

From: [Ward, Joan \(NIH/OD\) \[E\]](#)
To: (b) (6)
Cc: [Gibbens, Robert - APHIS](#)
Subject: OLAW Case A3079-3S
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2019 2:41:25 PM
Attachments: [2832_001.pdf](#)

Dear Dr. Bonnell,

Attached please find Dr. Axel Wolff's final response to OLAW Case A3079-3S.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us by phone or by e-mail.

Regards,
Joan

*Joan Ward
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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June 10, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3079-01 [OLAW Case 3S]

Dr. Dawn A. Bonnell
Vice Provost for Research
University of Pennsylvania
1 College Hall, (b) (4)
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6303

Dear Dr. Bonnell,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your June 3, 2019 letter reporting an adverse event involving research dogs at the University of Pennsylvania, following up on an initial telephone report on March 7, 2019. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that a group of three socially housed dogs unexpectedly began fighting and one animal sustained serious injuries. The animals had been co-housed for six months prior without any incidents.

The immediate action taken consisted of providing veterinary care but due to the injured dog's condition, it was euthanized. The animal care staff has been receiving ongoing training on social housing and animal behavior from a veterinary animal behaviorist. This training includes information about animal body language and behavioral monitoring in order to recognize any changes in colony social stability.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that a strong animal enrichment program with social housing is in place and that unforeseen animal altercations may occur. OLAW concurs with the actions taken by the institution to comply with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Chair
Director of Animal Welfare
Robert Gibbens, D.V.M., USDA-APHIS-AC