



BOGGLE AND BRUX RESCUE
NPC 2022/73078/07 NPO 252-032 South Africa
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To: Jaco Pieterse (chiefinspector@spca-ct.co.za)
From: Daniela Torino
Date: 13 April 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I, **Daniela Torino [990518 0092 083]**, residing at **341 Main Road, Kenilworth**, am submitting this statement as an eyewitness to the conditions inside the residence at **4 Lingfield Way, Edgemoor**, which I **visited on 12 April 2025**.

I was granted access to the residence by the resident - Ursula and entered the home, where I observed a significant number of animals being kept in conditions that raise serious concerns under the **Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962**. The premises were unhygienic, with a pervasive ammonia odour and parasitic stool stench, as well as visible accumulation of animal faeces, particularly from cats. Multiple animals appeared neglected, injured, or housed in environments incompatible with their species-specific welfare needs.

Animals surrendered to Boggle and Brux Rescue

Our organisation took in:

- **20 domestic rats (8 unsterilised females, housed with unsterilised 12 males)**

Our primary veterinarian, **Dr. Jacqueline Sharp**, will be undertaking a full clinical assessment in the coming week on all remaining collected animals; and a veterinary report can be made available to the SPCA as supporting evidence upon request.

The **domestic rats** surrendered were in an equally concerning condition. All exhibited **severe mite infestations**, with visible scabbing, fur loss, and intense scratching. **Many of the rats showed advanced damage to their ears**, with mites having **eaten through large portions of the tissue**, leaving open lesions and distorted ear structure. The owner confirmed no treatment had been provided for these conditions. Additionally, the rats were housed in overcrowded and unsanitary cages, some rusted or broken, with dirty or empty water bottles and bedding soaked in urine. The owner admitted she does not supply a proper dry food mix, feeding them only **Weet-Bix**, and there was evidence of **rotten food** and waste buildup inside the cages. I observed rotten food and discoloured water, with some bottles empty or encrusted with mould and faeces. Photographic evidence can be found attached.

Animals still on the premises

The individual, to the best of my knowledge, retained the following animals on the property:

- **Over 10 rats (putting the overall total at 30+)**, including one female that had recently given birth to pinkies. The owner disclosed that these rats are bred intentionally for live feeding to her snakes. The pinkies are not included in the total, and this mother and babies were not given to our organisation.
- **At least 10 cats**, several visibly suffering from untreated skin conditions. Few, if any, appear sterilised. A **significant accumulation of cat faeces** was noted throughout the interior.
- **Two dogs**, the conditions of which were not fully assessed at the time of visit.
- **One cockatiel**, housed in a small, faeces-caked cage. It had access only to **sunflower seeds** and **pink-tinged water**, suggesting contamination or use of a sugar addition. The enclosure was visibly undersized and inappropriate for the species. This animal shows signs of neglect.

- **Six snakes**, which were the only animals on the property being kept with basic care provided. However, not all six were viewed - the total of 6 was given by the resident. The owner did not state, or mention, whether they hold a suitable permit for them. No known breed could be identified.

The overall living environment is of serious concern. The air was heavy with the stench of ammonia and parasitic faeces. The cages for rodents and the bird were in unacceptable condition. The owner admitted to breeding rats for live feeding and providing an inadequate diet across species. Video and photographic evidence of the conditions upon arrival — including the cages, animals, and their injuries — has been retained and can be made available to the SPCA for evidence.

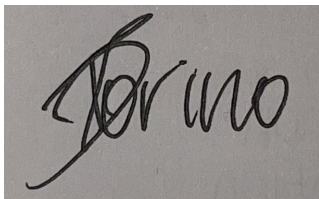
The household included three minor children. The condition of the home — with uncollected faeces, rotting food, and unhygienic conditions — suggests a broader risk to health and wellbeing, not only to animals but potentially to occupants as well.

During my time on site, I personally assisted in the basics of cleaning cages and providing food and water to ensure temporary improvement. However, the systemic nature of neglect observed and the remaining animals' vulnerability requires formal intervention.

Based on what I personally witnessed, I believe there may be multiple contraventions of the **Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962**.

This report is submitted as a formal **eyewitness statement in support of the SPCA's application for a warrant** to access and inspect the property in question. I am prepared to provide additional documentation, photographic or video evidence, or sworn testimony as required.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is stylized and appears to read 'Torino'.

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