

From: [Gibbens, Robert - APHIS](#)
To: [Rhyner, Aaron A - APHIS](#); [Theodorson, Elizabeth C - APHIS](#); [Garland, Kathleen M - APHIS](#)
Subject: FW: OLAW Case A3426-1A
Date: Wednesday, June 5, 2019 2:20:34 PM
Attachments: [2717_001.pdf](#)

fyi

From: Ward, Joan (NIH/OD) [E] [mailto:wardjoa@od.nih.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2019 12:06 PM
To: grace.fisher.adams@caltech.edu
Cc: (b) (6) Gibbens, Robert - APHIS
<robert.m.gibbens@usda.gov>
Subject: OLAW Case A3426-1A

Dear Dr. Fisher-Adams

Attached please find Dr. Axel Wolff's final response to OLAW Case A3426-1A.

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

Regards,
Joan

*Joan Ward
Program Specialist
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
6700B Rockledge Dr., Suite 2500
Bethesda, MD 20892
301-496-7163
wardjoa@od.nih.gov*



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
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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

June 5, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3426-01 [OLAW Case 1A]

Dr. Fisher-Adams
Director, Office of Research Compliance
California Institute of Technology
1200 E. California Boulevard, MC 104-010
Pasadena, CA 91125

Dear Dr. Fisher-Adams,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your June 3, 2019 letter reporting the suspension of a protocol at the California Institute of Technology, following up on an initial telephone report on May 17, 2019. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) took this action after a graduate student was exposed to rhesus monkey fluids by failing to wear all required personal protective equipment. The same incident had occurred previously. There were also instances of protocol noncompliance which had already been reported to OLAW.

In addition to suspending the protocol, the IACUC has required a corrective action plan from the laboratory which is to include retraining the staff in correct animal use, safety, and laboratory management. All experimental animal activities have stopped and the monkeys have been transferred to a holding protocol under the veterinary staff. The funding component and USDA have been notified and no costs will be charged to the grant during the suspension.

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 on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. Note that NIH does allow expenditure of grant funds for animal maintenance during a period of suspension if approved by the funding component. <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-07-044.html> Please inform OLAW if any additional actions are required for the laboratory (e.g., enhanced post-approval monitoring) or if the status of suspension changes (e.g., termination). Thank you for keeping OLAW apprised on 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
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