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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.
WSJ.com

OCTOBER 6, 2011, 8:11 A.M. ET

They Love Lucy! NY custody battle over dog

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A goldendoodle named Lucy is in the middle of a big dogfight.

Three women are engaged in a canine custody battle that stems from a divorce dispute.

Margaret Healy of Brooklyn says she has cared for Lucy for two years.

She says her brother, James, gave her Lucy when his estranged wife and their daughter moved out.

Healy's former sister-in-law, Susan McCarthy, wants Lucy back.

McCarthy says a microchip implanted in Lucy proves that her 18-year-old daughter, Slaney, is the owner.

A Brooklyn judge says Lucy will stay with Healy until the case is decided in court.

A goldendoodle is a cross between a golden retriever and a poodle.

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The Brooklyn Ink



Goldendoodle Custody Dispute is Real Dog Fight

Thu, Oct 6, 2011

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By [Brooklyn Ink Staff](#)

A Brooklyn woman will be going to court to defend her ownership of the dog her brother gave her in the wake of his bitter divorce.

The *New York Post* reports that Margaret Healy was given custody of Lucy, a goldendoodle — a cross between a golden retriever and a poodle — two years ago by her brother, James O’Hanlon. Since that time, says O’Hanlon, “the dogs have had a wonderful life.” But now his ex-wife and 18-year-old daughter are demanding custody of the former family pet.

Although Healy holds the license to Lucy, O’Hanlon’s ex-wife, Susan McCarthy, says Lucy was implanted with a microchip three years ago that lists her daughter, Slaney, as the true owner. Slaney claims that Healy was supposed to look after the dog only until Slaney came of age.

Healy has complained of intimidation and threats by McCarthy, and Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Sylvia Ash has ordered McCarthy and her daughter to cease all contact with Healy until the case is heard in court.

Read on to see just how tangled this case of “she said, she said” is.



Tags: [custody battle](#), [divorce](#), [dog](#), [goldendoodle](#), [Lucy](#), [pet ownership](#)

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