

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has evidence that on or about the date(s) listed below, you or your organization committed the following alleged violation(s) of Federal laws:

## Date of Alleged Violation: May 12, 2023

**9 C.F.R. § 3.92(a)(1)** Handling. Any person subject to the Animal Welfare regulations who moves (including loading and unloading) nonhuman primates within, to, or from the animal holding area of a terminal facility or a primary conveyance must do so as quickly and efficiently as possible, and must provide the following during movement of the nonhuman primate: (1) Shelter from sunlight and extreme heat. Sufficient shade must be provided to protect the nonhuman primate from the direct rays of the sun. A nonhuman primate must not be exposed to an ambient temperature above 85 °F (29.5 °C) for a period of more than 45 minutes while being moved to or from a primary conveyance or a terminal facility, the ambient temperature must be measured in the manner provided in § 3.91(d) of this subpart.

The University of California Davis (UC Davis) failed to ensure a nonhuman primate was moved in a primary conveyance as quickly and efficiently as possible, and failed to ensure the nonhuman primate was not exposed to ambient temperatures above 85 °F (29.5 °C) for a period of more than 45 minutes while being moved in the primary conveyance to a terminal facility.

As detailed on the October 10, 2023 inspection report, two rhesus macaques were moved in a transportation van to another building for a procedure. The external temperature was 61 °F, and upon arrival to the facility, the staff left the heater running. Facility staff took one macaque inside and left a geriatric female rhesus macaque in the van. Because the first macaque experienced complications during an anesthetic procedure, facility staff left the second macaque in the van unattended for longer than usual. During one of the checks, the macaque was found unresponsive. Despite immediate cooling and resuscitative procedures, the animal's temperature was consistent with hyperthermia. It was stabilized to below normal within ninety minutes, but the animal never regained consciousness and was humanely euthanized. The heater in the van was not thermostatically controlled and the temperature rose resulting in hyperthermia in the macaque

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remaining in the van. The necropsy indicated significant comorbidities in the macaque but confirmed that the cause of death was likely heat related.

## Date of Alleged Violation: August 22, 2023

**9** C.F.R. § 2.33(b)(3) Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care. Each research facility shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care, including (3) daily observation of all animals to assess their health and well-being. That daily observation of animals may be accomplished by someone other than the attending veterinarian provided that, a mechanism of direct and frequent communication is required so that timely and accurate information on problems of animal health, behavior, and well-being is conveyed to the attending veterinarian.

UC Davis failed to ensure daily observations of an animal to assess its health and well-being, and failed to ensure timely and accurate information was conveyed to an attending veterinarian.

As detailed on the October 10, 2023 inspection report, in late May 2023, after attempted weight loss efforts with reduced food indoors was unsuccessful, a 10-year-old overweight male macaque was moved from indoor to outdoor housing. To facilitate increased movement and socialization, the macaque was placed in an approximately 400 square foot enclosure with 14 juvenile macaques. Initially, the newly formed group was closely monitored for compatibility, with no issues identified. On August 22, 2023, staff conducting the daily observations presented the macaque to veterinarians for concerns of lethargy, diarrhea, and possible weight loss. At that time, the macaque weighed 8.17 kg, representing a significant weight loss over the three-month period between May and August. The veterinarians initiated appropriate supportive care and diagnostics to address the weight loss, but the macaque appeared to have entered a metabolic fatty liver syndrome. The macaque was humanely euthanized on August 23, 2023. A necropsy was performed and identified extensive liver and kidney amyloidosis, bronchopneumonia, and colitis but no specific cause of death was identified.

## Date of Alleged Violation: December 3, 2023

9 C.F.R. § 3.80(a)(2)(ii) Primary enclosures. Primary enclosures must be constructed and maintained so that they (ii) protect the nonhuman primates from injury.

UC Davis failed to ensure primary enclosures were constructed and maintained so that they protect nonhuman primates from injury.

As detailed on the January 4, 2024 inspection report, on December 3, 2023, a juvenile rhesus macaque housed in a field enclosure was found deceased and entangled in a bungie cord which had come loose from the overhead canvas canopy. When one bungie cord came loose on the perimeter of the enclosure, it was long enough to be pulled into the enclosure. A juvenile macaque was able to reach up through the fenced ceiling and became entangled. The necropsy report

indicated pre-existing heart disease (a known predisposition to sudden death in this colony) as well as entanglement played a role in the cause of death.

## Date of Alleged Violation: March 11, 2024

**9** C.F.R. § **3.125(a)** Facilities, general. Structural strength. The facility must be constructed of such material and of such strength as appropriate for the animals involved. The indoor and outdoor housing facilities shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury and to contain the animals.

UC Davis failed to ensure facilities were structurally sound and maintained in good repair to contain the animals.

As detailed on the May 21, 2024 inspection report, on March 11, 2024, facility personnel discovered that during the previous night, two short-tailed opossums escaped their enclosures in the opossum breeding room. One of the female opossums was recovered in an escape enclosure. The second small female opossum, approximately 12-14 months old, weighing approximately 60-70 grams, was found deceased in the breeding room.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) published federal regulations to ensure the welfare of animals and help prevent the spread of animal and plant pests and diseases. Since violations of the regulations can have serious and costly impacts that are detrimental to the public interest, APHIS is providing you with an Official Warning for the alleged violation(s) described above. This Official Warning is not to be construed as a final agency action, or as an adjudicated finding of a violation. If APHIS obtains evidence of any future violation of these federal regulations, APHIS may pursue sanctions, which may include criminal prosecution, for this alleged violation(s) and for any future violation(s). If you have any questions concerning this Official Warning or alleged violation(s), please contact the APHIS official listed in this notice.

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