

Affidavit – Veterinary Report

I, **Dr Anja Coulthard**, hereby make oath and declare in English as follows:

1.

I am an adult female veterinarian registered with the South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) under registration number CS25/18419. I hold a Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree. I am currently employed by the Department of Agriculture. I am competent to provide veterinary services and experienced in identifying clinical signs of neglect and cruelty in animals.

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.

On 16 August 2025, a male adult pitbull dog, white and black in colour and known as Bruno, was admitted to the Cape of Good Hope SPCA. This dog was seized and presented for veterinary examination by Inspector Lwazi Ntungele in terms of an animal cruelty investigation conducted at 55 Diepwater, Wesbank (INSP220969), and I, the undersigned, conducted the veterinary examination on the same day.

4.

ANIMAL INFORMATION AND CLINICAL FINDINGS:

- Admission Number: A70234
- Species: Canine
- Breed: Pitbull
- Sex and Reproductive Status: Male (intact)
- Estimated Age: Adult
- Microchip Number: None
- Colour and Markings: White and black
- Name (if known): Bruno

Clinical Examination Findings:

- Body Condition Score: 2 (Very underweight)
- Behaviour: Slightly dull, but otherwise within normal parameters
- Presence of Parasites: Severe tick infestation noted
- Dentals: Within normal limits
- Nails: Within normal limits
- Other Notable Findings:
 - Presence of a ~2cm mass dorsolaterally to the left of the prepuce
 - A second, large (~10cm), ulcerated, and actively bleeding mass on the right side of the prepuce, which extended and obliterated the preputial opening
 - Blood staining noted on the medial aspect of both hind limbs, likely secondary to the bleeding from the preputial mass
 - Scrotal skin appeared thickened and erythematous

5.

VETERINARY OPINION:

- Medical Concerns and Injuries Found:

AC

I, **Dr Anja Coulthard**, hereby further make oath and declare in English as follows:

The animal was suffering from severe emaciation, multiple ulcerated masses in the genital region, and a severe tick infestation. The large, ulcerated mass over the prepuce was actively bleeding and completely obscured the preputial opening. A second smaller mass was noted on the opposite side of the prepuce.

- Cause and Nature of Injuries/Conditions:

The preputial masses are strongly suspected to be neoplastic in origin (cancerous), based on cytological examination conducted at the SPCA. The ongoing bleeding, ulceration, and local tissue destruction were consistent with a chronic, progressive, and unmanaged condition. In my professional opinion, these injuries and conditions were exacerbated by a complete lack of timely veterinary intervention, leading to the advanced and painful presentation observed. The emaciation may be secondary to prolonged malnutrition but could also be linked to underlying systemic illness such as cancer. The tick infestation indicates a lack of basic external parasite control.

- Duration of Suffering:

The extent of ulceration, the formation of multiple growths, and the presence of chronic inflammation and blood staining indicate that this dog has been suffering for a prolonged period, consistent with a chronic condition present for several weeks to months.

6.

PROGNOSIS AND RECOMMENDED COURSE OF ACTION:

- Prognosis:

Poor. Given the extent of the tumour, its ulcerated state, appearance, the extent of anatomical disfiguration, and Bruno's already severely emaciated state, the prognosis for recovery was deemed extremely poor, even with aggressive medical or surgical intervention.

- Recommended Course of Action:

Due to the dog's extremely poor physical condition, advanced stage of disease, and ongoing suffering, humane euthanasia was recommended and carried out to prevent further pain and deterioration of the animal's welfare.

7.

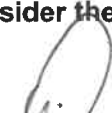
It is my professional opinion that Bruno has suffered significantly and unnecessarily due to prolonged and untreated medical conditions. The tumours, severe parasite load, and malnourished state are clear indicators of neglect. In my view, this level of inaction and failure to provide basic veterinary care constitutes animal cruelty and is in contravention of the standards set out in the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962.

8.

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

AC
2

I, **Dr Anja Coulthard**, hereby further make oath and declare in English as follows:

A1 -

The deponent has acknowledged that she knows and understands the contents of this affidavit/declaration, which was signed and sworn to before me at _____ on this the _____ day of _____ 20____, 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: _____

Designation: _____

Business address: _____