

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.

This affidavit pertains to SPCA case number INSP224912, investigated by Inspector Ayanda Ngcofe, regarding an adult male Pitbull cross and an adult female Pitbull Cross that were seized from a property situated at 19 Umbrellabird Road, Pelican Park, and admitted into the care of the Cape of Good Hope SPCA on 12 December 2025.

4.

PATIENT INFORMATION:

Male Pitbull Cross:

- **Admission number:** A77055
- **Species:** Canine
- **Breed:** Pitbull Cross
- **Sex and reproductive status:** Male, intact.
- **Estimated age:** Adult
- **Colour and markings:** Tan and White.
- **Microchip:** None detected
- **Name (if known):** Max

Cross Breed:

- **Admission number:** A71186
- **Species:** Canine
- **Breed:** Pitbull Cross
- **Sex and reproductive status:** Female, Intact.
- **Estimated age:** Adult
- **Colour and markings:** Tan and White.
- **Microchip:** None detected
- **Name (if known):** Killer

5.

CLINICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS:

Both dogs were examined under clinical conditions on 17 and 18 December 2025 respectively. The following findings were recorded:

Male Pitbull Cross:

- **Body condition score:** 5/9 (Acceptable)

AC

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

- **Weight:** 26 kg
- **Behaviour:** Bright, Alert and Responsive
- **Coat condition:** Multiple small, healed scars scattered over the face, muzzle, and neck. A localized area of alopecia with associated erythema on one cheek, with visible healing puncture wounds.
- **Presence of External parasites:** Moderate tick burden.
- **Dentition and nails:** Within normal limits.

Female Pitbull Cross

- **Body Condition Score:** 4/9 (Acceptable but leaning towards underweight)
- **Weight:** 19.3 kg
- **Behaviour:** Bright and alert. Snapping and lunging observed while in kennels. Fearful when handled.
- **Coat condition:** Multiple scars and healing puncture (small, round) wounds present on the face, base of the ears and muzzle. A wound with scab formation was noted at the distal end of the tail.
- **Presence of External Parasites:** Fleas noted on coat
- **Dentition and Nails:** Within normal limits

6.

VETERINARY OPINION:

Based on the above findings, it is my professional opinion that:

Patient 1 – Max:

Multiple small wounds and scars were observed over the face and neck, in various stages of healing. In my professional opinion, the size, distribution and location of these wounds are consistent with injuries typically sustained during dog-on-dog attacks or altercations.

The duration of the suffering is assessed as chronic, with the prognosis being viewed as good.

The recommended course of action is ongoing tick and flea control.

Patient 2 – Killer:

Multiple small wounds and scars were observed on the face and head. In my professional opinion, the size, shape and anatomical distribution of these injuries are consistent with wounds sustained during a dog fight.

The duration of the suffering is assessed as chronic, with the prognosis being viewed as good.

The recommended course of action is behavioural assessment and ongoing tick and flea control.

AC -

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

7.

CONCLUSION:

Based on the clinical examinations and findings documented above, it is my professional veterinary opinion that both Patient 1 (Max) and Patient 2 (Killer) present with multiple scars and wounds that are consistent with repeated physical altercations with other dogs.

The size, shape, distribution and anatomical locations of the injuries observed on both dogs are characteristic of dog-on-dog aggression rather than accidental or environmental causes.

The presence of wounds and scars in various stages of healing indicates that these altercations did not occur as a single isolated incident but rather over a prolonged period of time, supporting a conclusion of chronic exposure to aggressive encounters.

In my professional opinion, the injuries sustained by both dogs would have caused pain, distress and discomfort, and the failure to prevent repeated altercations constitutes unnecessary suffering. Such suffering could reasonably have been avoided through appropriate management, supervision and intervention.

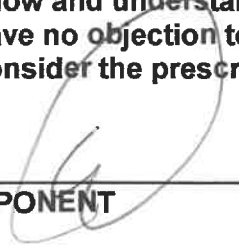
While both patients currently have a good prognosis with appropriate veterinary care, parasite control and, where indicated, behavioural intervention, the findings raise significant animal welfare concerns regarding their prior management and environment.

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

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: _____