



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) 480-3387

March 26, 2020

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3472-01 [OLAW Case 5G]

Dr. David Russell  
Vice President and Dean of Basic Research  
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center  
5323 Harry Hines Boulevard  
Dallas, TX 75390-9002

Dear Dr. Russell,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your letter dated February 27, 2020, concerning the final report of an incident of noncompliance with the Public Health Service Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals within the animal care and use program at UT Southwestern Medical Center. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on October 17, 2019, 13 live mouse pups were found in a freezer after failed euthanasia. They were then euthanized immediately by veterinary staff. This work was PHS funded.

Corrective and preventive actions included retraining and subsequent supervision of animal care staff performing euthanasia.

UT Southwestern Medical Center's prompt reporting of this incident was consistent with the philosophy of self-regulation. Similarly, the timely actions taken to respond to the issue were appropriate. We appreciate being informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

Catharine E. Pritchard -S  
Digitally signed by  
Catharine E. Pritchard -S  
Date: 2020.03.26  
10:47:42 -04'00'

Catharine E. Pritchard, PhD  
Animal Welfare Policy Scientist  
Division of Policy and Education  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Contact

**UT Southwestern**  
Medical Center

David W. Russell, Ph.D.  
Vice Provost and Dean of Research  
UT Southwestern Medical School  
Department of Molecular Genetics  
Eugene McDermott Distinguished Chair

February 27, 2020

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

RE: UT Southwestern Medical Center Animal Welfare Assurance Statement # D16-00296  
Grant: 5P01DK088761-08

Dear Dr. Morse,

I write to provide a final report of non-compliance with the *PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* regarding an incident of failed euthanasia on October 17, 2019. The IACUC was informed by a Clinical Veterinarian of 13 live mouse pups discovered in a carcass freezer in the vivarium. Upon discovery, the animals were euthanized immediately by veterinary staff. This incident was first reported to you via voicemail message by an IACUC Manager on November 5, 2019.

The IACUC was able to determine the responsible research staff member and this individual was counseled by the Sr. IACUC Liaison on October 18, 2019. This individual also subsequently underwent retraining on euthanasia with veterinary staff. The Sr. IACUC Liaison observed the individual's subsequent performance of euthanasia of mouse pups on January 10, 2020 and there were no concerns.

We believe the actions taken by the IACUC are appropriate for this situation.

Yours sincerely,

(b) (6)

David W. Russell, Ph.D.  
Vice Provost, Dean of Research, and Institutional Official

## Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 3:52 PM  
**To:** (b) (6) OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Cc:** (b) (6) David Russell  
**Subject:** RE: Report to OLAW

Thank you for providing this report. We will send an official response soon.

Best regards, Brent Morse

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

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**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 06, 2020 5:54 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** (b) (6) David Russell <David.Russell@UTSouthwestern.edu>  
**Subject:** Report to OLAW

To the Division of Compliance Oversight,

Attached is a final report of non-compliance. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this report.

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

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**UT Southwestern**  
Medical Center  
The future of medicine, today.



## Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: (b) (6)

Date: 11/5/19

Time: Voicemail

Name of Person reporting: (b) (6)

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: U. Texas Southwestern Med. Cen.  
Assurance number: A3472 Dallas

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? NIDDK

Funding component: \_\_\_\_\_

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

What happened? Mouse pups in bag in carcass freezer alive.

Species involved: Mouse

Personnel involved: Resendren

Dates and times: 10/17/19

Animal deaths: Yes, pups euthanized by Vet.

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

AV counseled responsible person.  
IACUC liaison

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

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Case # \_\_\_\_\_