



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

February 25, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3208-01 [OLAW Case 1F]

Dr. Theresa S. Mayer
Vice President for Research
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and
State University – Blacksburg
(b) (4) Burruss Hall, (Mail Code 0244)
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0244

Dear Dr. Mayer,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your January 30, 2019 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that a laboratory technician failed to ensure death after conducting a euthanasia procedure on a mouse.

The corrective actions consisted of the Principal Investigator reviewing the protocol procedures and responsibilities with the laboratory staff, retraining the PI and staff on the appropriate conduct of euthanasia, having the Office of the University Veterinarian provide training for future staff, and having the PI maintain records on staff training and competency assessment.

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 and recommends that if the same noncompliance occurs in various laboratories, that a program wide preventive approach needs to be applied. All animals users are to be trained and competency assessed prior to performing any animal related activities. Thank you for informing OLAW about this matter.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Chair



Division of Scholarly Integrity and Research Compliance
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)
North End Center
300 Turner St NW, Suite 4120
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061
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Email: IACUCadmin@vt.edu
www.research.vt.edu/iacuc

January 30, 2019

Axel Wolff, DVM
Director, Divisions of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
Rockledge 1, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892

Final report regarding serious protocol noncompliance at Virginia Tech [Assurance #A-3208-01]

Dear Dr. Wolff:

Virginia Tech, in accordance with Assurance A-3208-01 and PHS Policy IV.F.3., provides this report of serious noncompliance regarding an incident of improper euthanasia of a mouse on a protocol entitled "Mouse breeding protocol."

On September 27, 2018, the Office of the University Veterinarian (OUV) and IACUC office was notified that a PI's lab technician had failed to ensure the death of an animal after a euthanasia procedure. The IACUC discussed the incident at the December 17, 2018 convened meeting, approved corrective steps taken and requested additional corrective actions from the PI:

1. The PI convened an emergency lab meeting on September 27, 2018 to identify the responsible study personnel and review protocol procedures and personnel responsibilities.
2. The PI and all lab technicians received re-training on October 2, 2018 by the OUV regarding euthanasia policies and procedures.
3. The IACUC recommended collaborating with the OUV for all future study personnel requiring euthanasia training. The IACUC reminded the PI that

documentation of personnel training to demonstrate competency with animal handling and protocol procedures is required to be maintained.

The funding source for the offspring of this mouse is the National Eye Institute (R01EY021222C). Per PHS requirement the PI has been informed that he must work with his grant administrator to determine any funding related actions that must be taken.

Virginia Tech is committed to protecting the welfare of animals used in research and appreciates the guidance and assistance provided by OLAW in this regard. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact ^{(b) (6)} [REDACTED]
^{(b) (6)} [REDACTED]

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

^{(b) (6)} [REDACTED]

Dr. Theresa Mayer
Vice President for Research and Innovation
Institutional Official
Virginia Tech

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2019 10:01 AM
To: (b) (6) OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Final Reports

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you for these reports (b) (6) We will send official responses soon.

Best regards, Brent Morse

Brent C. Morse, DVM, DACLAM
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2019 12:24 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Final Reports

To Whom It May Concern,

Attached, please find three final noncompliance reports.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call (b) (6)

Thanks,
(b) (6)

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(b) (6)