

Settlement reached in pit bull rampage

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An out-of-court settlement has been reached between the owners of three pit bulls and five people the dogs attacked near Cary more than a year ago, attorneys said Wednesday.

Nick Foley, 11, sustained the most severe injuries when the pit bulls went on a rampage on Nov. 5, 2005. His friend, Jourdan Lamarre, 11, also was injured in the mauling.

So were the dogs' owner Scott Sword; Nick's father, Brooks Foley; and neighbors Jim Dunne and Gerd Gerdes. All four tried to fend off the dogs, which eventually were shot.

Details of the settlement were not released.

"Nobody walked away happy, I can tell you that," said Al Stavros, Sword's attorney. "There wasn't enough insurance coverage in the homeowner's policy that was available. The injuries are catastrophic to some of the complainants, especially the young boy."

Martin Dolan, the attorney for Jourdan Lamarre, said the victims recently met with an insurance company representative to reach a resolution.

Sword was fined \$50 per dog, the maximum allowed by law, for allowing the animals to run loose.

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