



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) 402-7063

February 28, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
#A3227-01 (OLAW Case 5N)

Dr. John F. Manning, Jr.
Chief Operating Officer
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
(b) (4) Medical Center North
11611 21st Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37232-2104

Dear Dr. Manning,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your February 27, 2019 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, following up on an initial telephone report on December 17, 2018. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that a box of mice was unintentionally discarded along with empty containers by a Cagewash Technician.

The corrective actions consisted of extensively retraining all animal caretakers, cagewash technicians, and facility managers. Ongoing continuing education will also take place.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that measures have been implemented to prevent recurrence of this problem. OLAW concurs with the actions taken by the institution to comply with the PHS Policy.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Deputy Director
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair
Director of Animal Welfare



February 27, 2019

*John F. Manning, Jr., Ph.D., MBA
Chief Operating Officer
Corporate Chief of Staff*

Axel Wolff, MS, DVM
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive – MSC 7982
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

Regarding: Vanderbilt University Medical Center - Assurance #A-3227-01

Dear Dr. Wolff:

In accordance with PHS Policy IV.F.3.a., Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC)/ Vanderbilt University (VU) or the Department of Veterans Affairs Tennessee Valley Healthcare System (TVHS) Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is self-reporting an incident involving one container of mice that were unintentionally disposed of prior to unpacking. A preliminary report was filed via phone by VUMC with OLAW on December 17, 2018.

This is the final report provided to the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) regarding the issue.

Species Involved: Mouse

Funding Source: Not applicable

Incident Description:

The Office of Animal Welfare Assurance (OAWA) received an initial self-report of the incident from the Division of Animal Care (DAC) on November 27, 2018. The self-report and OAWA-completed investigation indicated that on November 27th, five containers of mice were received, but only four were unpacked by the Animal Care Technicians (ACT). The remaining box was inadvertently removed and discarded by a Cagewash Technician (CWT) with the other empty containers.

IACUC Actions Taken and Corrective Plans:

The information gathered by OAWA during its investigation was brought to the attention of the IACUC at a convened meeting on December 12, 2018. The IACUC discussed the facts and voted to require that the DAC retrain and document the training of all pertinent staff on the relevant standard operating procedures (SOPs) and job aides.

Implementation of Changes:

The DAC response from January 14, 2019 indicated that the Facility Managers, ACTs and CWTs were retrained in a large-group setting on January 7th and 8th. To ensure that the staff is fully trained and proficient the

managers conducted additional small-group training during the week of January 14th. This training included review of the SOPs and job aides with hands-on examples. Continuing education will occur annually and will be documented in an internal training system.

The IACUC discussed the incident and the DAC's response at a convened meeting on January 23, 2019. The IACUC found that the DAC addressed the concerns and provided an appropriate plan to prevent recurrence of the issue. The IACUC considers the incident closed.

As always, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Vanderbilt University and the Department of Veterans Affairs Tennessee Valley Healthcare System remain committed to the highest standards of compliance related to the humane use of animals in research, teaching and testing.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or Dr. Scott Bury at (b) (6) with any questions.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

John F. Manning, Jr., PhD, MBA
Institutional Official

cc:

(b) (6)

Scott D. Bury, PhD, CPIA, Director, OAWA
Ronald B. Emeson, PhD, IACUC Chair
James R. Swearengen, DVM, DACLAM, Global Director, AAALAC International
Jeanne M. Wallace, DVM, DACLAM, Attending Veterinarian

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 2:30 PM
To: (b) (6) OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Letters from VUMC A3227-01

Thank you for providing these reports. I will forward them to Dr. Wolff who will send official responses.

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.

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 12:07 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Letters from VUMC A-32227-01

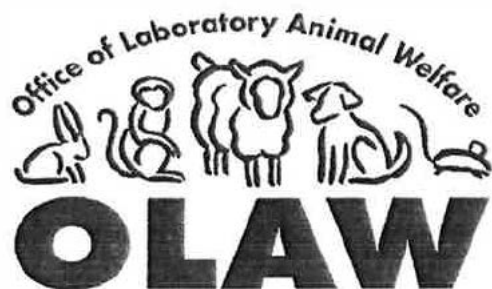
Good Morning,

Please find attached three letters from the Vanderbilt IACUC. One of the three is a follow-up letter with more information on the #5R incident. Let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)



Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: aw

Date: 12/17/18

Time: 3:00

Name of Person reporting: Scott Bury

Telephone #: (6)

Fax #: _____

Email: _____

Name of Institution: Vanderbilt U

Assurance number: A3227

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? yes

Funding component: _____

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): _____

What happened?

1 box of mice gone at receipt, probably thrown out. Animal care wash tech didn't follow procedures.

Species involved: Mice

Personnel involved: _____

Dates and times: _____

Animal deaths: _____

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

Retraining, human resources plan

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # _____