



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
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December 21, 2020

Dr. Alka Chandna
Vice President, Laboratory Investigations Cases
Laboratory Investigations Department
People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals
1536 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Dr. Chandna:

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) has completed its investigation regarding allegations by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) concerning the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine as contained in your May 7, 2020 letter to our Office. Please note that the PHS Assurance number cited in your letter was incorrect. Background information was reviewed, and interviews conducted. OLAW has determined that the results of the investigation did not confirm any of the allegations cited in your letter. In fact, for the allegation of improper CO₂ euthanasia, the single incident cited was never brought to the attention of the institution even though appropriate methods are in place for anonymous reporting.

OLAW shares your concern for the welfare of laboratory animals. We find the animal care and use program at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine to be operating consistent with the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* and the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. We find no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

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