

## New Orleans UPS driver shares photos of the pups on his route

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By Laura Testino, NOLA.com | The Times-Picayune | Posted March 27, 2019 at 06:25 PM | Updated March 27, 2019 at 06:47 PM



A UPS employee of 9 years and driver for 7, Jason "Jay" Hardesty takes photos with dogs on his route about once a week. Photo courtesy Jason "Jay" Hardesty

**Do you know how important dogs are** to a healthy and wholesome social media diet? Allow United Parcel Service driver Jason "Jay" Hardesty to remind you.

In addition to delivering packages, Hardesty, 30, has another mission, and that is to say hi to and befriend your dog. About once a week, he said, he'll grab a photo and post to his Instagram account with the tag [#pupsofjay](#).

"I try to discipline myself to do it on Fridays," he said by phone Wednesday (March 27).

Which is pretty good as far as self-discipline goes, considering he sees around 50 dogs each day on his route through the Marigny and Bywater.

Hardesty's account received more attention than usual when writer Jami Attenberg shared the good news to her twitter account.

I have extremely important news and it is this: my sweet UPS guy has a hashtag of all the dogs in the neighborhood. <https://t.co/AVk5abA67G> ...

— jami attenberg (@jamiattenberg) [March 27, 2019](#)



Attenberg's dog Sid is half pug and half beagle. They are photographed here in her home in 2018. Photo by Chris Granger, NOLA.com | The Times-Picayune

Usually, she said, her dog Sid is barking on the opposite side of the door during UPS deliveries. Today, though, they were out for a walk and ran into Hardesty, who told Attenberg about his [Instagram account](#). Finally, Sid could meet Hardesty, who is gregarious and sweet while delivering packages, Attenberg said.

### **A novelist's New Orleans: Jami Attenberg brings her sharp wit to the Crescent City**

The #pupsofjay collection is Attenberg's "sweet spot, too," she said by phone Wednesday (March 27). She loves dogs and thinks that social media is a fun place to talk about them. Although Sid doesn't have his own social media account, she likes to think he is a popular on the internet, she said.

Unfortunately for Sid, he will have to join Hardesty's waitlist for a photo, which is currently 7 dogs long.

Hardesty, who is from New Orleans, doesn't have any aspirations to become a photographer, but considers his iPhone photos more of a hobby. He began #pupsofjay about two years ago, at the same time his route was switched over to the Marigny and Bywater, and he realized the dogs in the neighborhood were particularly friendly.

So far, Liath has been one of the most impressionable pups, he said. [That photo](#), and a few of his others, have been reshared to [@pupsofups](#), an account dedicated to photos of dogs on delivery routes.

But Hardesty has also had his own run-in with royalty, and snapped a photo with a very dapperly dressed [Stanley James Louis Preston Foxworth](#) aka Krewe of Barkus King XXVII before his reign was announced.

I actually feel giddy that people are so happy right now. Glad this made your day a little bit better.

— jami attenberg (@jamiattenberg) [March 27, 2019](#)

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