



### Inspection Report

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University of Puerto Rico  
PO Box 365067 - Medical Science Campus  
San Juan, PR 00936

Customer ID: **960**  
Certificate: **94-R-0109**  
Site: 003  
SABANA SECA

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION  
Date: 22-JUL-2022

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**2.38(f)(1) Critical**

**Miscellaneous.**

The lack of adequate husbandry and animal care practices animal during the University's Union incident during February 17th and 18th, 2022 was noncompliant with the handling of animals under the regulations of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA); four nonhuman primates died, and one nonhuman primate had escaped when personnel/normalcy returned to the premises. According to facility reports to the IACUC, on February 17th, a hospitalized animal was found dead in her treatment cage approximately at 11:00am; five hours overdue for medical treatment (staff normally starts at 6:00am). A report to the IACUC on February 18th stated that another two animals were found dead in their respective enclosures; carcasses not removed from enclosures until late (cause of deaths unknown). Early on February 17th, an animal was identified as injured by his conspecifics, but was not removed from its enclosure or treated until after 3:00pm; facility veterinarians humanly euthanized the animal on February 19th due to poor prognosis. Also early on February 17th, an animal escaped its enclosure, and was observed attacking other animals from other enclosures; the animal was not trapped until after 3:00pm. Failure to handle animals appropriately can lead to deteriorating health and welfare, including escapes and death. The facility shall be able to handle animals at all times expeditiously, carefully, and in a manner that does not cause trauma, behavioral stress, or physical harm to members of the nonhuman primate colony, by providing the AWA-required husbandry and animal care practices.

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**Prepared By:** MARIO MERCADO  
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

**Date:**  
01-AUG-2022

**Title:** VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

**Received by Title:** Attending Veterinarian

**Date:**  
01-AUG-2022



### Inspection Report

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To be completed by: July 23, 2022

**3.85 Critical**

**Employees.**

Due to the University's Union incident on February 17th and 18th, 2022, the entrance to the Sabana Seca site premises was blocked, preventing access of required/essential personnel to the facility. Only up to four out of the total 20 qualified facility personnel were able to enter the facility during the two days of the incident, which resulted in the delivery of inadequate husbandry and animal care services to a colony of over 2,300 nonhuman primates. As a result, four nonhuman primates died; two found dead in their enclosures, one found dead in the facility's hospital, and one died by humane euthanasia two days after due to complications of traumatic injuries by conspecifics. Any facility subject to the Animal Welfare Act regulations must have enough employees to carry out the level of husbandry practices and care at all times. The lacking in number and adequately trained employees can lead to inadequate husbandry and care to nonhuman primates, posing a risk to their health and welfare. Also, in order to handle nonhuman primates, sufficient number of employees must be trained and supervised by an individual who has the knowledge, background, and experience in proper husbandry and care of nonhuman primates to supervise others. The research facility must be certain that the supervisor can perform to these standards.

To be completed by: August 22, 2022

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with two facility representatives.

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USDA, APHIS, Animal Care  
**Title:** VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

**Date:**  
01-AUG-2022

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### Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
960	94-R-0109	003	SABANA SECA	22-JUL-2022

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
002392	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>	RHESUS MACAQUE
002392	<b>Total</b>	