



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, MD 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

January 14, 2022

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3079-01 [OLAW Case 4E]

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 December 14, 2021 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Pennsylvania. This letter had not been preceded by a preliminary report to OLAW.

According to the information provided, this Office understands that the University of Pennsylvania Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) determined that instances of noncompliance occurred with respect to: deaths of mice resulting from disconnection of a watering line. The final report states an animal care technician accidentally disconnected an automatic watering hose to a rack housing mice. As a result, ~160 mice were affected of which 22 animals died or were humanely euthanized. The veterinary staff was notified when the issue was discovered, and appropriate medical attention was provided. In response to the incident, the technician was counseled and retrained on the watering system. Per the report, the IACUC compliance committee and the IACUC were notified of the matter.

The final report did not include the funding source involving the incident. In the future, please include the source of funding and provide grant numbers for all PHS, NSF or NASA supported work. Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that the University of Pennsylvania has implemented appropriate measures to correct and prevent recurrences of these problems and is now compliant with provisions of the PHS Policy.

We appreciate being informed of these matters and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

Jacquelyn

T. Tubbs -S

Digitally signed by  
Jacquelyn T. Tubbs -S

Date: 2022.01.14  
15:09:27 -05'00'

Jacquelyn Tubbs, DVM, DACLAM  
Senior Animal Welfare Program Specialist  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC contact



**Office of the Vice Provost for Research**

Brent Morse DVM  
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health  
RKL 1, Suite 360, MSC 7982  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

University of Pennsylvania  
A3079-01  
Case 121421

December 14, 2021

Dr. Morse,

The University of Pennsylvania would like to report an unfortunate incident in which an animal care technician accidentally disconnected an automatic watering hose to a rack of mice. The loss of water affected approximately 160 mice of which 22 died or were humanely euthanized. When the issue was discovered, the veterinary staff was immediately notified, and the appropriate medical attention was provided. The technician was counseled and retrained on the watering system. The IACUC compliance committee and the IACUC were informed of the incident.

Sincerely yours,

(b) (6)

Dawn Bonnell, PhD  
Vice Provost for Research  
Trustee Professor of Materials Science and Engineering  
Institutional Official

CC: IACUC Chair, University of Pennsylvania  
Attending Veterinarian and ULAR Director, University of Pennsylvania  
Director of Animal Welfare, University of Pennsylvania

## Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 22, 2021 8:27 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: Noncompliance report from UPenn.

Thank you for this report, (b) (6) We will send a response soon.

Axel Wolff

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 21, 2021 5:57 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Noncompliance report from UPenn.

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and are confident the content is safe.

Attached please find a noncompliance event at the University of Pennsylvania.  
Please contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,

(b) (6)