



Swartland and West Coast

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Attention: Public Prosecutor

The Swartland and West Coast SPCA request that the accused be charged for animal cruelty under the following sections of the Animals Protection Act no 71 of 1962:

2(1)(a) – overloads, overdrives, overrides, ill-treats, neglects, infuriates, **tortures** or maims or **cruelly beats**, kicks, goads or **terrifies** any animal.

- **Mrs Hester Rubenheimer brutally beat four puppies with a shovel, causing severe injuries, pain, and suffering. The veterinary report confirms that not all the injuries were immediately fatal, meaning the puppies endured prolonged agony before dying. During this time, the surviving puppies would have been terrified as they heard and witnessed the cries of the others being beaten, which clearly amounts to torture, terror, and cruel treatment as prohibited under the Animals Protection Act.**

2(1)(f) - **uses on** or attaches to **any animal any equipment**, appliance or vehicle **which causes or will cause injury to such animal or which is** loaded, **used** or attached **in such a manner as will cause such animal to be injured or to become diseased or to suffer unnecessarily;** or

- **Mrs Hester Rubenheimer, by striking four puppies to death with a shovel, used equipment in a manner that caused severe physical injury, unnecessary suffering, and pain. The shovel was used as an instrument of violence, inflicting multiple traumatic wounds consistent with prolonged distress prior to death, and was used in such a manner as to cause the animals to be injured and to become diseased, in direct contravention of this Section.**

Please do not hesitate to contact us for any further information or clarification.

Kind regards,

Jameson October

Inspector - Swartland and West Coast SPCA