serious attack by a specific dog, or it may be the result of media-driven portrayals of a specific breed as ‘dangerous.’ . . . singling out 1 or 2 breeds for control . . . ignores the true scope of the problem and will not result in a responsible approach to protecting a community’s citizens.”<sup>2</sup>

**FACT:** News outlets are in the business of reporting singular events. Statistical validity is not their job. They do not select stories for publication on the basis of random sampling techniques. Editors promote stories they believe to be of interest to their audience. Most incidents involving dogs, good, bad, or indifferent, are not reported at all.

**FACT:** NCRC research has shown that media accounts over-represent incidents involving dogs presumed to be of breeds already trapped in the media headlights, and under-represent (or ignore) incidents involving dogs presumed to be of other breeds or types. (See attachment.)



FICTION: A newspaper archive would be valid insofar as it includes all serious incidents involving dogs and humans.

FACT: No newspaper log or archive includes all serious incidents. For the 25-year period 1982 – 2006, a media log recorded 246 dog bite related fatalities in the U.S. and Canada. The CDC single cause mortality tape system recorded 477 for the same period, in the U.S. alone. The NCRC does not consider any single source comprehensively reliable. The NCRC may initiate an investigation based upon news accounts, because of a finding in the CDC's mortality tapes, or because of personal information reported to the Director of Research.

---

FICTION: News stories invariably include accurate breed attributions of the dog or dogs involved.

FACT: News accounts regularly disagree about breed identifications. The breed attribution one associates with a particular incident may very well depend upon which news outlet one consults. The NCRC compares reports from as many media sources as it can locate, with all available official reports concerning an incident, in order to obtain the most accurate and complete information regarding all aspects of an incident.

FACT: Visual breed identification of a mixed breed dog is likely to be contradicted by a DNA test. A study to be published in the Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science points to a substantial discrepancy between visual identifications of dogs by adoption agency personnel and the breeds identified in the same dogs through DNA analysis.

---

FICTION: Tabulating serious incidents by breed represents the most forward-thinking approach, and holds the most promise for reducing serious incidents.

FACT: CDC researchers have not attempted to correlate dog bite related fatalities with breed attributions since 1998. "Many practical alternatives to breed-specific policies exist and hold promise for preventing dog bites." [from CDC website]

FACT: The NCRC's investigation into 40+ years of fatal dog attacks has identified poor ownership/management practices involved in the overwhelming majority of these incidents, over 90%. Humane care, custody and control of all dogs represents the most forward-thinking approach and holds the most promise for safer, more humane communities.

---

FICTION: We should be concerned that dog bites are a growing problem in the United States.

FACT: Health departments in major cities across the country report dramatically FEWER dog bite incidents than they did thirty years ago.

FACT: The Center for Disease Control's database shows that, between the 1990s and the 21st century, the rate of serious injuries by dogs has FALLEN. In 1994, 5991 Americans were hospitalized for dog bite injuries. In 1994 the U.S. human population was 265 million and the canine population was 52 million. In 2007 that number of Americans decreased slightly, to 5771. But the human population had grown 13.5% to 301 million and the canine population had increased by 38%, to 72 million.

FICTION: Americans are in immediate danger of being killed by dogs.

FACT: Severe attacks by dogs are, happily, exceedingly rare. Each year, our nation records one dog bite fatality for every 10-12 million of us. That works out to 25-30 fatalities, out a total of 2.5 million deaths. More Americans die in their swimming pools than are killed by dogs.

*The mission of The National Canine Research Council is to publish accurate, documented, reliable research to promote a better understanding of the human-canine bond. Please visit our website:*

[www.nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com](http://www.nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com)

**(Endnotes)**

<sup>1</sup> . Sacks, L. Sinclair, G. Golab, et al, "Breeds of dogs involved in fatal human attacks in the United States between 1979 and 1998," JAVMA, Vol 217, No. 6, Sept 15, 2000.

<sup>2</sup> B. Beaver, et al, "A community approach to dog bite prevention: American Veterinary Medical Association Task Force on Canine Aggression and Human-Canine Interactions," JAVMA, Vol 218, No. 11, June 11, 2001

## Appendix F

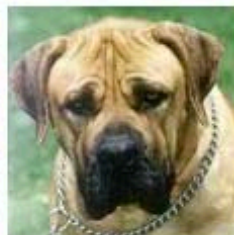
Can you find the American Pit Bull Terrier out of 24 of the breeds commonly mistaken to be one?



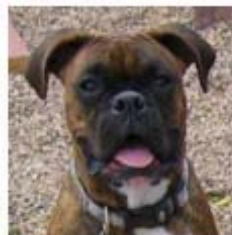
1



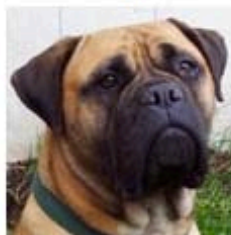
2



3



4



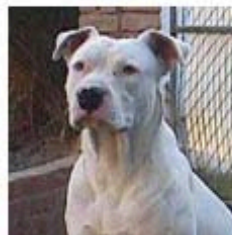
5



6



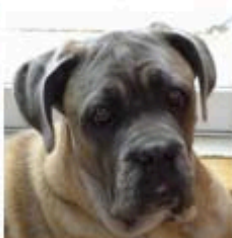
7



8



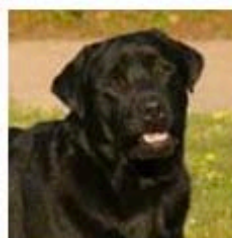
9



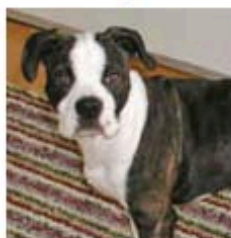
10



11



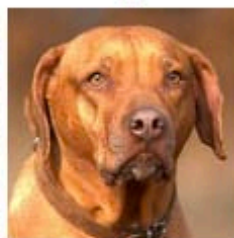
12



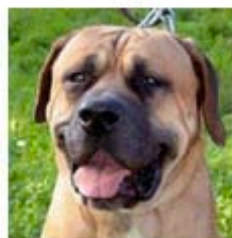
13



14



15



16



17



18



19



20



21



22



23



24

## Appendix F



Did you decide that the American Pit Bull Terrier is not pictured? If so, you are correct.  
The number for each dog correlates to the breed list below:

- (1) American Bulldog
- (2) Alapaha Blue Blood Bulldog
- (3) Boerboel
- (4) Boxer
- (5) Bullmastiff
- (6) Ca de Bou
- (7) Cane Corso
- (8) Dogo
- (9) Catahoula Bulldog
- (10) Cane Corso
- (11) English Bulldog
- (12) Labrador Retriever
- (13) Olde Boston Bulldog
- (14) Presa Canario
- (15) Rhodesian Ridgeback
- (16) Tosa Inu
- (17) American Allant
- (18) American Bandogge
- (19) Bandog
- (20) American Mastiff
- (21) Fila Brasileiro
- (22) Alano Espanol
- (23) Saint Bernard
- (24) Rottweiler

Adapted From: *Which One is the American Pit Bull Terrier?*, MID-AMERICA BULLY BREED RESCUE,  
<http://mabbr.org/legislation4.html/> (last visited Jan. 22, 2011).

These are real American Pit Bull Terriers:



Images above adapted from: <http://www.dogs-central.com/dog-breeds/american-pit-bull-terrier/>