

INSPECTOR NOTE

Building: UNIT 8

Street: 44 CONSTANTIA ROAD

Suburb: GARDENS

Postal Code: 8001

Date: 2025-12-15

Time: 08:45

Inspector: AYANDA NGCOFE

Type: CASE DISCUSSION NOTE

Follow-Up Date:

Comments:

On 15 December 2025, at approximately 09:44, I was en route, together with Chief Inspector Pieterse, to meet with Ms Celeste Berman at Unit 8, 44 Constantia Road, Gardens, at 10:00, as previously agreed upon.

3. At approximately 09:58, Ms Berman sent me a WhatsApp message stating the following:
"I am arranging the necessary court documentation to enable SAPS to accompany me for supervised retrieval of my personal belongings. I am therefore unable to attend today. I will notify you as soon as this process is finalised."

4. I thereafter enquired from Ms Berman where I could hand over the keys to the premises. She instructed me to retain the keys until further notice.

5. Due to Ms Berman's failure to attend the agreed meeting and her continued non-cooperation, I, together with Chief Inspector Pieterse, proceeded to SAPS Cape Town Central Police Station with the intention of laying charges against Celeste Berman for hindering and concealing an animal, in contravention of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962.

6. Upon our arrival at the police station, police members informed us that Ms Berman had gone to court to obtain court order documentation.

7. We then proceeded to the court with the intention of engaging with Ms Berman and attempting to resolve the matter amicably.

8. Prior to engaging with Ms Berman, we requested Law Enforcement Officers to accompany us in the event that an arrest became necessary and/or in the event that Ms Berman disclosed the whereabouts of the cat.

9. Ms Berman was afforded multiple opportunities to disclose the whereabouts of the cat. The situation and her options were clearly explained to her, namely that she could either:

cooperate and inform us of the cat's whereabouts so that we could perform our lawful duties ; or

face arrest for hindering and concealing an animal in terms of the Animals Protection Act .

10. Ms Berman responded by stating that she was exercising her right to remain silent until she had legal representation present.

11. Despite being given multiple opportunities to cooperate, Ms Berman persistently refused to provide any information and continued to remain silent.

12. After all reasonable opportunities for cooperation had been exhausted, we were left with no alternative but to proceed with her detention for hindering and concealing an animal in terms of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 section 8(4).

Ayanda Ngcofe 2025-12-15 08:45

Captured By: