

AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned,

VICTORIA THOMPSON
(ID: 9104050539080)

do hereby make oath and state that:

1. I am an adult, female, legal practitioner residing in Valmary Park, Durbanville.
2. The facts and allegations contained herein are, save where the context clearly indicates to the contrary, within my own personal knowledge and are to the best of my belief both true and correct.
3. On the 16th April 2023 at approximately 18:15 my friend, Robyn Gouvea and I were walking my dog around the neighbourhood. We walked down Lindenberg Road and into De Villiers Road. As we approached the driveway of 87 De Villiers Road (In Durbanville), at approximately 18:20 their motor gate opened and a minor child walked out of their property carrying a squirrel by its tail. He threw the squirrel onto the greenbelt opposite their property and ran back into their yard. We could hear the distinct sound of an air-gun being discharged coming from their yard.
4. We went to investigate the body of the squirrel and found what appeared to be a bullet hole in its chest. It also had blood coming out of its mouth.
5. I then contacted the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals on their emergency line and reported it. I was advised to place the squirrel into a packet and that their inspector would collect the body from me; which I duly did. Later that evening their inspector collected the body from me.
6. I also contacted the local Neighbourhood watch who obtained camera footage of the minor child throwing the squirrel onto the greenbelt and running back into their yard.
7. There were several male adults present in that yard of 87 De Villiers during this time as you could see them from the road.

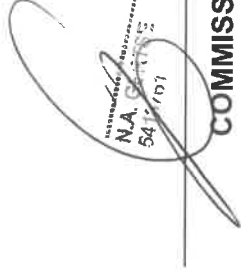


8. Not only is this blatant cruelty to animals, but what would have been the outcome if one of the stray bullets had injured myself, my friend or my dog while walking past their property.
9. This property also has owls residing in the trees in/around their yard, which to the best of my knowledge, are a vulnerable species; if they shoot at and maim squirrels what is to prevent them from killing other species.
10. We reside in a low density neighbourhood and our community is one who loves animals and loves the presence of squirrels in the area. These squirrels do not make a nuisance of themselves, nor is the area overpopulated with them. This was a blatant act of cruelty for entertainment.
11. The adults present have risked the safety of those living in and around their property by failing to observe basic safety practices by shooting an air gun in a residential area; they are also teaching their children that no respect is needed for animals, who are sentient beings and that no respect for the law is required.
12. It is my hope that the Honourable Court ensures they face the full might of the law in this case.



VICTORIA THOMPSON

I hereby certify that the deponent knows and understands the contents of this affidavit and that it is to the best of her knowledge both true and correct. This affidavit was signed and sworn to before me at Durbanville on this the 18 day of April 2023, and that the Regulations contained in Government Notice R.1258 of 21 July 1972, as amended, have been complied with.


N.A. 541/101

COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

Full names: Nolwazi Gqoke
Address: 2 Gulethi
Capacity: WFO

18 APR 2023

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