



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

FOR US POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERY:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
Rockledge One, Suite 360  
6705 Rockledge Drive – MSC 7982  
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7982  
Home Page: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>

FOR EXPRESS MAIL:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
Rockledge One, Suite 360  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, Maryland 20817  
Telephone: (301) 496-7163  
Facsimile: (301) 402-7065

June 5, 2018

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
#3348-01 (OLAW Case 1W)

Dr. Thomas F. Murray  
Provost and Institutional Official  
Creighton University  
2500 California Plaza  
Omaha, NE 68178

Dear Dr. Murray,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your May 29, 2018 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Creighton University. This issue was reported to our office by phone on April 25<sup>th</sup>. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on March 19<sup>th</sup> six dead pinkies were found in a cage containing only a male adult mouse. The female had been removed when found dead on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Apparently the pinkies were nestled in the bedding and not seen when the female was removed. The activity to which the mice were assigned was not funded by the PHS.

Corrective actions included the PI meeting with research personnel to discuss the issue and require them to re-read all protocols. The PI's staff created a "REMINDER" to place on the inside of the animal room to remind all personnel to "Check for pups if an adult is removed and verify the sex of the remaining animal in cage" prior to exiting the room. In addition, all oral communication between the ARF and research staff will be followed-up with written instructions via email.

The prompt consideration of this matter by Creighton University was consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. Similarly, the actions taken to resolve the issue and prevent recurrence were appropriate. We appreciate being informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Brent C. Morse, DVM  
Acting Director  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair

May 29, 2018

Dr. Brent Morse  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
RKL1, Suite 1050, MSC 7982  
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7982

Re: Creighton's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Animal Incident Report,  
Assurance Number A3348-01/D16-00226

Dear Dr. Wolff:

Creighton University is submitting a finalized report regarding an animal welfare issue that was initially reported to you via phone on April 25, 2018 by the Research Compliance Auditor.

**Background Information/Animal Welfare Issue:**

On March 19, 2018 6 dead pinkies were found by the Animal Resource Facility (ARF) personnel during rounds. Upon further examination of the cage, it was discovered the 6 dead pinkies were housed with 1 adult male. The respective cage card noted 1 dead female was removed from the cage on March 15, 2018.

Following discussion with research personnel, it is believed that the pinkies were nestled in the bedding and were not seen at the time the female was removed. Standard practice would have been to euthanize or foster the pinkies had they been observed when the dead female was removed.

**Corrective Action Plan Taken:**

The following corrective action plan was formulated by the PI in conjunction with a subcommittee of the IACUC:

- The PI met with the research personnel to discuss the nature of the incident and required the research staff to re-read all protocols.
- The PI's staff created a "REMINDER" to place on the inside of the animal room to remind all personnel to "Check for pups if an adult is removed and verify the sex of the remaining animal in cage" prior to exiting the room.
- Moving forward all oral communication between the ARF and research staff will be followed-up with written instructions via email for clarification.

**Reporting:**

The following agencies/organizations will be contacted regarding this noncompliance:

- The Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC) will be informed of this noncompliance.
- No additional reporting is required as this protocol was not Public Health Service (PHS) funded.

Please feel free to contact Dr. Thomas F. Murray, Provost and Institutional Official, at (b) (6) or Dr. Joseph A. Knezetic, Director of Research Compliance, at (b) (6) if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Thomas F. Murray, Ph.D.  
Institutional Official and  
Provost

(b) (6)

Joseph A. Knezetic, Ph.D.  
Director of Research Compliance

CC: IACUC Chair  
Animal Resource Facility Director  
Research Compliance Office

**Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]**

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 30, 2018 12:20 PM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: Creighton Incident Report - Assurance # A3348-01

Thank you for this report, (b) (6) I'll send a response soon.  
Axel Wolff

**From:** (b) (6)@creighton.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 30, 2018 10:58 AM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** Murray, Thomas F <tfmurray@creighton.edu>; Knezetic, Joseph A <joe@creighton.edu>; (b) (6)  
(b) (6)@creighton.edu>; (b) (6)@creighton.edu>  
**Subject:** Creighton Incident Report - Assurance # A3348-01

Hello,

Attached please find the written incident report as follow-up to the initial report made via phone on April 25, 2018.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)





## Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: *BM*Date: 4/25/18Time: 2:30Name of Person reporting: (b) (6)Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: Creighton UnivAssurance number: A3348Did incident involve PHS funded activity? No

Funding component: \_\_\_\_\_

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

What happened? Adult ♀ mouse found dead in cage on 3/15/18 and removed. Pups found dead on 3/19/18 under litter.

Species involved:

Personnel involved:

Dates and times: 3/19/18

Animal deaths:

Yes, litter of pups

Projected plan and schedule for correction/prevention (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

~ 10 days to submit final report.

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # \_\_\_\_\_