



MOHAWK HUDSON
**HUMANE
SOCIETY**

3 Oakland Avenue, Menands NY 12204 TEL (518) 434-8128 FAX (518) 434-0217 WEB mohawkhumane.org

Senator James Tedisco
Legislative Office Building
Room 803
Albany, NY 12247

December 12, 2018

Dear Senator Tedisco,

As you know, the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society has been working to prevent the euthanasia of Luna, a 6-year-old mix breed dog who was deemed dangerous without a hearing and without the owner having the benefit of an attorney under Troy's existing dangerous dog law. Luna was ordered to be euthanized after allegedly biting another dog on October 25, 2018. Luna has been with the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society since that time due to a stay of euthanasia granted by Rensselaer County Court Judge Jennifer Sober. Luna is still being housed at the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society and will remain there for an indefinite amount of time as this case makes its way through the Court system. Although our animal care center provides excellent care, I think we all know that this cannot be a substitute for a loving home with this dog's family.

During her stay at the Humane Society, we have seen no evidence of aggression to animals or people. Luna has been extremely well-behaved and affectionate while in our care.

The law in Troy was one that mandated euthanasia after one "bite." The problem with this is that New York State law is different and in our lawyer's opinion may be pre-emptive, meaning that the Troy law may well exceed the permissible standards for the penalty of euthanasia. The City of Troy also felt that there were problems with this law and since the adjudication of Luna's case they have rescinded the law and modified it to state that euthanasia is no longer mandated. However, the new law does not provide relief for Luna or her owner since it is not retroactive.

As a result we have a dog in the care of Mohawk Hudson Humane Society that we strongly feel does not fit the criteria under the new law for euthanasia and we believe should be returned to her family. To euthanize Luna would be contrary to our non-profit mission of enriching the lives of animals and the people who love them.

In the course of fulfilling our mission each day, the Humane Society follows two core philosophies: go the extra step and do the right thing. As a long-time animal advocate we know you believe in doing the same for animals. Therefore, on behalf of Luna, the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society respectfully requests that you join us in our efforts to save Luna by formally asking Governor Andrew Cuomo to pardon the dog's owner, Cade Saba, and therefore in effect pardon Luna, so Luna's life may be spared and she can return to her family where she belongs, in time for the New Year.

Respectfully yours,

Todd A. Cramer, CAWA
President & Chief Executive Officer
Mohawk Hudson Humane Society
3 Oakland Avenue
Menands, New York 12204

Cynthia LaFave, Esq
Chair, Board of Directors
Mohawk Hudson Humane Society
3 Oakland Avenue
Menands, NY 12204

Animals. Advocacy. Adoption.