



# USDA-APHIS-Animal Care



ANIMAL WELFARE COMPLAINT		
Complaint No. AC22-0766	Date Entered: June 6, 2022	Processed By: Jeremy Flockhart
Referred To: Tonya Hadjis		Reply Due: July 6, 2022
<b>Facility or Person Complaint Filed Against</b>		
Name: THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY	Customer No.: 285	License No.:
Address: 1020 LOCUST ST		Email Address:
City: PHILADELPHIA	State: PA	Phone No.:
<b>Complainant Information</b>		
Name: anonymous	Organization:	
Address:		Email Address:
City:	State:	Phone No.:
How was the Complaint received? Email		
Details of Complaint: See files		
<b>Results:</b> A focused inspection was conducted by USDA on 06/27/2022.  The complainant alleged that post-op care for rabbits at Thomas Jefferson University is not being done in compliance with the IACUC approved protocol. The complainant alleged that the Attending Veterinarian is not tending to pain and distress in a timely fashion. At the time of inspection, no rabbits were present at the facility. USDA official reviewed the active rabbit protocols and corresponding individual records for the rabbits. The procedures detailed in the IACUC protocols corresponded to the procedures performed in the animal records. Rabbits received analgesia, antibiotics, and pain management as detailed in the IACUC approved protocols.  According to the Attending Veterinarian, the clinical veterinary care staff are responsible for managing the anesthesia during procedures and completing post-operative follow-up care. Post-operative records were reviewed by the USDA official. These records documented that monitoring of the rabbits occurred in accordance with the IACUC approved protocol. Daily observations were completed by animal care staff and veterinary technicians. The Attending Veterinarian observes surgical procedures performed at the facility and completes observations of all animals while housed at the facility. Animal health issues are reported to the Attending Veterinarian, who reviews the rabbits and determines treatment.		



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Application Kit Provided: Yes:      No:	
Inspector: JESSICA GOWINS	Date: June 1, 2022
Reviewed By: Tonya Hadjis	Date: August 23, 2022



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

June 6, 2022

anonymous

Dear Complainant,

Thank you for your correspondence dated June 1, 2022. We are reviewing your concerns and assigned tracking number AC22-766. 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:** [noreply@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:noreply@aphis.usda.gov)  
**To:** [APHIS-AnimalCare](#)  
**Subject:** USDA APHIS ANIMAL CARE - Animal Welfare Complaint Submission  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 1, 2022 3:08:05 PM

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**Details of complaint:**

- Name of USDA licensee/registrant: THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY
- USDA license/registration number: 23-R-0011
- City/State: PHILADELPHIA, PA
- Complaint details: POST-OP CARE FOR RABBITS AT TJU IS NOT BEING DONE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE IACUC-APPROVED PROTOCOL. THE ATTENDING VETERINARIAN IS NOT TENDING TO PAIN AND DISTRESS IN A TIMELY FASHION.

Submitted To:

**Complaint Contact Information:**

Can Contact Complainer: No, I would like to remain anonymous.

Name:

Organization:

Street Address:

Apt/Suite:

City / State / Zip: , ,

Phone Number:

Email:

Submitted on: Jun 1, 2022 9:08:00 PM UTC