



Affidavit – Veterinary Report

I, **Dr. Leon Hector**, 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 CS25/19195. I hold a Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree (BVSc). 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 16 March 2026, I conducted a clinical examination on a canine admitted into the care of the Cape of Good Hope SPCA. The animal had been seized from a property situated at 1 Otello Crescent, Eastridge, Cape Town, by Inspector Jeffrey Mfini under SPCA case number INSP228389.

3.1. ANIMAL INFORMATION:

The details of the animal are as follows:

- **Admission Number:** A93671
- **Species:** Canine
- **Breed:** Crossbreed
- **Sex and Reproductive Status:** Male, intact
- **Colour and Markings:** White and tan
- **Microchip:** Unknown
- **Name:** Unknown

3.2. CLINICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS:

Upon clinical examination, the following findings were recorded:

- **Body Condition Score:** 1/9 (severely emaciated)
- **Weight:** 16.76 kg
- **Behaviour:** Depressed
- **External Parasites:** Severe tick infestation, with ticks present over the body from the head to the tail
- **Dentition and Nails:** Poor
- **Mucous Membranes:** Pale
- **Spine:** Prominently visible/sunken, consistent with severe loss of body condition and muscle mass

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

Additional clinically significant findings:

The animal presented in a severely debilitated and emaciated condition, with a Body Condition Score of 1/9. The spine and other bony structures were prominently visible, indicating a marked loss of subcutaneous fat and muscle mass.

The animal was heavily infested with ticks, with ticks observed over the body from the head to the tail. The mucous membranes were pale, which is clinically consistent with anaemia. Blood smear examination indicated *Babesia canis*, a tick-borne protozoal infection capable of causing significant haemolytic anaemia and systemic illness.

The combination of severe emaciation, marked muscle and body mass loss, pallor of the mucous membranes, heavy tick infestation and confirmed *Babesia canis* infection indicates that the animal was in a severely compromised state of health.

The animal's depressed demeanour was further indicative of significant systemic illness and poor welfare. The degree of emaciation and associated clinical abnormalities are consistent with a prolonged period of inadequate care and/or untreated disease.

The animal was considered to be experiencing significant and ongoing suffering as a result of its severely compromised physical condition and underlying disease. The suffering was not considered to be limited to the time immediately preceding the examination, but rather consistent with a chronic and progressive deterioration in health.

4.

VETERINARY OPINION:

Based on the clinical examination findings, the animal was assessed as being severely emaciated, with a Body Condition Score of 1/9.

The prominent/sunken appearance of the spine, marked loss of body condition and muscle mass, pale mucous membranes, severe tick infestation and positive blood smear findings for *Babesia canis* indicate a serious and advanced state of illness.

In my professional opinion, the animal was in a state of significant physical compromise and was experiencing ongoing suffering at the time of examination. The severity of the emaciation and systemic illness indicates that the condition was not acute in nature and had developed over a prolonged period.

The duration of the animal's suffering is assessed to have been no less than several weeks and potentially months, based on the severity of the emaciation, muscle wastage, parasite burden and associated clinical disease.

5.

PROGNOSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The prognosis for the animal was considered **poor to grave**.

The animal's condition had progressed to an advanced stage, characterised by severe emaciation, significant loss of muscle mass, marked tick infestation, pale mucous membranes and *Babesia canis* infection.

Although medical treatment could potentially be attempted, the severity and chronicity of the animal's condition significantly reduced the likelihood of a meaningful recovery. The animal was already experiencing substantial suffering at the time of examination, and the likelihood of prolonged treatment with an uncertain outcome was considered significant.

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

Based on the clinical findings, the extent of the animal's physical deterioration and the suffering associated with its condition, **humane euthanasia was recommended as the most appropriate course of action to prevent further and unnecessary suffering.**

The recommendation for euthanasia was made on welfare grounds, having regard to the severity of the animal's condition, the poor to grave prognosis and the likelihood that continued deterioration would result in further suffering.

6.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the canine presented in a severely emaciated and debilitated condition, with a Body Condition Score of 1/9. The animal had a severe tick infestation, pale mucous membranes and diagnostic findings indicative of *Babesia canis* infection. The prominent spine and marked loss of body mass and muscle condition further demonstrated the advanced nature of its physical deterioration.

In my professional opinion, the animal was suffering significantly as a result of its severe emaciation, underlying disease and associated systemic compromise. The condition was consistent with prolonged suffering and a failure to provide adequate and timely intervention.

The animal's prognosis was assessed as poor to grave, and the likelihood of a meaningful recovery was considered low. Continued survival without effective treatment would likely result in further deterioration and prolongation of suffering.

It is therefore recommended that the canine be humanely euthanized, in order to prevent further unnecessary suffering and to act in the best interests of the animal's welfare.

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.



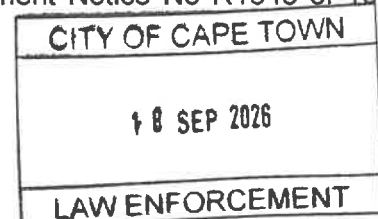
DEPONENT

Dr. Leon Hector (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 SPCA FOGH on this the 18 day of Sep 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 Sta #No. 40004230
101 Old Strandfontein Rd, Ottery, Cape Town, 7808