



**CAPE OF GOOD HOPE SPCA
Ethics Committee Recommendation**

13 April 2026

Admission: **Confiscated**
Date of admission: 24 March 2026
Owner: Thando Mlungwana
Address: 125 Montclair Drive, Mandalay
Admission number/s: A 98512 (mother dog), A 98504, A 98505, A 98506, A 98507, A 98508, A 98509 (INSP226159)

ETHICS COMMITTEE

1. Background

The case reflects ongoing welfare concerns reported from January to March 2026, including neglect, inadequate shelter, poor hygiene, parasite infestations, and repeated dog fighting resulting in injuries to a puppy. Despite multiple inspections, warnings, and a Notice to Comply, the owner failed to consistently meet required standards. Although there were brief improvements (including provision of shelter and treatment), non-compliance persisted, particularly regarding separation of fighting dogs and overall care. The matter escalated following continued complaints and evidence of recurring injuries, ultimately leading to the execution of a warrant and seizure of the animals. During the warrant execution on 24 March 2026, inspectors confirmed that the animals remained in poor condition: a female dog was underweight with 6 puppies in the same condition. The environment was unhygienic with faecal contamination and flies. Due to ongoing non-compliance and risk to the animals, all dogs were seized. It was further recommended that a docket be opened and that the owner be considered for denial of ownership.

2. Ethical Considerations

At the time of admission, the puppies were still suckling on their mother. Although their overall condition has improved, it is not advised they be placed for adoption due to strained resources and the time they will spend in our care will be long. The SPCA does not have a foster care programme and the puppies will be subjected to unnecessary suffering if kept any longer. The mother dog has improved as well and should be considered for adoption pending a successful behaviour assessment and clean bill of health.

3. Recommendation

It is recommended that the puppies be humanely euthanased based on above and the mother be placed up for adoption if she passes the behaviour assessment and is found to be fit and healthy.

Ethics done by: on behalf of Inspectorate – Rudolph Philander

Rudolph Philander – Acting – Inspectorate Manager:

Brent Morkel – ACC Manager:

Sifiso Mabaso – Hospital Manager:

Veterinarian:

Moyo Ndukwana – CEO:



**CAPE OF GOOD HOPE SPCA
Ethics Committee Recommendation**

13 April 2026

Admission: **Confiscated**
Date of admission: 24 March 2026
Owner: Thando Mlungwana
Address: 125 Montclair Drive, Mandalay
Admission number/s: A 98510 (INSP226159)

ETHICS COMMITTEE

1. Background

The case reflects ongoing welfare concerns reported from January to March 2026, including neglect, inadequate shelter, poor hygiene, parasite infestations. Despite multiple inspections, warnings, and a Notice to Comply, the owner failed to consistently meet required standards. Although there were brief improvements (including provision of shelter and treatment), non-compliance persisted, particularly regarding separation of fighting dogs and overall care. The matter escalated following continued complaints and evidence of recurring injuries, ultimately leading to the execution of a warrant and seizure of the animal. During the seizure on 24 March 2026, inspectors confirmed that the animal remained in poor condition: the dog in question (black and tan, male) had an open facial wound. The environment was unhygienic with faecal contamination and flies. Due to ongoing non-compliance and risk to the animals, all dogs were seized. It was further recommended that a docket be opened and that the owner be considered for denial of ownership.

2. Ethical Considerations

The veterinary findings confirm that the dog sustained trauma consistent with a dog fight, resulting in pain and injury; however, the prognosis is considered good with appropriate veterinary care. With proper treatment, monitoring, and a controlled environment, the animal has a reasonable chance of rehabilitation. Rehoming should therefore be considered, subject to full physical recovery and a favourable behavioural assessment to ensure the safety and well-being of both the animal and the public.

3. Recommendation

Animal Care Centre place the dog up for adoption after the dog has made a full recovery and passed the behaviour assessment. Humane euthanasia is recommended should the dog not pass the behaviour assessment.

Ethics done by: on behalf of Inspectorate – Rudolph Philander

Rudolph Philander – Acting – Inspectorate Manager:

Brent Morkel – ACC Manager:

Sifiso Mabaso – Hospital Manager:

Veterinarian:

Moyo Ndukwana – CEO:









Affidavit – Veterinary Report

I, **Dr. Bronwyn Thomen**, hereby make oath and declare in English as follows:

1.

I am an adult female veterinarian registered with the South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) under registration number D09/7588. I hold a Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree (BVSc), with 15 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 24 March 2026, a Pitbull-type dog was admitted into the care of the Cape of Good Hope SPCA. The animal was seized from a property situated at 125 Montclair Drive, Mandalay, under SPCA case number INSP226159. The animal was seized by Inspector Siviwe Noko.

3.1. ANIMAL INFORMATION:

The details of the animal are as follows:

- **Admission Number:** A98510
- **Species:** *Canis lupus familiaris* (Domestic dog)
- **Breed:** Pitbull-type
- **Sex and Reproductive Status:** Female, intact
- **Estimated Age:** Juvenile
- **Colour and Markings:** Black and White
- **Name:** Trixie

3.2. CLINICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS:

On 26 February 2026, I conducted a full clinical examination of the animal in question. The following findings were recorded:

- **Body Condition Score:** 5/9 (acceptable)
- **Weight:** 17.84 kg
- **Behaviour:** Timid but friendly
- **External Parasites:** Flea infestation present
- **Dentition and Nails:** Within normal limits
- **Eyes:** No abnormalities detected
- **Other Clinical Findings:**
 - Wounds present on the nasal bridge, accompanied by swelling
 - Slight depression noted over the left frontal sinus region

4.

VETERINARY OPINION:

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

Upon clinical examination and radiographic assessment, it was confirmed that the animal sustained a fracture of the left medial aspect of the frontal sinus.

The cause of the injury is consistent with blunt force trauma, most likely sustained during a dog fight, as supported by the presence of overlying bite wounds to the facial region.

The duration of suffering is assessed as per-acute. Notwithstanding the acute nature of the injury, such trauma would have resulted in significant pain, distress, and discomfort at the time of infliction, thereby constituting unnecessary suffering.

5.

PROGNOSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The prognosis for this animal is good, provided appropriate veterinary care is maintained. The following treatment and management plan has been initiated and/or is recommended:

- Administration of antibiotics to prevent secondary infection
- Anti-inflammatory medication for pain and swelling management
- Deworming
- Tick and flea control
- Sterilisation

Subject to recovery and behavioural assessment, the animal may be considered suitable for rehoming.

6.

CONCLUSION

The injuries sustained by this animal are consistent with bite wounds and associated trauma, most likely resulting from a dog fight. Although healing has commenced, the injuries would have caused significant pain and suffering.

In my professional opinion, exposure to such circumstances places the animal at risk of further harm and unnecessary suffering. Accordingly, the animal should not be returned to the owner unless adequate measures are implemented to prevent recurrence of such incidents, including ensuring the animal is not exposed to aggressive interactions or environments conducive to dog fighting.

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 _____ on this the ____ day of _____ 20____, 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: _____