



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

October 10, 2018

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3029-01 [OLAW Case 1D]

Francois Villinger, D.V.M.
Director
University of Louisiana at Lafayette New Iberia Research Center
104 University Circle, Suite 338
Lafayette, LA 70504

Dear Dr. Villinger,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your September 19, 2018 letter reporting an adverse event at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette New Iberia Research Center (NIRC), following up on an initial September 17, 2018 telephone notification. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on September 15, 2018, eight rhesus macaques escaped from an outdoor corncrib when the corner of the aluminum transfer sliding door broke off. Seven of the animals were immediately secured and the remaining macaque was contained the morning of September 17, 2018 following a round-the-clock search effort by NIRC personnel. There were no animal welfare concerns to report as a result of this PHS-supported adverse event.

The corrective action consisted of installing additional bolts through corncrib aluminum plates throughout the facility to prevent future recurrence of similar events.

Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken to investigate, correct and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. Please be advised that all future final reports of noncompliance must be submitted to OLAW by the Institutional Official, in accordance with section IV.F.3 of the PHS Policy. We appreciate having been informed about this matter and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Neera V. Gopee, DVM, PhD, DACLAM, DABT
Animal Welfare Program Specialist
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair
Dr. Ramesh Kolluru, Institutional Official, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, NIRC
Dr. Robert M. Gibbens, Director Western Sector, USDA, APHIS, AC

September 19, 2018

**Dr. Neera Gopee, DVM, PhD
Veterinary Medical Officer
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500, MSC 6910
Bethesda, MD 20892**

Dear Dr. Gopee,

This letter is to inform the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare of an incident involving animals supported by PHS funding under the assurance A3029-01 of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette New Iberia Research Center. On 15 Sep 2018, an outdoor cage (corncrib) failure occurred resulting in the loss of containment of an 8-member peer group of male rhesus macaques. The animals are part of an SPF breeding colony and had been residing in the cage without incident for 7 months (since February 2018). Seven of the macaques were immediately contained. However, one animal, A13X040 had already left the New Iberia Research Center site. An intense round-the-clock search effort by NIRC staff concluded with a reported sighting and recovery of the animal from a nearby rural wooded area on Monday morning, September 17, 2018. A veterinarian performed a thorough physical examination and the animal was determined to be in good health. Therefore, all animals were recovered without injury or adverse health consequences.

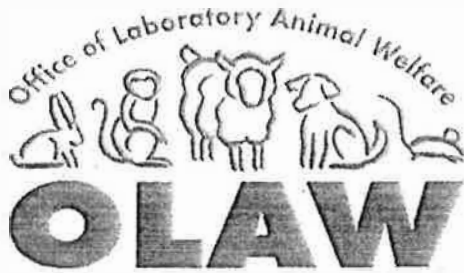
The cage failure was secondary to a corner of an aluminum transfer sliding door having broken off. These doors are used to gain access to the animals via transfer cages and they are secured in the sliding rails by a bolt in the corner of the corner plate. The bolt was still in place but the corner secured by the bolt had broken off, allowing the animals to slide the door open. The defect occurred recently since a cage integrity inspection was conducted on September 11, 2018 by the senior animal care staff, and the cage and doors in question were deemed secure. Although this system has been effective for the past 3 decades, the Center has since initiated the installation of additional bolts through corncrib aluminum plates throughout the center to prevent any such occurrence in the future.

Sincerely yours

(b) (6)

Francois Villinger DVM
Director
New Iberia Research Center

18 SEP 24 12:51



Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: Nesha GoppeDate: 9-17-18Time: 3:43 PMName of Person reporting: (b) (6)Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: New Iberia Research CenterAssurance number: A3029-01Did incident involve PHS funded activity? Yes

Funding component: _____

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): _____

What happened?

Bolt on cage broke and male Rhesus macaque escaped on 9-15-18
Animal was recaptured unharmed on 9/17/18

Species involved: Rhesus macaque

Personnel involved:

Dates and times:

Animal deaths: ☐

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

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # _____