



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

FOR US POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERY:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Division of Assurances
6700B Rockledge Drive
Suite 2500, MSC 6910
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-6910
Home Page: <https://olaw.nih.gov>

FOR EXPRESS MAIL:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Division of Assurances
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
Telephone: (301) 496-7163

August 30, 2022

Re: Assurance D16-00049 (A3083-01)

Robert W Rubin, Ph.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer
Lovelace Biomedical Research Institute
2425 Ridgecrest Drive, SE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108

Dear Dr. Rubin:

On behalf of the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW), I am writing to inform you that we are planning a visit to Lovelace Biomedical Research Institute on September 13, 2022, per section V.C. of the Public Health Service (PHS) Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Policy). The site visitors will be myself, OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight Director, Dr. Brent Morse, DVM, DACLAM and OLAW Senior Animal Welfare Program Specialist, Dr. Nicole Lukovsky-Akhansov, DVM, MPH, DACLAM. We are interested in seeing the animals housed and reviewing relevant records. Please note that this is not a site visit for cause, but rather it is part of our ongoing program to review the adequacy and the accuracy of institutional compliance with the PHS Policy as described in the Animal Welfare Assurance of PHS-supported institutions. We request access to all animal activity areas.

Please have the following documents available for review:

- The last two semiannual program review and facility inspection reports.
- The USDA reports from 2018 to the present.
- The minutes of the three most recent IACUC meetings.
- All communications between the institution and AAALAC International for the last three years.
- Standard Operating Procedures relevant to husbandry, enrichment, anesthesia, and social housing.
- Any IACUC approved departures to the provisions of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* and the USDA Animal Welfare Regulations.
- A list of all animal use protocols and representative samples of protocols.
- Any other relevant institutional animal care and use program documents.

We would like to meet with you, your IACUC Chair and/or a representative of your animal care and use committee, the institutional veterinarian, and key members of your animal care and use program, tour the facilities and laboratories holding animals, and look at relevant paperwork. Please contact me regarding a proposed agenda for a visit beginning on Tuesday at approximately 8:00 a.m. as well as directions to an initial meeting site.

Additionally, please provide a current Facility and Species Inventory by building along with a list of procedure areas where vertebrate animal work is performed. Please feel free to contact me by phone 301-402-1922 or email jane.na@nih.gov, to discuss entry requirements and the plan for OLAW's visit.

Sincerely,

Jane J. Na, DVM, CPIA
Director, Division of Assurances
OLAW, National Institutes of Health

cc: IACUC Contacts