



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 20 August 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 32 Dennis Nxu Street, Gugulethu, Cape Town, and was presented by Inspector Jeffrey Mfini under Cape of Good Hope SPCA case number INSP235125.

3.1. ANIMAL INFORMATION:

The details of the animal are as follows:

- **Admission Number:** A106834
- **Species:** Canine
- **Breed:** Pitbull type
- **Sex and Reproductive Status:** Female (Intact)
- **Estimated Age:** Adult
- **Colour and Markings:** White and tan
- **Microchip:** Unknown
- **Name:** Mimosa

3.2. CLINICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS:

Upon clinical examination, the following findings were recorded:

- **Body Condition Score:** 4/9, considered acceptable but tending towards
- **Weight:** 14.3 kg
- **Behaviour:** Extremely anxious during examination.
- **External Parasites:** Significant flea burden noted.
- **Dentition:** No abnormality detected.
- **Nails:** Overgrown

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

Additional Clinical Findings:

- Hair loss was present over the mid-spinal and rump regions.
- Marked flea dirt was present.
- Mild erythema was noted in the axillary regions.

4.

VETERINARY OPINION:

In my professional opinion, the primary medical condition identified during the examination was a moderate external parasite burden and associated flea allergy dermatitis.

Flea allergy dermatitis can result in significant inflammation and pruritus (itching). Depending on the severity of the individual animal's allergic response, persistent itching may result in scratching, biting, licking and self-trauma to the affected areas.

The distribution of the hair loss and the presence of flea dirt support the conclusion that the skin changes were associated with the flea infestation and resultant allergic response.

Based on the absence of significant chronic skin changes, extensive secondary infection or other serious systemic abnormalities on the examination, the duration of the condition cannot be determined with certainty. The condition may have been present for a relatively short period; however, flea allergy dermatitis may also become a recurrent or chronic condition if effective and sustained flea control is not implemented.

5.

PROGNOSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The prognosis for Mimosa is considered excellent, provided that appropriate and sustained flea control and general skin care are implemented.

The recommended treatment and management include:

- Appropriate veterinary-approved flea treatment.
- Ongoing and effective flea prevention to prevent reinfestation.
- Treatment of the environment where necessary to eliminate flea life stages.
- Monitoring of the skin for resolution of the hair loss and erythema.
- Appropriate nutritional support and, where clinically indicated, supplementation to promote skin and coat health.
- Veterinary reassessment should the dermatological condition fail to resolve or should secondary infection develop.

6.

CONCLUSION

In my professional opinion, the principal condition identified in Mimosa was a moderate flea infestation with associated flea allergy dermatitis, resulting in discomfort, itching, skin irritation and hair loss.

The condition would have caused a degree of physical suffering and discomfort to the animal. The flea bites and associated allergic response would have resulted in pruritus (itching) and inflammation, with the observed hair loss and erythema being consistent with the animal reacting to and attempting to relieve this irritation. Continued exposure to fleas would have

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

resulted in ongoing discomfort and could have caused the condition to worsen, including further self-trauma and the development of secondary skin infections.

While the condition was not considered life-threatening and was readily treatable, the presence of an untreated flea burden and associated dermatitis nevertheless constitutes a welfare concern. The suffering experienced by Mimosa can therefore be characterised as mild to moderate physical discomfort and irritation, rather than severe or life-threatening suffering.

The prognosis is considered excellent with appropriate treatment and sustained flea management. The condition is readily treatable and, with proper intervention, the associated discomfort and suffering should resolve.

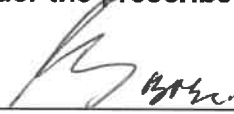
In conclusion, although Mimosa was not found to be in a critical or life-threatening condition, she had nevertheless experienced avoidable physical discomfort and suffering as a consequence of the flea infestation and associated flea allergy dermatitis. Appropriate treatment and sustained flea control would have been necessary to alleviate the condition and prevent further 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 GRASSY 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 Staff No. 40004230
101 Old Strandfontein Rd, Ottery, Cape Town. 7805

CITY OF CAPE TOWN

18 SEP 2026

LAW ENFORCEMENT