



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
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December 20, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
#A3518-01 [OLAW Case 1W]

Randolph W. Hall, Ph.D.
Vice President for Research
University of Southern California
3720 Flower Street, (b) (4)
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0706

Dear Dr. Hall:

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your December 18, 2019 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Southern California, following up on an initial telephone report on August 13, 2019. According to the information provided, mice were not being euthanized when they had reached the established humane endpoint. The veterinary and animal care staff counseled the investigators on adhering to the endpoints but animals were still found dead.

The corrective actions consisted of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) suspending the protocol and the animal use privileges of the laboratory staffer responsible. The IACUC and animal resources staff counseled the Principal Investigator (PI) on monitoring animals and adhering to the endpoints. The laboratory was required to document daily animal observations on cage cards and the PI and staff were retrained. The protocols were updated to include all staff. The corrective actions were completed to the satisfaction of the IACUC and the suspension was lifted. There has been no subsequent repeat noncompliance in the laboratory.

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 inform the NIH funding component about the suspension. Thank you for keeping OLAW apprised on this matter.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Chair