



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

FOR US POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERY:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500, MSC 6910
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-6910
Home Page: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>

FOR EXPRESS MAIL:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
Telephone: (301) 496-7163
Facsimile: (301) 402-7065

January 6, 2020

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3085-01 [OLAW Case 1M]

Dr. Theodore F. Taraschi
Senior Associate Provost for
Research Conduct and Compliance
Thomas Jefferson University
1020 Locust Street, (b) (4)
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Dr. Taraschi,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your January 2, 2020 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the Thomas Jefferson University following up on an initial July 29, 2019 notification by telephone.

According to the information provided, this Office understands that the Thomas Jefferson University Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) determined that instances of noncompliance occurred with respect to: 20 mice that disappeared from an investigator's animal colony in the central facility. The principal investigator informed the IACUC office and veterinary staff and an investigation was initiated. Laboratory Animal Services (LAS) and PI staff members were interviewed, video surveillance recordings and card swipe records were reviewed, and no conclusive explanation could be reached. The corrective action that resulted from the incident was the installation of a new surveillance camera in the animal housing room. The letter states the new camera system allows for greater oversight in this location and will assist in more effectively managing any future incidents. It is noted that the final report did not include the funding source involving this incident.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that the Thomas Jefferson University has implemented appropriate measures to prevent recurrences of these problems and is now compliant with provisions of the PHS Policy. We appreciate being informed of these matters and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Jacquelyn T. Tubbs, DVM
Veterinary Medical Officer
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair
IACUC Regulatory Affairs Manager

January 2, 2020

Brent Morse, DVM, DACLAM
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW)
National Institutes of Health
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500, MSC 6910
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. Morse,

Thomas Jefferson University, in accordance with Animal Welfare Assurance #D16-00051 (A3085-01) and PHS Policy IV.F.3., provides this incident report regarding Animal Use Protocol #01927. This incident was first reported to OLAW via a phone call made on July 29, 2019 by (b) (6)

The animals involved in this incident were mice. On June 5, 2019, a Principal Investigator e-mailed IACUC Office and veterinary staff to inform them that twenty naïve wild-type C57BL/6 mice had disappeared from his animal colony in the central animal facility. More specifically, the twenty animals comprised of four cages with five animals each. An in-depth investigation into this matter was promptly initiated. Both Laboratory Animal Services (LAS) and PI staff members were interviewed on multiple occasions to try to gather any pertinent information. Video surveillance recordings and card swipe records for access into the vivarium and animal housing room were also reviewed but could not provide a definitive answer as to what had occurred to cause the animals to disappear.

After thoroughly exploring this matter and exhausting all investigative avenues, no conclusive explanation could be reached, but one direct and preventative action resulting from this incident has been the installation of a new surveillance camera in the animal housing room where the incident occurred. This new camera allows for greater oversight in this location and will assist in more effectively managing any future incidents.

Thomas Jefferson University is committed to protecting the welfare of animals used in research and appreciates the guidance and assistance provided by OLAW in this regard. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact (b) (6)

(b) (6) Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Theodore F. Taraschi, Ph.D.
Senior Associate Provost for Research Conduct and Compliance
Institutional Official
Thomas Jefferson University

HOME OF SIDNEY KIMMEL MEDICAL COLLEGE

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2020 1:40 PM
To: (b) (6) OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Cc: Theodore Taraschi; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: [A3085-01] TJU Final Report - 190701, 190722

Thank you for these final reports (b) (6) We will send official responses soon.

Best regards, Brent Morse

Brent C. Morse, DVM, DACLAM
Director
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health

Please note that this message and any of its attachments are intended for the named recipient(s) only and may contain confidential, protected or privileged information that should not be distributed to unauthorized individuals. If you have received this message in error, please contact the sender.

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2020 9:58 AM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Theodore Taraschi <Theodore.Taraschi@jefferson.edu>; (b) (6)
Subject: [A3085-01] TJU Final Report - 190701, 190722

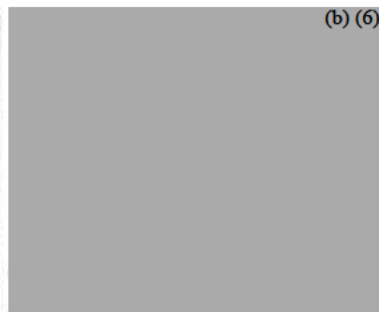
Dear Dr. Morse and the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare,

On behalf of Dr. Theodore Taraschi, Institutional Official, I am writing to provide two final reports for incidents at Thomas Jefferson University. Please see attached. The preliminary reports were made on July 29, 2019. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, concerns, or comments.

Happy New Year to the entire team!

Sincerely,

(b) (6)



Report Compliance Concerns Anonymously: 1-833-ONE-CODE (663-2633) or [Jefferson.MyComplianceReport.com](https://jefferson.MyComplianceReport.com)



Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: *[Signature]*

Date: 7/29/19

Time: 4:10
(b) (6)

Name of Person reporting: [Redacted]

Telephone #: [Redacted]

Fax #: [Redacted]

Email: [Redacted]

Name of Institution: Thomas Jefferson U.

Assurance number: A3085

Did incident involve PHS funded activity?

Funding component:

Was funding component contacted (if necessary):

What happened? 20 mice disappeared from 4 cages.
Did investigation. No findings

Species involved: Mice

Personnel involved: ?

Dates and times: June

Animal deaths:

Projected plan and schedule for correction/prevention (if known):

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

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Case #