



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

February 4, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3612-01 [OLAW Case 1C]

Dr. Joel D. Baines  
Dean, School of Veterinary Medicine  
Louisiana State University  
Skip Bertman Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3103

Dear Dr. Baines,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your January 23, 2019 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that one dog was used on a teaching protocol after it had expired. Due to personnel changeovers, the matter was not promptly reported to OLAW.

The corrective action consisted of stopping further use of the dog for teaching until the protocol was renewed. A new protocol was submitted and approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) and the Principal Investigator will ensure better oversight of animals on teaching protocols. The IACUC's reporting system was adjusted to ensure prompt reporting to OLAW.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that measures have been implemented to correct and prevent recurrence of this problem. OLAW concurs with the actions taken by the IACUC to comply with the PHS Policy. Please also update your reporting system to send all noncompliance reports to [olawdco@od.nih.gov](mailto:olawdco@od.nih.gov). The reports should still be signed by the Institutional Official, scanned, and submitted electronically to the OLAW mailbox. Thank you for informing OLAW about this matter.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.  
Deputy Director  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair  
Robert Gibbens, D.V.M., USDA-APHIS-AC



**School of Veterinary Medicine**  
*Office of the Dean*

January 23, 2019

To: Axel V. Wolf, DVM, MS  
Director: Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health  
RKL1, Suite 360, MSC 7982  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

From: Joel D. Baines VMD, PhD  
Institutional Official for Animal Care and Use, and  
Dean, School of Veterinary Medicine  
Through the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Re: Non-compliance- Assurance number D16-00372 (A3612-01)

The Louisiana State University (LSU) IACUC, through the Institutional Official, herein report a deviation from the provisions of the *Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* and the *Animal Welfare Act (AWA)*. Specifically, a dog was used in a teaching laboratory (ophthalmology course) after the associated protocol had expired. While only one dog was used, and the use of the dog was as described in the associated (expired) protocol, the LSU community takes seriously our commitment to comply with all laws, regulations and guidelines pertaining to animal care and use. In the opinion of the IACUC, U.S. Government Principles I and VIII were violated. Further, our PHS Assurance Statement indicates that we will equally apply all federal laws governing the use of animals in research, teaching, and testing, regardless of PI, vertebrate animal species, experimental use, funding source or animal housing location. Hence, we make the following report.

In May, 2018, a vivarium supervisor reported to the IACUC that a clinical instructor had used a dog in an ophthalmology teaching laboratory after the associated animal care and use protocol had expired. The PI on the protocol was unaware of the use of the dog. The issue was investigated by the Chief Clinical Veterinarian. It was determined that only the specific use of the dog had been as described in the protocol. The principal investigator (PI) was instructed to immediately discontinue using dogs, or allowing others to use dogs in teaching laboratories, until the issue could be discussed by the IACUC and corrective actions taken. The PI acknowledged the mistake, apologized for the error, and instructed the clinical instructors using dogs under the auspices of the expired protocol, to discontinue doing so until the protocol could be renewed.

The issue was discussed at the next regularly scheduled meeting on June 12, 2018. The IACUC voted to require the PI to submit a new protocol to replace the one expired, and to revise her method of oversight of dog use on her teaching protocol. The PI complied with both of these requirements. The IACUC was satisfied with the corrective measures taken by the PI, and considered the matter closed. The LSU-IACUC and the University regret the occurrence of this incident and will make every effort to ensure it does not occur again in the future.

Very unfortunately, at the end of June, 2018, the IACUC Secretary retired; in July, 2018, the IACUC Chair stepped down and a new Chair was appointed, and, the annual changeover of laboratory animal (Attending) veterinarian on the IACUC occurred. The outgoing Acting Attending Veterinarian, assumed that OLAW had been notified of the incident, while the incoming Attending Veterinarian was unaware of the incident because he had not been on the IACUC the month prior. In January, 2019, it was discovered that a letter of report had not been sent to OLAW.

The LSU-IACUC regrets that notification of this non-compliance event did not occur in a more timely manner. This issue was discussed with the new IACUC Chair, Attending Veterinarian, and new IACUC Manager, and a system initiated to prevent a further occurrence of this administrative mishap.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Dr. Joel D. Baines, VMD, PhD  
Dean, LSU School of Veterinary Medicine  
Institutional Official for Animal Care  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, LA