



USDA-APHIS-Animal Care



| ANIMAL WELFARE COMPLAINT | | |
|--|--|---|
| Complaint No. AC22-185 | Date Entered: December 29, 2021 | Processed By: Emily Fausch |
| Referred To: KATHLEEN GARLAND | | Reply Due: January 28, 2022 |
| Facility or Person Complaint Filed Against | | |
| Name: University of California Los Angeles | Customer No.: 9194 | License No.: |
| Address: U.C.L.A. SCHOOL OF MEDICINE - D L A M 10833 LE CONTE AVENUE, ROOM 16-222 H C H S | | Email Address: |
| City: LOS ANGELES | State: CA | Phone No.: 3107942575 |
| Complainant Information | | |
| Name: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D) | Organization: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D) | |
| Address: | | Email Address: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D) |
| City: | State: | Phone No.: |
| How was the Complaint received? Email | | |
| Details of Complaint: see attached | | |
| Results: A routine inspection was conducted by an APHIS-Animal Care Veterinary Medical Officer (VMO) on April 26th – 28th, 2022. Opossums- Records reviewed showtwoopossums under study were maintained and provided care as directed by the approved protocol. The Animal Health Record for each animal documents that the animals were anesthetized and irradiated according to protocol. The opossums received daily observation by the DLAM, as verified by documentation. According to a CL, all animals are observed early each morning and at the end of the day, or more frequently, as directed, to assess their health and well-being. The CL stated the staff is trained to immediately report any concerns to the DLAM manager and veterinarian for further exam. Personnel are authorized to stay after hours if additional observation of an animal is needed. Monkey According to medical records, a monkey that developed an acute illness received adequate veterinary care by the DLAM staff. The facility representative stated, in addition to the DLAM veterinarians, consultants were brought in to assess the health of the monkey. This animal was provided daily observation and medical care with no noted improvement. The CL stated they provided supportive care for the monkey, but it did not respond to the established treatment regimen. Ultimately, the veterinarians decided to humanely euthanize this money. | | |



USDA-APHIS-Animal Care



A pig who died displaying signs of neurologic signs was addressed in a previous inquiry.

Delay in addressing this complaint due to Covid 19 issues.

Application Kit Provided:

Yes: No:

Inspector:

ALEXANDRA ANDRICOS

Date:

May 10, 2022

Reviewed By:

KATHLEEN GARLAND

Date:

May 10, 2022



Inspection Report

University of California Los Angeles
U.C.L.A. School of Medicine - DLAM
10833 Le Conte Ave., Room 16-222 HCHS
Los Angeles, CA 90095

Customer ID: **9194**

Certificate: **93-R-0435**

Site: 001

THE UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 26-APR-2022

No non-compliant items identified during this inspection.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the facility representative.

Prepared By: ALEXANDRA ANDRICOS

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Date:
11-MAY-2022

Received by Title: IACUC Representative

Date:
11-MAY-2022



Species Inspected

| Cust No | Cert No | Site | Site Name | Inspection |
|---------|-----------|------|---|-------------|
| 9194 | 93-R-0435 | 001 | THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES | 26-APR-2022 |

| Count | Scientific Name | Common Name |
|--------|------------------------------|--|
| 000009 | <i>Chinchilla lanigera</i> | CHINCHILLA (DOMESTICATED) |
| 000004 | <i>Macaca mulatta</i> | RHESUS MACAQUE |
| 000017 | <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i> | DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT |
| 000030 | <i>Meriones unguiculatus</i> | MONGOLIAN GERBIL (COMMON PET / RESEARCH VARIETY) |
| 000020 | <i>Rousettus aegyptiacus</i> | EGYPTIAN FRUIT BAT |
| 000020 | <i>Sus scrofa domestica</i> | DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG |
| 000050 | <i>Monodelphis domestica</i> | GREY SHORT-TAILED OPOSSUM |
| 000020 | <i>Mesocricetus auratus</i> | SYRIAN / GOLDEN HAMSTER |
| 000170 | Total | |



Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Animal Care

Fort Collins Office
2150 Centre Avenue
Building B, 3W11
Fort Collins, CO 80526
Phone: 970-494-7478

December 29, 2021

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)

Dear Complainant,

Thank you for your correspondence dated November 29, 2021. We are reviewing your concerns and assigned tracking number AC22-185. Please allow us enough time (30 to 60 days) to thoroughly look into your concerns. You may submit a request to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) office to obtain any publicly available information regarding our review.

FOIA Requests can be submitted three ways:

1. Web Request Form: <https://efoia-pal.usda.gov/App/Home.aspx>
2. Fax: 301-734-5941
3. US Mail:
USDA- APHIS- FOIA
4700 River Road, Unit 50
Riverdale, MD 20737

Should you have any questions regarding the APHIS FOIA process or need assistance using the Web Request Form **please contact the APHIS FOIA office at 301-851-4102.**

Animal Care is a program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that directs activities to ensure compliance with and enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act. Animal Care establishes standards of humane treatment for regulated animals and monitors and achieves compliance through inspections, enforcement, education, and cooperative efforts under the Acts.

Please be assured that we will look into your concern(s) and take appropriate action(s).

Thank you for your interest into the humane treatment of these animals.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Goldentyer, D.V.M.
Deputy Administrator
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)
To: Gibbens, Robert - APHIS; APHIS-AnimalCare
Subject: [External Email]Federal Cpmplaint UCLA
Date: Monday, November 29, 2021 2:07:35 PM

[External Email]

If this message comes from an **unexpected sender** or references a **vague/unexpected topic**;
Use caution before clicking links or opening attachments.
Please send any concerns or suspicious messages to: Spam.Abuse@usda.gov

Dr. Robert Gibbens 11/29/21
Director, Western Region, USDA/APHIS/AC,
2150 Center Ave.
Building B, Mailstop 3W11
Fort Collins, CO 80526-8117

Dr. Gibbens,

I am writing to you today to file an Official Complaint against the University of California, Los Angeles (93-R-0435), for clear violations of the Animal Welfare Act which killed multiple animals.

A UCLA internal report which SAEN is making public dated 8/20/20 states: *"Two opossums in the same experimental treatment group were found dead after a second irradiation treatment to the testes at our maximum total dose level (24 Gy)."*

Sec. 2.38 (f)(1) Animal Handling, which states: *(f) Handling. (1) Handling of all animals shall be done as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort.*

Obviously, these opossums were not handled in a way which prevented physical harm. They were handled in a way which caused death.

This incident may also violate **Sec. 2.33 Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care (b) (3) Daily observation of all animals to assess their health and well-being**;

Clearly these animals were not observed adequately, because if they were being observed adequately, they would have been discovered while ill, not discovered as corpses.

Another UCLA report dated 4/16/20 states: *"One of our monkeys [redacted] developed an acute illness that was treated by the veterinarians. After a number of weeks it was decided the animal was not well enough to return to experiments and therefore, we performed an anatomical injection and euthanized it."*

This death would clearly violate **Sec. 2.33 Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care** and/or **Sec. 2.38 (f)(1) Animal Handling** for failure to euthanize this animal in a more timely manner. This monkey should not have waited 'a number of weeks' to be euthanized.

A UCLA internal report dated 3/31/20 states: *"Pig #3 died unexpectedly after a rapid decline in neurologic function, about 6 weeks after surgical implantation. We've been working with DLAM vets to discover the cause of death which at this time is attributed to mycoplasma transmission from implanted cells into the immunosuppressed animal."*

This death would clearly violate **Sec. 2.33 Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care** and/or **Sec. 2.38 (f)(1)**

Animal Handling.

Additionally, all non-compliances issued against UCLA for the injuries/deaths of any/all of these animals should be in the *Critical* category because this incident had *"a serious or severe adverse effect on the health and well-being of the animal."*

I know that your office considers major violations of the Animal Welfare Act to be very serious in nature, especially when these violations kill or seriously injure animals. I must insist that you take the most severe action allowable under the Animal Welfare Act and immediately begin the process of issuing the maximum fine allowable against the University of California, Los Angeles, at the completion of your investigation -- \$10,000 per infraction/per animal.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future about the fate of this facility.

Sincerely,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)