

Carapico said she has appealed the decision. She said she has taken the dog to the city pound, where she will remain for the time being.

"I just think we're getting into an environment where nobody is going to adopt a rescue dog because they'll lose their homeowner's insurance," she said.

If Godiva ultimately winds up on the registry, the dog's photo will be placed on the canine equivalent of the state's Sex Offender Registry, along with her owner's name and address, all posted on the Internet.

The registry is searchable by locality or zip code. It lists a dozen dogs in Chesterfield County but none yet from Richmond or Henrico County. The dogs' photos are posted along with the owners' names and addresses.

Elaine Lidholm, spokeswoman for the Virginia Department of Agriculture and

### Dog laws, registry

Virginia dog laws and regulations and the Dangerous Dog Registry can be found at: [www.vdacs.virginia.gov](http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov)

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Consumer Services, said the registry went online July 1 this year, but the law took effect July 1, 2006, and 48 dogs are now on it.

An estimated 75 to 100 dogs that were declared dangerous before July 1, 2006, and are still alive should be posted on the site by Oct. 1, Lidholm said.

Jody Jones, program manager for Richmond Animal Care and Control, said her office is helping two other dog owners comply with the new state registry requirements by the Oct. 1 deadline. She declined to comment on the number of animals involved.

A dog declared dangerous is not the same as one that has killed or seriously injured a human or another pet and has been declared "vicious." Dogs declared vicious are put down. Dogs deemed dangerous typically have attacked and injured a person or another pet.

Laura Kicken testified yesterday that on the evening of July 5, she jogged by Carapico's house near Byrd Park and spotted a barking Godiva running down the front steps toward her. Kicken said she tried to run away, but the dog was too fast.

Godiva bit her on the back of the calf and continued nipping at her and scratching her as she attempted to escape. The brown and white, 40-pound dog stopped the attack when Kicken ran behind a car in the street.

Richmond Animal Control officer Keegan Merrick testified that it was the second time Godiva had bitten someone. The first time was in July 2006, and

the victim was a guest of Carapico. Carapico testified yesterday that she has had Godiva in training since July 2006. She said Godiva had always stayed in her fenced yard but was able to slip out underneath the fence as a thunderstorm approached July 5.

Jemi Hodge, of K-9 Consultants Inc., has been working with Godiva and said that "she's just much more under control." She said Godiva is a herding dog, and such dogs tend to chase animals or people that run from them.

Hodge said that 85 percent of the dogs she works with never bite again. "I think she can be saved," she said of Godiva.

Under questioning from Cheek and Alexander L. Taylor, senior assistant commonwealth's attorney, Hodge said she could not guarantee that Godiva would never chase or bite someone else again.

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