

**APPLICATION FOR THE ISSUE OF AN ORDER IN TERMS OF
SECTION 8(1) OF THE ANIMALS PROTECTION ACT 71 OF 1962**

FOUNDING AFFIDAVIT

I, **Ayanda Ngcofe**, hereby make oath and declare in English as follows:-

1.

I am an adult female employed as an Inspector by the Cape of Good Hope Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals ("SPCA") at c/o First Road and 1st Avenue, Grassy Park, Cape Town with contact telephone number/s 021 700 4158/9. My certificate of magisterial authority for this district is attached marked "A".

2.

The facts contained in this affidavit fall within my personal knowledge unless indicated otherwise or unless it appears so from the context. The facts are also, to the best of my knowledge and belief, both true and correct.

3.

In terms of my duties as an officer of the SPCA and our objects, especially to prevent the ill-treatment of animals, I may, where necessary, exercise the powers in terms of Section 8 read with section 5(1) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 pertaining to the search, seizure and destruction, where necessary of animals. I verily believe that it is necessary for me to make use of the powers provided for by the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 by virtue of the following circumstances.

4.

On 18 August 2024, I visited **HAWK - Riverlands**, located in **Chatsworth, Riverland with GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E**. Unfortunately there is no physical address because it is small holdings. I was accompanied by Inspector Julian Van Der Zandt of the SPCA. Present during the inspection were board members and staff of HAWKS - Riverlands: Andre Verbiest, Vanessa Van Rooyen Hurt, Ronne Forsythe, Trevor De Bruin, and Sharon Claassen. The inspection was initially prompted

by recent floods and a fire at HAWK - Riverland, raising concerns about the well-being of the animals housed there. I also attempted to gain access to the property the evening before but was denied access.

5.

Observations during the inspection of 18 August 2024:

5.1. Environmental Conditions

- The premise comprises approximately 20 large camps along the outer circumference, with both back and front entrances.
- The camps were covered in sludge and mud, with a putrid smell of faeces and urine pervasive in the inner camp areas.
- Water saturation on walkways was observed at ankle-high levels, with no biosecurity measures in place, posing significant risks of zoonosis and communicable diseases.
- Dogs were seen consuming large rotten meaty bones from the dirty and parasitic ground.

5.2. Overcrowding and Space Issues

- There was severe overcrowding; over 260 dogs were forced into limited space, resulting in them sleeping on top of kennels and roofs.
- Movement was restricted, with dogs forming packs that hindered free movement and interaction, exacerbating behavioural issues and physical health concerns.

5.3. Health Issues

- A large number of dogs with various untreated health issues, including infections and physical ailments were seen on the property.
- The premise exhibited an ineffective quarantine area that lacked proper ventilation and sanitation, housing FIV-positive cats, and injured and sick dogs.
- A strong ammonia odour was noticeable, and bloody faeces indicated severe health issues or unsanitary conditions.

5.4. Attempts to Alleviate Suffering

- The SPCA attempted to convince the Board members and staff of HAWK - Riverlands to surrender some of the animals, so they could be placed with other organizations for rehoming and necessary veterinary examination. Initially, some board members were amenable to this suggestion, resulting in the surrender of 3 dogs to the SPCA. However, they subsequently changed their mind and refused to surrender any further animals.

5.5. Additional Concerns

- It is estimated that there are over 260 dogs on the property. HAWK - Riverlands staff could not provide an exact count, indicating a lack of proper records.
- There are no records to verify any medical treatment or veterinary care provided to the animals.

5.6. Grounds for Application

- The aforementioned issues are chronic and preexisting, and not a result of the recent floods and fire at HAWK – Riverlands. Photos evidencing these concerns are attached herein and marked "B".
- It is evident that contraventions of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 were present before our intervention and now that we have become aware of same, we are obligated to remedy them. Leaving the animals in the care of HAWK – Riverlands is not an option for the sake of the welfare and well-being of the animals.
- The persons in charge of the premises have given a clear indication that they will no longer cooperate with the efforts of the SPCA, and given the fact that there are *bona fide* welfare concerns with the animals and the conditions under which they are kept, the SPCA has no alternative but to approach the Court for an order authorising entry to and removal of animals from the premises.
- It is in the interests of justice and the animals kept at HAWK that they receive appropriate inspections to determine the severity of the issue pertaining to the inability of HAWK to adequately care for their animals.

5.7. Supplementary Evidence

- Additional affidavits from other eyewitnesses who are not part of the SPCA are attached to this application. These affidavits corroborate the observations and concerns raised herein are marked "C", "D" and "E".

6.

Based on our observations and the corroborating affidavits of other eyewitnesses, it is evident that the conditions at HAWK - Riverlands do not meet the required standards set by the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962. The health, safety, and well-being of the animals are severely compromised.

7.

It is evident that the Board and staff of HAWK – Riverlands is not going to hand over animals to the SPCA that are suffering and in desperate need of veterinary care. The overall living conditions of the animals are extremely poor and in contravention of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962, and their well-being and welfare is/are being compromised. We are also of the opinion that HAWK – Riverland is not in a position to care adequately for the large number of animals in their care. This leaves me with no other option but to approach this honourable court for an order in terms of Section 8(1)(a) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962, read together with Regulation 468, to enter the property and to seize the animals as it is reasonably necessary to prevent cruelty or suffering of such animals. It is important to note that SPCA Inspectors may not seize any animal unless in possession of an order in terms of Section 8(1)(a) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962, read together with Regulation 468.

8.

I have reason to believe that one or more offences listed in Section 2 of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 have been or are being committed, in particularly Section 2(1)(a), 2(1)(b), 2(1)(c), 2(1)(e), 2(1)(q) and 2(1)(r) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962, and that the animals are suffering unnecessarily.

9.

I therefore request an order in terms of section 8(1) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 and Regulation 468 (where appropriate) to examine the conditions in which

the aforesaid animal is kept and if necessary remove the aforesaid animal to prevent further suffering.

10.

In addition, the SPCA requires to take photographic and / or video footage, and take into custody all / any evidence and / or equipment as may be reasonably necessary for the purpose of prosecution and, if necessary, may exercise its powers in terms of section 5(1) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962.

11.

I request that such order authorise duly authorised representative of the **Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA)**, **veterinarian/s** as well as members of the **South African Police Service (SAPS)** and/or **Law Enforcement** to accompany me upon such examination, if their assistance is required.

12.

The SPCA is governed by an Act of parliament, namely the Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 169 of 1993. The SPCA's objectives in terms of this Act is to prevent the ill-treatment of animals by promoting their good treatment by man, to promote the interests of Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and to make cognisance of the application of laws affecting animals and Societies and to make representations in connection therewith to the appropriate authority.

13.

I know and understand the content of this declaration.

I have no objection to taking the prescribed oath.

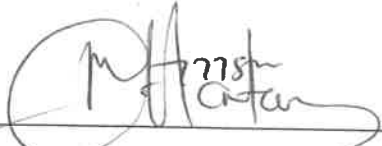
I consider the prescribed oath to be binding on my conscience.



DEPONENT

The deponent has acknowledged that she knows and understands the contents of this affidavit/declaration, which was signed and sworn to before me at Grassy Park on this the 19th day of August 20 24, the

regulations contained in Government Notice No R1258 of 21 July 1972, as amended, and Government Notice No R1648 of 19 August 1977, as amended, having been complied with.


COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

Full names: M. Hanteborg
Designation: Reed, Aene (constable)
Business address: Grassy Park





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 1:

Dog with an open wound on the abdominal area that appears to have been stitched closed – badly infected. The dog was humanely euthanized by the SPCA due to the severity.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 2:

Dog with an open wound on the abdominal area that appears to have been stitched closed – badly infected. The dog was humanely euthanized by the SPCA due to the severity.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 3:

Dog with severe skin condition





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 4:

A large number of dogs in a single area with several welfare concerns.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 5:

Very sick dog that was surrendered to SPCA – the dog was humanely euthanized due to welfare concerns.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 6:

A large number of dogs in a single area with several welfare concerns.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 7:

A large number of dogs in a single area with several welfare concerns.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 8:

Dog with bit marks – dogs fighting amongst each other.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 9:

Dog with a gash on rump.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 10:

A large number of dogs in a single area with several welfare concerns.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 11:

A large number of dogs in a single area with several welfare concerns.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 12:

A large number of dogs in a single area with several welfare concerns.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 13:

Dog with ear infection.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 14:

Dog with ear infection.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 15:

Dog with ear infection.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 16:

Dog with skin condition.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 17:

Dog with skin condition.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 18:

Dog with skin condition.





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

HAWK – Riverlands (GPS co-ordinates: 33°31'29.9"S 18°35'02.1"E)
Date taken: 18 August 2024

Picture 19:

Dog with severe ear infection.



19 August 2024

I, Elana Rolfe, UK passport number: 543483675, of 11 Avanti Road, Klein Dassenberg, have been volunteering in Animal Rescue in Cape Town for almost 10 years and am a member of the Cape Animal Welfare Forum (CAWF).

I have been visiting HAWK animal shelter since before Covid. I know Andre Verbiest does not believe in euthanasia and often, against veterinary advice, continues to treat severe medical cases with natural/ homemade remedies. Some dogs have recovered, most have not and have needed professional treatment or needed to be removed and euthanized.

On one occasion, in January 2023, when visiting the shelter I have seen a dead puppy in an enclosure with other puppies. I brought it to the attention of the volunteers and staff and they said they had been treating the puppy for parvovirus. This was hugely worrying as parvovirus is very contagious and the other puppies were also placed at risk.

One the same day, I saw a dead adult dog in one of the other enclosures. Again, upon bringing it to the attention of staff, I was told they were aware, and were waiting to bury the dog. This happened on a day when I took prospective adopters to the shelter. They were so horrified that they left traumatised. I do not know the cause of death of this dog.

On the same day, a friend with me was allowed to take a young dog home with her. At the time, we were not aware but this dog also had to be euthanised a week later due to distemper.

I reported the situation to the SPCA, and apparently they had gone in and removed a lot of dogs who had distemper.

Last week, I was made aware of the flooding in Riverlands and at the shelter. I paid for and arranged for 100 straw bales to be delivered. On Wednesday, 14 August, I was alerted to a fire at the shelter.

Upon arriving I saw 4 dogs who had perished in the fire. I found another 2 dogs who required urgent medical attention. Ronné Forsythe, one of the directors of HAWK took one home, I took the other.

ER

AHS

Both went to Malmesbury Dierehospitaal on Thursday 15 August. The first dog had a severe mouth and eye injury (Trixie). On site, I asked André if he had been treating the dog for the gaping mouth wound and he said, no, it must have happened during the fire. The vet however claims it is an old injury. The mouth has been treated and stitched, and has lost her eye. She was discharged. The second dog (Fire aka Rayne), is still at the vet, 5 days later for a severe ear and skin infection. Apparently this dog has been at the shelter for almost 7 years and did not have these medical conditions upon arrival. She had mild lung damage due to the fire but her stay at the hospital is because of conditions that André claims he was treating.

Today, 19 August, I visited the shelter with a team of volunteers to try and document the 260+ dogs. I removed 2 who had badly infected wounds, with maggots. They are currently at Malmesbury Dierehospitaal and known as #25 and #91. One more female (#51) had a gaping rotting abdominal wound which I handed to inspector Ayanda from GOGH SPCA.

There are four more dogs with cysts, open wounds, tumours who need urgent medical treatment. HAWK have refused to let us remove anymore dogs from the property. (#63 testicular cyst, undocumented dog with ear tumour -Andre told me the dogs has seen 3 separate vets who all recommended euthanasie-, 2 dogs in the clinic- one with severe bite wounds seemingly in extreme pain (member of the Riverlands community's dog at the shelter for medical treatment) and another with an unknown diagnosis.

There are an unknown number of cats in a separate room that Andre Verbiest told me are living with leukemia.

Of the 100 dogs we documented today, almost 80 require veterinary treatment for ear infections.

ER

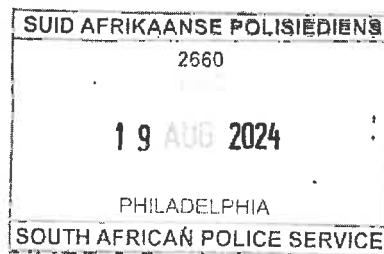
Ans

We spent 3 hours documenting, under much duress from staff and volunteers and the directors, and only managed to get through 100 dogs in one camp. There are at least 3 more camps.

In my opinion, the staff are not qualified to provide necessary basic or medical care. Some dogs are living in extremely cramped cages, most in a dirty and unhygienic environment. In the large camps with up to 100 dogs roaming free, some dogs live on top of Wendy house roofs or on top of wooden kennels out of fear of the 60-80 dogs who claim the "ground" level in a camp.

The dogs are fed a diet of raw carcass meat, which is often left to rot as the dogs take the carcass pieces into their kennels. Sometimes they are fed pellets and tinned food. The bones are burned and used as "sawdust" in the enclosures where unsocialized dogs are housed individually. When you approach the shelter, the stench of rotting meat, burnt bones, dog faeces, infection and unwashed dirty dogs is overpowering.

There is no record keeping. They do not know how many dogs they have on the property and most dogs do not have name/IDs so they are unable to record vaccinations or medical treatment/medication.



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14 Avanti Road
Cape Farms
7304

Statement regarding HAWK Koinonia

To whom it may concern,

I, Ms. Jolene Wood, (ID# 781121 0083 088) hereby confirm my experience at HAWK Koinonia on Saturday, 20 January 2023, and 18 August 2024.

On 20 January, 2023, in addition to the deplorable conditions of the 'kennels', I witnessed two deceased dogs at HAWK Koinonia on the day that I visited. It was unclear for how long they had been left where they had died. It looked as though rigor mortis had already set in, which means they will have been there for some time.

The rest of my statement is regarding both days mentioned above:

Condition of 'kennels' and general facility

Though there are shelters available, the condition of these is very poor.

There are some newer, plastic kennels available, however most of the shelters consist of old crates, wooden structures and old, wooden kennels. The latter shelters are not waterproof.

There are not enough of these to house the number of dogs at the facility. Further, there are few, if any blankets at the facility, which means that the dogs will get cold at night and in colder, or wet weather.

Though the staff at the facility do clean up faeces, they do not disinfect, which means that the smell at the facility is overwhelming, and there is a risk of numerous infections as a result of the dirty facilities.

AMS



Most of the facility is set on sand, which during wet weather, will become muddy. In addition, it is not possible to keep sand clean and sanitary with the number of dogs at the facility.

Condition of the dogs in general

Though the dogs seem well fed, their overall condition otherwise, is bad. I saw a few dogs with mange, and all the dogs are dirty, with the longer haired ones with matted fur.

Several dogs also had injuries. It would appear that these may be treated, but that the dogs are not quarantined, and so proper healing is not possible.

I witnessed about 4-5 dogs housed in very small runs, without sufficient space to move. It is unclear as to whether they are given access to an area where they can exercise.

Please do reach out to me for any further information.

Yours truly,



Ms. Jolene Wood
062 242 2613
Jowood.rs@gmail.com



Handwritten signature and text:
#70058234
SAMUELS W/O

Handwritten initials: AS



19 august 2024

I, Denaë Braam (i.d. 810519 0079 086) adult female residing at 7 Avanti street, Klein Dassenberg, Atlantis in my capacity as a qualified animal behaviourist and active animal rescuer have witnessed and observed the following at the property of Hawk Hounds Riverlands

In January 2023 I was at hawk to take friends there to adopt a dog. This was a disaster, we found a deceased puppy in a puppy pen. Apparently the volunteers said the puppy died of parvo and it was just in there with the other puppies. This is a very contagious virus. We then found another large dog deceased in another encampment. We were told that it was euthanized that morning, but since André Verbiest does not believe in euthanasia, we have no idea about what happened to the large dog. This very same day I was allowed to remove a terrified dog and brought him home, by Monday morning I had to take him to the vet and had to hold him as the vet put him to sleep.

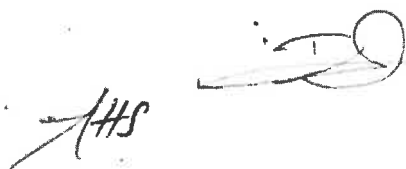
There was another medium male I was allowed to take home from Hawk in March 2023 and this dog to was terribly sick, landed up putting him to sleep on the Monday too, he tested positive for distemper and parvo.

On Saturday 17th August approximately 4pm in the afternoon I went to Hawk Hounds in Riverlands Chatsworth to help evacuate dogs

From the premises. When we arrived it was a very hostile environment, wet dogs, shivering and walking in water. We were able to convince them to let us remove 3 cats, 1 dog requiring medical treatment for mange and rickets. We also were able to remove 3 puppies that were in a 3mx1m cage.

The cats were in a room that had no ventilation and were being antagonized by the dogs barking at them continuously. The grey cat was pulling its fur out and bleeding from sites that it removed fur from due to the stress.

The dog's hind quarter was completely devoid of fur and with scabs from the itch of the mange.

 HS

On Sunday 18th August I went to Hawk Hounds again, in my capacity as an animal rescuer and animal behaviourist to help catalogue the dogs verify sex/sterilisation and if medical treatment is required. I personally examined 100 dogs and found the following wounds:

- Dog number 25 (black, female labrador mix) found to be limping. After further investigation we removed maggots from her foot and it was swollen with a large gash/cut towards the phalanges in between the foot pads. (this dog was in a camp where there was water level up to 2 inches)
- Dog number 51 (long hair female mix breed) found in a cupboard hiding, shivering, living in her own urine/waste. On inspection of determining if she is sterilised I found a large (approx 8 inches x 4 inch) wound. This wound was open, as if it burst open on her abdomen.
- Dog number 91 (female mix breed) I also found an infected site on abdomen. It had a maggot on in picture.
- After much arguing with the staff and directors on site Dogs number 25, 51 and 91 were allowed to be removed for medical treatment.
- The problem is 80% of the dogs I inspected today have some form of ear infection. These "camps/packs" are not a healthy environment for these animals as they are spreading infections and viruses, not to mention being wet.

Handwritten signature and initials, possibly 'AMS', in the bottom right corner of the page.

- Dog number 36 has one blind eye. It felt to me like this dog was very ill, there was no outward visible injuries i could find except ears and body being extremely overheated.
- Dog number 63 (female pitbull) possible skin cancer, ear infection, bite wounds on her head and 2 vaginal growths.

2 dogs in 1x2m cages

This was a extremely hostile environment to try and help with these animals today. The board members (directors), workers, staff and volunteers were not helpful and were verbally abusing us the entire time.

They lack experience in this NPO/NPC kennel or rescue center. You cannot just keep taking dogs in without getting qualified veterinary checkups.

There is no record keeping on these animals, everyone makes something up for each dog. They don't know their dogs. The dogs don't have names or numbers for that matter. They cannot tell you which dogs are friendly or not which are sick, which have been surrendered. They have no basic information on any of the dogs. They just won't release them either. They are hoarding these animals and they are failing the animals and the rescue system.

A handwritten signature, possibly 'AMP', is written in the bottom right corner of the page. Above the signature is a large, loopy scribble that appears to be a stylized 'X' or a similar mark.

The environment is too small for the number of dogs they have, they have separate "camps/pack" of dogs, the entrance dogs, then there are kennel roof dogs, these dogs do not get on the ground as they do not get along with the ground pack. They live on kennel roofs; they do their bodily functions on top of these kennel roofs too. There are dogs that live on the roofs of the buildings, they do not touch the ground either due to pack fights etc. This is just the front/entrance (first camp) to the property.

There are dogs that live in outbuildings and do not come outside, they do their business inside and do not leave the building.

There is a group of kennels behind the entrance with the aggressive dogs.

There is another back section with about 4 more packs of dogs that are also not thriving.

Dogs can get along in packs but you cannot keep 300+ dogs in an environment like this. They have a small property that should not hold more than 10 kennels with play and training areas.

The staff and members and caretakers do not have the experience or qualifications to be dealing with dogs in this capacity. They don't know how to make this decision to let animals go, they don't know how to physically check every animal to see if they are in fact in good condition. There are also not enough humans at this property for this number of animals.

Handwritten signature and initials. The signature is a large, stylized 'D' with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right. Below it are the initials 'AHS'.

This is animal cruelty, they are stressed/barking and restless all the time. Most of them are hiding.

They do not clean after the animals when they ablate which makes for a disgusting environment for the animals and humans that walk around in there.

There are at least 3 out of 10 dogs that have bite wounds somewhere on their bodies and they are not cleaned, seen too or even noticed.

As someone with expertise in animal behaviour, I have observed some practises here that raise serious concerns regarding the well-being of the dogs. It seems that the current approach may not be fully equipped to meet their needs, which could inadvertently lead to outcomes that are detrimental to their welfare. I believe it is important to consider adjustments to ensure that the care provided aligns with best practices and avoids any additional harm.



SUID AFRIKAANSE POLISIEDIENS
2560
19 AUG 2024
PHILADELPHIA
SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE

112056234
C. DANIELS W/O



VETERINARY REPORT

To whom it may concern, the animal (Mona - A35846) below was surrendered by HAWK animal welfare organisation based in Riverlands, Western Cape, to the Cape of Good Hope SPCA.

I, Dr R Ramnanan, was requested to perform a veterinary examination and report to assess the welfare of this animal.

ANIMAL DETAILS

Species: Canine
Breed: Crossbreed
Sex: Female intact
Age: Adult (advanced age)
Name: Mona **Description:**
Tan Weight: 26.6kg
Admission number: A35846

EXAMINATION FINDINGS

- Description of condition

All vital parameters were within normal limits.

Severe attrition of all teeth down to the pulp and roots.

Severe primary hair loss, itching (pruritus) and secondary lichenification (thickening of the skin) and hyperpigmentation (darkening of the skin in response to a chronic inflammatory process), localised to the tail base and dorsum.

- Duration of condition

Chronic.

A chronic condition (also known as chronic disease or chronic illness) is a health condition or disease that is persistent or otherwise long-lasting in its effects or a disease that comes with time. The term chronic is often applied when the course of the disease lasts for more than three months.

- Cause of condition

In my experience, the skin condition is caused by primary flea bite allergy dermatitis (an immune dysregulation in response to proteins in flea saliva) with a secondary pyoderma (severe yeast and/or bacterial infection due to compromise of the skin barrier).

The extremely poor condition of the teeth is also of major concern, as this animal cannot chew any food normally and any chewing of food would result in pain and discomfort.

- Prognosis:

Fair, however in this animal's case this would require lifelong chronic medication and medical management would be essential to manage the skin and teeth conditions appropriately. Further to this, a strict regular parasite (tick / flea) treatment regime and environmental disinfection would be essential.

COMMENTS

The overall temperament of the dog was stressed. The dog presented with a body condition score of 5/9 on the Nestle Purina body condition system with normal appetite, habitus and stool.

In my opinion, this animal is neglected, experiencing chronic discomfort and pain from both the neglected chronic skin condition and secondary infection, as well as the extremely poor dental condition.

All of the above also compromises the Animal Freedoms of **"Freedom from discomfort"** and **"Freedom from pain, injury or disease"**. (Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare)

Yours sincerely


Dr R Rivona Ramnanan (Aug 19, 2024 15:43 GMT+2)

Dr Rivona Ramnanan
(BVSc) Veterinarian

Date compiled: 19/08/2024



VETERINARY REPORT

To whom it may concern, the animal (Male dog - A35847) below was surrendered by HAWK animal welfare organisation based in Riverlands, Western Cape, to the Cape of Good Hope SPCA.

I, Dr R Ramnanan, was requested to perform a veterinary examination and report to assess the welfare of this animal.

ANIMAL DETAILS

Species: Canine
Breed: Crossbreed
Sex: Male intact
Age: Adult
Name: Unknown
Description: Tan
Weight: 23.55kg
Admission number: A35847

EXAMINATION FINDINGS

- Description of condition

All vital parameters were within normal limits.

Moderate attrition of all teeth down to the pulp and roots.

Severe primary hair loss, itching (pruritus) and secondary lichenification (thickening of the skin) and hyperpigmentation (darkening of the skin in response to a chronic inflammatory process), localised to the ventral abdomen, cranial neck region, periocular, dorsum of toes and ears. A foul smell is associated with skin lesions.

Severe stenosis (narrowing due to swelling), alopecia (hair loss) and scabbing of the ear pinna and ear canal.

Ear smears showed an abundance of rod-shaped and round bacteria as well as degenerate neutrophils which indicate severe bilateral bacterial otitis externa.

- Duration of condition

Chronic.

A chronic condition (also known as chronic disease or chronic illness) is a health condition or disease that is persistent or otherwise long-lasting in its effects or a disease that comes with time. The term chronic is often applied when the course of the disease lasts for more than three months.

- Cause of condition

In my experience, the severe skin and ear condition is caused by atopic dermatitis or cutaneous adverse food reaction (an immune dysregulation in response to environmental allergens or food-based allergens respectively) with a secondary pyoderma (severe yeast and/or bacterial infection due to compromise of the skin barrier).

Please note that atopic dermatitis and cutaneous adverse food reaction are indistinguishable on clinical exam and would require further diagnostic trials to differentiate.

The extremely poor condition of the teeth is also of major concern, as this animal cannot chew any food normally and any chewing of food would result in pain and discomfort.

- Prognosis

Fair, however in this animal's case this would require lifelong chronic medication and medical management would be essential to manage the skin, teeth and ears conditions appropriately. Further to this, a strict regular parasite (tick / flea) treatment regime and environmental disinfection would be essential.

COMMENTS

The overall temperament of the dog was stressed. The dog presented with a body condition score of 5/9 on the Nestle Purina body condition system with normal appetite, habitus and stool.

In my opinion, the animal is in a severe neglected state and is experiencing chronic discomfort and pain from both the chronic neglected skin condition and secondary infection, as well as the bilateral ear infections. The poor dental condition results in pain when chewing food.

All of the above also compromises the Animal Freedoms of **"Freedom from discomfort"** and **"Freedom from pain, injury or disease"**. (Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare)

Yours sincerely


Dr R Rivona Ramnanan (Aug 19, 2024 15:43 GMT+2)

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