



AFFIDAVIT – VETERINARY REPORT

I, **Dr. George Birch**, hereby make oath and declare in English as follows:

1.

I am an adult male veterinarian registered with the South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) under registration number D06/5077. I hold a Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree (BVSc), with 16 years of experience. I am currently employed by the Cape of Good Hope SPCA. 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 28 January 2026, I conducted a full clinical examination on a dog admitted into the care of the Cape of Good Hope SPCA. The animal was admitted by the owner, Zanique Dewee, after the dog had allegedly been shot at 36 Drury Court, Lavender Hill.

3.1. ANIMAL INFORMATION:

The details of the animal are as follows:

- **Admission Number:** H139475
- **Species:** Canine
- **Breed:** Cross-breed
- **Sex and Reproductive Status:** Male, intact
- **Estimated Age:** Adult
- **Colour and Markings:** Black
- **Name:** Pilla

3.2. CLINICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS:

Upon clinical examination, the following findings were recorded:

- **Body Condition Score:** 5/9 (Acceptable)
- **Weight:** 25.6 kg
- **Behaviour:** Bright and responsive
- **External Parasites:** Not Applicable
- **Dentition and Nails:** Not Applicable

I, **Dr. George Birch**, hereby further make oath and declare in English as follows:

Additional significant clinical findings included the following:

- The animal presented with severe swelling of the left mandible. A small wound was noted on the cranial muzzle ventral to the nose, with a further wound present on the ventral aspect of the jaw.
- Active bleeding was observed from the mouth, with marked haematoma formation and visible trauma to the left mandible on oral examination.
- A laceration measuring approximately 4 cm was also present on the right lateral chest.
- The patient was assessed to be in extreme pain at the time of examination.

DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

Radiographic examination revealed the following:

- Severe comminuted fracture of the body of the left mandible
- Chest radiographs within normal limits
- Subcutaneous emphysema of the right chest wall
- No fractures of the ribs or thoracic structures
- No bullets or projectile fragments visualised

4.

VETERINARY OPINION:

The dog sustained a severe comminuted fracture of the left mandible with associated marked soft tissue injury, as well as soft tissue injury to the right chest wall.

The cause and nature of the injuries are highly suggestive of a high-energy traumatic event, most consistent with a gunshot injury to the mandible. The exact cause of the laceration to the right lateral chest could not be definitively determined.

Based on the extent of the injuries, I am of the opinion that the animal experienced severe and ongoing pain from the time of the incident until veterinary intervention.

5.

PROGNOSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The prognosis for the mandibular fracture was guarded, given the severity and comminuted nature of the fracture. Specialist orthopaedic intervention would have been required to provide the best possible chance of successful treatment and recovery.

The case was discussed in detail with the owner, including the nature of the injuries, the prognosis, the treatment options available, and the potential outcomes. After consideration, the owner elected humane euthanasia in the best interests of the animal in order to prevent further pain and suffering.

6.

CONCLUSION

Based on my clinical examination, radiographic findings, and professional veterinary opinion, I conclude that the dog known as Pilla sustained severe traumatic injuries, including a comminuted fracture of the left mandible with extensive associated soft tissue damage, consistent with a high-energy injury most likely caused by a gunshot. These injuries would have resulted in significant pain and suffering. Given the severity of the injuries and the guarded prognosis, humane euthanasia was an appropriate and compassionate course of action.

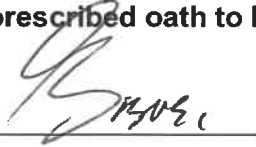
I, **Dr. George Birch**, hereby further make oath and declare in English as follows:

7.

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 9 day of FEB 2026 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: _____



JUSTIN DE VOS

COMMISSIONER OF OATHS
Peace Officer - Law Enforcement

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