

“STOMACH CHURNING” CASE OF ANIMAL CRUELTY ON THE NSW SOUTH COAST

CASE SUMMARY

Ms Janine Marion appeared in Nowra Local Court yesterday and pleaded guilty to 14 charges of animal cruelty against eight cats and 12 dogs in her care. Ms Marion was convicted, fined, placed on a two-year Good Behaviour Bond, prohibited from owning animals for a period of five years and instructed to report to police for fingerprinting.



CHARGES

- ❁ Failure to provide veterinary treatment to dogs for hookworm
(4 charges)
 - ❁ Failure to provide proper and sufficient food and water to dogs
(4 charges)
 - ❁ Failure to provide proper and sufficient food and water to cats
(1 charge)
 - ❁ Confining of cats in cages insufficient for exercise
(3 charges)
 - ❁ Tethering dogs for an unreasonable length of time using an unreasonable short tether
(2 charges)
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KEY FACTS

On Friday 30 November 2012, RSPCA Inspectors and Shoalhaven Rangers attended a property in Terara in response to complaints about animals kept on the premises.

The Inspector and Ranger immediately observed two Poodle crossbreeds on short, tangled tethers and two other Poodle crossbreeds tethered to a car. These dogs had no water.



Inside the above mentioned car, the Inspector and Ranger discovered eight cats squashed into three cat carriers. The cats had no access to water and there was a large amount of faeces and urine covering the upholstery.



Ms Marion attempted to remove the cat cages from the vehicle. She was cautioned by the Inspector and Ranger and asked to move away. When she refused the police were called. All eight cats were immediately seized.

The Inspector and Ranger also seized the four Poodle crossbreeds.



Four Cattle crossbreed pups, a Maltese crossbreed pup and a Silky Terrier crossbreed pup were also discovered in an overcrowded pen at the rear of the property. These animals had no access to food or water and were also seized.

Inspection of the interior of the house revealed a further two Poodle crossbreed pups in a carry cage. Both pups were underweight and were immediately seized.



A total of eight cats and 12 dogs were seized.

Veterinary examination of the seized animals found several of them to be severely underweight and six tested positive for hookworm.



PLEA AND COURT JUDGEMENT

- ❁ **JUDGEMENT:** Ms Marion pleaded GUILTY and was convicted of 14 charges of animal cruelty (*finest imposed are listed below*). The magistrate placed Ms Marion on a two-year Good Behaviour Bond, prohibited her from owning animals for a period of five years and instructed her to report to police for fingerprinting.
- ❁ Ms Marion must notify the RSPCA within 7 days if she changes address
- ❁ The RSPCA was granted discretion to inspect Ms Marion's remaining two dogs at any time to check and monitor their welfare.
- ❁ Custody of the animals seized was awarded to the RSPCA.

[All Charges Made Under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act](#)

SENTENCING

- ❁ FINES: \$28,000.00
- ❁ PROFESSIONAL FEES: \$83,243.58

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For more information, or an interview with an RSPCA NSW spokesperson, please contact:

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