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The University of Oklahoma
Health Sciences Center

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

June 20, 2018

Neera Gopee, DVM, PhD
Veterinary Medical Officer
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
RKL 1, Suite 360, MSC 7982
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892
gopeenv@od.nih.gov
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Dear Dr. Gopee:

The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC), in accordance with Assurance D16-00104 and PHS Policy IV.F.3., provides this final report of an incident that my designee reported to you on May 22, 2018, involving a non-PHS funded project. The University's final report is as follows:

On April 24, 2018, animal care staff observed a research associate not following the IACUC's approved practices while euthanizing mice with carbon dioxide. The animal care staff made the research associate aware of the procedural deviations and immediately assured all other animals were euthanized in accordance with the IACUC's approved practice. The animal care staff then promptly reported the incident to a program veterinarian. The veterinarian exercised veterinary authority and issued a directive that the PI's research associates would no longer perform euthanasia on animals. The veterinarian advised the IACUC of this issue shortly thereafter.

On May 2, 2018, after consulting with members of the IACUC, the PI elected to voluntarily cease all IACUC approved animal use activities, effective immediately. The PI then proposed a remediation plan to the IACUC. During its general Committee meeting on May 9, 2018, the IACUC reviewed a summary of the events and the following remediation plan proposed by the PI:

- During the duration that all IACUC approved animal use activities are ceased, the PI and research associates will review approved animal activities and implement mandatory training on the University's animal care and use program policies.
- The PI will ensure the on-going care of his research animals while the laboratory has ceased all IACUC approved animal use activities.
- A research associate in the PI's laboratory was assigned to help manage the PI's animal activities. The associate will participate in the Animal Research Coordinator (ARC) certification program offered by the University's Office of Animal Welfare Assurance

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Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2018 1:24 PM
To: Tomasek, James J. (HSC)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Final Report

Thank you for this report, Dr. Tomasek. Dr. Gopee will send a response soon.

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Deputy Director, OLAW

From: Tomasek, James J. (HSC) [mailto:James-Tomasek@ouhsc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2018 11:23 AM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>; Gopee, Neera (NIH/OD) [E] <neera.gopee@nih.gov>
Cc: Howard, Eric W. (HSC) <Eric-Howard@ouhsc.edu>; Banks, Ron E (HSC) <Ron-Banks@ouhsc.edu>; Nettleton, Sandra L (HSC) <Sandra-Nettleton@ouhsc.edu>; (b) (6)
Subject: Final Report

Dear Dr. Gopee,

Please find attached the final report to the preliminary report provided to you May 22, 2018.

Sincerely,

Jim Tomasek

James J. Tomasek, Ph.D.
Vice President for Research
David Ross Boyd Professor of Cell Biology

University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
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Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: Neera Goree

Date: 5-22-18

Time: 4:07

Name of Person reporting: (b) (6)

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: University of Oklahoma HSC

Assurance number: A3165-01

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? Not sure

Funding component: _____

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): _____

What happened?

1 adult mouse and a litter of 4 days old pups were
inappropriately euthanized via CO₂ asphyxiation

Species involved: mice

Personnel involved: Research associate

Dates and times:

Animal deaths:

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

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # _____