



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

January 10, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3172-01 [OLAW Case JJ]

Dr. Morris Foster  
Vice President, Research  
Old Dominion University  
4111 Monarch Way, (b) (4)  
Norfolk, VA 23508

Dear Dr. Foster,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt in this office on January 10, 2019 of your July 6, 2018 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Old Dominion University (ODU). Your letter supplements the information contained in the prompt preliminary phone report to this office on June 5, 2018. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that mice that were received at the vivarium on May 30, 2018 were used experimentally on a research protocol on May 31, 2018. This was not in keeping with ODU's institutional policy of a 48-hour acclimation period. There were no animal welfare issues. The incident was the result of inadequate communication between the protocol PI and a post-doctoral student regarding the 48-hour acclimation requirement. This activity was funded by the PHS.

Corrective and preventive actions included the IACUC requiring retraining of the PI and the graduate-student on animal-intake procedures. The IACUC also reminded all investigators of the acclimation periods for all species used at ODU.

Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken by Old Dominion University to investigate this incident and prevent recurrence. OLAW concurs that the incident warranted reporting. We appreciate being informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Contact



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

Physical Address

4111 Monarch Way, Suite 203  
Norfolk, Virginia 23508

Mailing Address

Office of Research  
1 Old Dominion University  
Norfolk, Virginia 23529  
Phone (757) 683-3460  
Fax (757) 683-5902

July 6, 2018

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

Subject: Noncompliance final report

Assurance Number A3172-01

Dear Dr. Morse,

The purpose of this report is to provide a final report regarding a non-compliance incident reported to OLAW last month. This incident impacted mice on a PHS-funded project (Antidotes against hydrochloric acid-induced chronic lung injury: John Catravas – PI; NIEHS 1R21ES029309-01).

On May 30, 2018, 40 C57BL/6 mice arrived in the vivarium for use on the research protocol mentioned above. Per ODU's *Acclimation and Stabilization of Animals Used for Research or Teaching* guideline, all mice must have a 48-hour acclimation period prior to use, unless an exception has been approved by the Attending Veterinarian or IACUC. In this instance, no exception had been approved, and the mice were used experimentally on May 31, 2018.

During routine afternoon health checks, at approximately 2:15pm on May 31, an Animal Care Technician noticed that the mice were being operated on and immediately reported this to the Animal Facility Manager (AFM). The AFM reported the situation to the Senior Research Compliance Coordinator, Attending Veterinarian and IACUC Chair.

After determining that no further work was being conducted and that the welfare of the animals did not appear to have been compromised, Dr. Catravas (PI) was contacted regarding the incident. The apparent cause was that a post-doctoral student in Dr. Catravas' lab who did not normally handle the animals at intake did so in this instance. He was unaware of the acclimation period and proceeded with the protocol he normally would when animals are provided to him. Dr. Catravas acknowledged full responsibility for this incident as he had not communicated the acclimation period requirement to his student.

This incident was discussed by the IACUC at their convened meeting held on June 28, 2018. Given that the incident appeared to be unintentional and that no harm appeared to be done to the mice on the protocol, the IACUC determined that an educational approach was warranted. Both the PI and post-doctoral student were retrained on animal intake procedures. Additionally, the IACUC used this as an opportunity to conduct outreach to all investigators and remind them of the acclimation periods for all species used at ODU.

Please feel free to contact me by e-mail ([mfoster@odu.edu](mailto:mfoster@odu.edu)) or phone ( [REDACTED] (b) (6) ) should you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Morris W. Foster, Ph.D  
Vice President for Research

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
Dr. Stephen Beebe, IACUC Chair  
Dr. Len Murray, ODU Attending Veterinarian

## Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

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**From:** Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 10, 2019 11:11 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: copy of incident report

Thank you for sending this 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

Please note that this message and any of its attachments are intended for the named recipient(s) only and may contain confidential, protected or privileged information that should not be distributed to unauthorized individuals. If you have received this message in error, please contact the sender.

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**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 10, 2019 10:43 AM  
**To:** Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E] <morseb@mail.nih.gov>  
**Subject:** copy of incident report

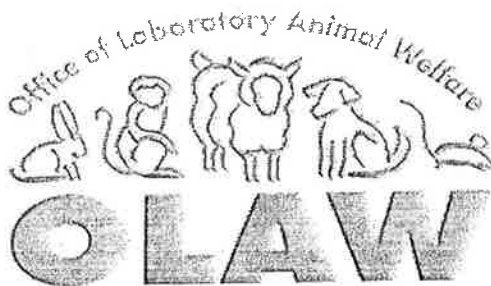
Dear Dr. Morse,

Attached is a copy of the incident report we discussed earlier this morning. Please let me know if I can provide you with any additional information.

Best regards,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)



## Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: *mgm*Date: *6/5/18*Time: *1:20*Name of Person reporting: (b) (6)Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: *Old Dominion Univ.*Assurance number: *A3172*Did incident involve PHS funded activity? *Yes R21 grant*

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

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

What happened? *Mice used upon receipt of shipment*  
*w/o required 48 acclimatization period.*Species involved: *Mice*Personnel involved: *Investigator*Dates and times: *5/30/18*Animal deaths: *No*

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

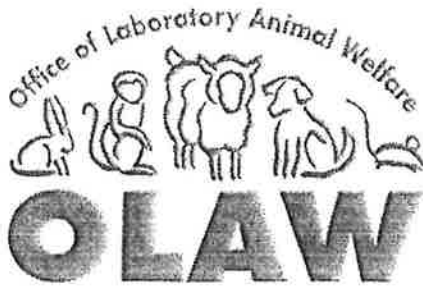
*PI counseled.*

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

*End of June*

OFFICE USE ONLY

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



Division of Compliance Oversight

Record of Call for Case # A3172-J

Date & Time	Message (b)(6)	Initials
1/10/19 10:00	[REDACTED] will "re-send" the final report.	Bmm