



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

May 18, 2022

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3823-01 [OLAW Case 10B]

Dr. Mary Dickinson
Vice President and Dean of Research
Baylor College of Medicine
One Baylor Plaza, BCM335
Houston, TX 77030

Dear Dr. Dickinson,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your May 12, 2022 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Baylor College of Medicine. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that two sentinel mice died after their cage was left on a rack which was sent through the cage washer. The animal caretaker had not noticed the cage on the bottom shelf of the rack.

The corrective actions consisted of retraining the animal caretaker responsible.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW notes that the incident constituted inadvertent human error which may have been the result of a training failure and/or failure to follow institutional policy and as such is characterized as noncompliance. If there are separate employees working in cagewash, retraining would be indicated as well to ensure that additional checks are performed by other staff to avoid such an incident. OLAW understands that measures have been implemented to reduce the likelihood of a recurrence of this problem and we concur with the actions taken by the institution to comply with the PHS Policy.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Contact



A3823-10B

OFFICE OF RESEARCH

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CONFIDENTIAL

May 12, 2022

Brent Morse, DVM, DACLAM
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
olawdco@mail.nih.gov

RE: Assurance #D16-00475

Dear Dr. Morse,

As Institutional Official for Baylor College of Medicine, I am reporting an accident resulting in the death of two sentinel monitoring mice. A central animal facility employee loaded a mouse housing rack to be processed in the central animal facility rack washer and did not realize there was a cage left in the bottom row, containing the two mice.

Appropriate corrective measures have been put into place which included an immediate re-training of the facility caretaker on the process of loading the racks and verifying there are no cages in the rack. The event was reported to the Attending Veterinarian and to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). The IACUC reviewed the details and determined that this was an isolated, unforeseeable event that constituted neither non-compliance nor a serious deviation from *The Guide*.

This incident is being reported to you as well as AAALAC International.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Mary E. Dickinson, PhD
Sr. Vice President and Dean of Research
Institutional Official
Baylor College of Medicine

cc: Attending Veterinarian

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2022 7:41 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: OLAW Report- Assurance D16-00475

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

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Deputy Director, OLAW

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 2:27 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] OLAW Report- Assurance D16-00475

Dear Dr. Morse,

Please find the attached notification sent on behalf of Dr. Mary Dickinson, Institutional Official.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,

(b) (6)