



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) 402-7065

October 22, 2018

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3551-01 [OLAW Case 1A]

Dr., Michael F. Malone
Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement
University of Massachusetts-Amherst
(b) (4) Whitmore Admin. Building
181 Presidents Drive
Amherst, MA 01003

Dear Dr. Malone,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your October 12, 2018 letter reporting an adverse event at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that a marmoset escaped through a small gap between the transport box and home cage while being transferred after a cognitive testing session and engaged in aggressive behavior with another marmoset who was recovering from surgery, which resulted in the wounding of the escaped marmoset and removal of sutures from the post-surgical animal. Veterinary care was immediately provided to both animals with no additional animal welfare concerns. The animal activity in question was supported by PHS funds.

The corrective actions consisted of modifying the equipment by eliminating the space between the transport box and the home cage and halting cognitive testing until the redesign is complete.

Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken to investigate, correct and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. Your prompt and thorough resolution of this matter is commendable and consistent with the PHS Policy philosophy of monitored self-regulation. We appreciate having been informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Neera V. Gopee, DVM, PhD, DACLAM, DABT
Animal Welfare Program Specialist
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair

Dr. Robert M. Gibbens, Director Western Sector, USDA, APHIS, AC



**University of Massachusetts
Amherst**

IACUC office
Mass Venture Center, Room 217
100 Venture Way
Hadley, MA 01035

**Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research
& Engagement**

voice: 413.545.0668
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October 12, 2018

Dr. Brent Morse, D.V.M.
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
RKL1, Suite 360, MSC 7982
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

Re: PHS Assurance # D16-00337

Dear Dr. Morse,

In compliance with PHS policy, I am writing to provide a report on an adverse event that occurred on Friday, October 5, 2018. The event pertained to research funded by NIH award # 3R21 AG053841-02S1 and covered by IACUC approved protocol # 2016-0065.

During behavioral testing of marmosets, students were returning an animal to its home cage, using a transport box. As the doors to home cage and transport box were lifted, the cage mate jumped into the transport box. While the students waited for the two animals to move back into the home cage, one and then the other rapidly escaped through a small gap where the box was not flush against the home cage.

This set-up and transfer method has been in use for approximately one year with no prior escapes. No one previously detected the gap being large enough for animals to escape.

When the two animals were loose in the room (less than 5 minutes), one fought through the cage with another animal who was recovering from surgery two

days prior. The escaped animal was wounded and the post-surgical animal had sutures pulled out, but did not suffer additional injuries. Both animals were immediately treated by the veterinary staff and have fully recovered; no study data was lost.

The cause of escape was deemed to be due to the equipment, which is now under modification so there will be no space between the box and the cage. It is common practice for behavior testing and surgical recoveries to all occur in the colony room to reduce stress of separation.

We anticipate the redesign of the equipment to provide a rapid and effective solution to this circumstance. No cognitive testing will occur using this set-up until the box is redesigned.

We look forward to your acknowledgment and will answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Michael F. Malone
Vice Chancellor for Research & Engagement
Institutional Official

Cc: Jesse Mager, IACUC Chair

(b) (6)

Dr. Betty Goldentyer, D. V. M., Eastern Regional Director, USDA APHIS Animal Care, 920 Main Campus Drive, (b) (4) Raleigh, NC 27606

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2018 3:03 PM
To: Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: PHS Assurance # D16-00337

Thank you for providing this prompt report. We will send an official response soon.

Best regards, Brent Morse

Brent C. Morse, DVM, DACLAM
Director
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health

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From: Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement [mailto:vcre@umass.edu]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2018 2:26 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)
(b) (6) Betty.J.Goldentyer@aphis.usda.gov; Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement <vcre@umass.edu>
Subject: PHS Assurance # D16-00337

Dear Dr. Morse,

Please find the attached letter reporting on an adverse event that occurred on Friday, October 5, 2018. We look forward to your acknowledgement and feel free to reach out to answer any questions.

Sincerely,
Mike

Michael F. Malone
Vice Chancellor for Research & Engagement
Ronnie & Eugene Isenberg Distinguished Professor of Engineering
University of Massachusetts Amherst
(b) (6) Assistant: (b) (6)