



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 June 2026, I conducted a full clinical examination of a canine admitted into the care of the Cape of Good Hope SPCA. The animal had been seized from a property situated 10 Suurbraak Street, Clairwood, Cape Town, and was presented by Inspector Lwazi Ntungele under Cape of Good Hope SPCA case number INSP233818.

3.1. ANIMAL INFORMATION:

The details of the animal are as follows:

- **Admission Number:** A101131
- **Species:** Canine
- **Breed:** German Shepard Dog (GSD)
- **Sex and Reproductive Status:** Female (Intact)
- **Estimated Age:** Adult to Geriatric
- **Colour and Markings:** Tan and Black
- **Microchip:** Unknown
- **Name:** Unknown

3.2. CLINICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS:

Upon clinical examination, the following findings were recorded:

- **Body Condition Score:** 2/9 (Severely underweight)
- **Weight:** 29.42 kg
- **Behaviour:** Good demeanour
- **External Parasites:** None noted.
- **Dentition:** Advanced dental wear consistent with age
- **Nails:** Overgrown

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

Additional Clinical Findings:

- Weakness of the hindquarters with intermittent ataxia and nail dragging.
- Mild bilateral age-related thickening of the stifle joints.
- A caudal mammary mass measuring approximately 5 cm in diameter.

4.

VETERINARY OPINION:

In my professional opinion, the primary medical concerns identified during the examination were:

- Poor body condition (BCS 2/9).
- Hindlimb ataxia with weakness.
- A mammary mass consistent with mammary neoplasia until proven otherwise.

The poor body condition is likely multifactorial. In animals of this nature, inadequate husbandry and insufficient nutrition are among the most common contributing factors. However, underlying disease processes, including metastatic mammary neoplasia or other chronic illnesses, may also contribute to progressive weight loss. Further diagnostic investigations would be required to determine the exact underlying cause.

The hindlimb ataxia is similarly considered multifactorial. German Shepherd Dogs are predisposed to age-related degenerative spinal cord disease, including degenerative myelopathy. Other possible causes include spinal osteoarthritis, intervertebral disc disease, or less commonly, spinal neoplasia.

The mammary mass is most likely associated with hormonal and genetic influences, particularly as the animal is an intact female. Malignant mammary tumours are possible in older intact female dogs and cannot be excluded without further diagnostic investigation.

The duration of suffering associated with the poor body condition and chronic hunger is likely to have been prolonged, depending on the underlying cause. Likewise, the mobility impairment and probable degenerative joint disease are chronic conditions that would be expected to result in persistent discomfort and pain if left untreated.

5.

PROGNOSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The prognosis for this animal is considered guarded, but improvement is possible with appropriate veterinary care and improved husbandry.

Improved nutrition and general husbandry are expected to positively influence the animal's body condition. However, the long-term prognosis will depend upon establishing a definitive diagnosis for the hindlimb ataxia and determining the nature of the mammary mass.

With appropriate medical management, ongoing veterinary monitoring, and regular follow-up examinations, the animal may achieve and maintain a reasonable quality of life.

The following recommendations are made:

- Immediate implementation of appropriate husbandry and nutritional management.
- Further diagnostic investigations to establish the cause of the hindlimb ataxia.

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

- Appropriate pain management for suspected osteoarthritis and chronic musculoskeletal discomfort.
- Continued monitoring of the mammary mass, with diagnostic sampling where indicated.

6.

CONCLUSION

In my professional opinion, this animal was suffering from significant chronic medical conditions, including severe weight loss, impaired mobility, and a mammary mass requiring veterinary investigation. The poor body condition is consistent with prolonged inadequate nutrition and/or chronic disease, both of which would have adversely affected the animal's welfare.

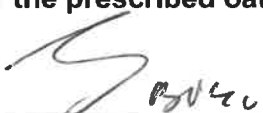
Although palliative management and an acceptable quality of life may still be achievable, this is entirely dependent upon the provision of appropriate veterinary care, adequate nutrition, pain management, regular monitoring, and a committed standard of husbandry by the owner. Without such intervention, the animal would continue to experience unnecessary pain, discomfort, progressive debilitation, and ongoing suffering.

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

Dr. George Birch (BVSc)

The deponent has acknowledged that he knows and understands the contents of this affidavit/declaration, which was signed and sworn to before me at CIRASSY PARK on this the 18 day of September 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: _____



JUSTIN DE VOS

Designation: _____

COMMISSIONER OF OATHS
Peace Officer - Law Enforcement

Business address: _____

City of Cape Town Stn #No. 40004230
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CITY OF CAPE TOWN
18 SEP 2026
LAW ENFORCEMENT