



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 17 February 2026, I conducted a full clinical examination on a dog admitted into the care of the Cape of Good Hope SPCA. The animal had been surrendered from a property situated at 23 Sarhili Street by Inspector Lwazi Ntungele under case number INSP228238.

3.1. ANIMAL INFORMATION:

The details of the animal are as follows:

- **Admission Number:** A73853
- **Species:** Canine
- **Breed:** Pitbull-type dog
- **Sex and Reproductive Status:** Male (neutered)
- **Estimated Age:** Adult
- **Colour and Markings:** Black and White
- **Microchip:** Unknown
- **Name:** Lion

3.2. CLINICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS:

Upon clinical examination, the following findings were recorded:

- **Body Condition Score:** 4/9 (acceptable but tending toward underweight).
- **Weight:** Not recorded at the time of examination
- **Behaviour:** Timid but compliant during examination
- **External Parasites:** None observed
- **Dentition:** Within normal limits
- **Nails:** Within normal limits


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

Additional significant clinical findings included the following:

The patient's coat was stiff and spiked due to the presence of dried blood. The animal presented with approximately six (6) deep traumatic lacerations located over the right dorsal and lateral neck, right shoulder, and thoracic spinal region.

Multiple lacerations penetrated deeply through the skin and into the underlying musculature. Several dorsal wounds over the spinal column extended deeply enough to involve or expose the vertebral structures. When the patient ventro-flexed its spine, portions of the vertebral column were visibly exposed through the wounds.

In addition, a smaller laceration was present on the right lateral pinna (ear).

4.

VETERINARY OPINION:

The primary medical concern identified during examination was the presence of multiple severe traumatic lacerations involving soft tissue and the dorsal spinal region.

Based on the nature, depth, and pattern of the injuries, the wounds are consistent with sharp force trauma. Injuries caused by a panga or similar bladed instrument would be consistent with the clinical lesions observed, particularly the deep dorsal wounds involving the spinal region.

The injuries were acute in nature and would have caused severe and significant pain and suffering to the animal, especially considering the depth of the wounds and the involvement of musculature and structures surrounding the vertebral column.

5.

PROGNOSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The prognosis for the animal was considered grave due to the severity of the trauma, the involvement of deep tissues, and the apparent compromise of structures associated with the vertebral column.

In the interests of preventing further unnecessary suffering, the recommended course of action was immediate humane euthanasia.

6.

CONCLUSION

The injuries sustained by this animal were extremely severe.

The characteristics of the wounds strongly suggest that they were inflicted through deliberate sharp force trauma.

It is further noteworthy that the animal displayed timid behaviour yet allowed handling during examination despite the extreme trauma it had sustained, indicating that it was suffering significantly while remaining compliant during veterinary assessment.

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.



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


DEPONENT

The deponent has acknowledged that he knows and understands the contents of this affidavit/declaration, which was signed and sworn to before me at GRASSY PARK on this the 26 day of MARCH 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.

 J De Vos
40004230
COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

Full names: _____

Designation: _____

Business address: _____



JUSTIN DE VOS

COMMISSIONER OF OATHS
Peace Officer - Law Enforcement
City of Cape Town Sta ID No. 40004230

101 Old Strandfontein Rd, Ottery, Cape Town, 7808