NEW SOUTH WALES

Statutory Declaration

I, John Phillip Dougall, of "Runnymede", Kangaloon Road, Glenquarry NSW 2576

do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

I have known Geraldine Fooi Fong Robertson, the breeder/owner of "Neiger Poodles" of 13 Buccan Road, Buccan, Queensland for more than 10 years. In that period I have purchased two brown male standard poodles from her, and have assisted 3 friends of mine to purchase from her 3 apricot standard poodles (1 male and 2 females).

I am aware that Geraldine currently faces an issue with the RSPCA and the Queensland Department of Primary Industry regarding the potential forfeiture of her dogs. I have also received a copy of the comments made at the time of seizure by the RSPCA concerning the state of her premises, etc.

I have visited her kennels/facilities on a number of occasions over a 10 year period, and have always found them to be spotlessly clean. Her dogs were always well-groomed, healthy, well-fed, well-watered and professionally housed. Whilst I speak with her regularly regarding the care of my dogs, I have not visited her premises in the past several years.

The dogs we purchased from Geraldine have wonderful temperaments – so to do the 3 dogs belonging to my friends. None of these dogs have had any serious health problems, although from time to time my older dog has had ear infections, a common problem with standard poodles because of their large floppy ears. By following Geraldine's expert advice, the problem has always been promptly fixed with the use of drops and antibiotics.

In all my dealings with Geraldine over the years, I have been impressed by her expert knowledge of the poodle breed. At the time I purchased our older dog she provided me with a five page document detailing care, grooming and feeding of poodles – and I have followed her advice over the years and found it to be invaluable.

In 1997 when I set out to purchase my first brown standard male poodle, the NSW and Queensland Poodle Club officials were extremely unhelpful – I was consistently told that I could not buy brown standards in Australia. Brown standard poodles are apparently extremely hard to breed.

In August 1997 – in frustration – I purchased 2 brown standard poodle pups in San Francisco USA with a plan to export them to Australia. The plan proved to be uneconomic – when I cancelled my order the USA breeder stated: "I do not understand why you do not buy dogs from Geraldine Robertson, she has world-class brown standards and lives in Queensland!!" I subsequently discovered that Geraldine an international reputation as a breeder of brown and silver standard poodles – a reputation which does not appear to be acknowledged by the Poodle Clubs within Australia.

When I contacted the NSW and Queensland Poodle Clubs again and asked why I was not referred to Geraldine Robertson, both responded by saying libelous, racial things about her, and they boldly stated "We thought you'd give up and buy our black or white dogs!!"

I have continued to keep in touch with Geraldine by telephone over the past year or so. During that time I have discussed with her ways in which she can finance ongoing improvements to her property such as drought proof water supply. During these discussions, I have suggested that she refinance in order to provide the necessary funds. I understand that those negotiations are nearing completion.

MAGISTRATES COURT BRISBANE

In summary, I have always found Geraldine to be a dedicated and professional breeder who cares dearly for her dogs. I am shocked in reading the allegations against her and do not believe that they truly reflect her normal high level of professional care. I continue to recommend all interested parties to Geraldine for quality standard poodles.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the *Oaths Act 1900*.

..... *Signature of person making the declaration*

Declared at RHODES *place* on 19 *day* of MARCH *[month]* 20.08 *[year]*

Before me, ... JP *Signature of person before whom the declaration is made* WEISNER, DAVID CAVANAGH *[full name]* 31 KOKEEMA CRES, WEST PYMBLE 2073 *[address]* in the State of New South Wales, qualification:

☑ justice of the peace, ☐ notary public, ☐ commissioner of the court for taking affidavits, ☐ legal practitioner authorised under Section 27 (1) of the *Oaths Act 1900*, ☐ a person authorised to administer an oath under Section 26 of the *Oaths Act 1900*[2].

Note (1) Any oath declaration or affidavit required for the purpose of any court or for the purpose of the registration of any instrument in the State of New South Wales or for the purpose of any arbitration may be taken or made

(a) in any place in the said State before any justice of the peace for the said State, and

(b) in any country or place out of the said State before a notary public, or before any person having authority to administer an oath in that country or place, and

(c) in any country or place out of the said State before a **British Consular Officer** or an **Australian Consular Officer** exercising his or her functions in that country or place.

Note (2) Any person authorised to administer an oath under Section 26 of the *Oaths Act 1900*:

- "Australian Consular Officer" means a person appointed to hold or act in any of the following offices (being an office of the Commonwealth of Australia) in a country or place outside the Commonwealth of Australia, namely Ambassador, High Commissioner, Minister, Head of Mission, Commissioner, Chargé d'Affaires, Counsellor or Secretary at an Embassy, High Commissioner's Office or Legation, Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, Trade Commissioner and Consular Agent and includes a person appointed to hold or act in the office of Counsellor, Official Secretary or Assistant Official Secretary at the Australian Commissioner's Office in Singapore or of Secretary at the Australian Military Mission in Berlin or of Agent-General in London of the State of New South Wales or of Secretary, New South Wales Government Offices, London.

- "British Consular Officer" means a British Ambassador, Envoy, Minister, Chargé d'Affaires, Secretary of Embassy or Legation, Consul-General, Acting Consul-General, Consul, Acting Consul, Vice-Consul, Acting Vice-Consul, Proconsul, Consular Agent and Acting Consular Agent.

MAGISTRATES COURT BRISBANE