

September 2, 2025

Bernadette Juarez
Deputy Administrator, Animal Care
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Via e-mail: bernadette.r.juarez@usda.gov

PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS

Washington
1536 16th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
202-483-PETA

Los Angeles
2154 W. Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90026
323-644-PETA

Norfolk
501 Front St.
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-622-PETA
Info@peta.org
PETA.org

Dear Ms. Juarez:

I am writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) to request that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) investigate a failure among a registered research facility, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette New Iberia Research Center (72-R-0007), and a registered carrier, JKL Secure Freight (88-T-0010), to abide by federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA) regulations established to ensure the safe and legal movement of primates throughout the U.S.

Through the Freedom of Information Act, PETA received certificates of veterinary inspection (CVIs) from multiple state agencies documenting the veterinary inspection required for the interstate transport of primates. CVIs serve as records of the movements of primates and are essential in the surveillance, control, and eradication programs for many pathogens.

A CVI received from the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry shows that the New Iberia Research Center and JKL Secure Freight have apparently violated Animal Welfare Regulations (AWRs). As you know, CVIs are signed by USDA-accredited and state-licensed veterinarians. They are legal, regulatory documents required by law to be completed no more than 10 days prior to the delivery of primates. Carriers may only accept primates for transportation if the animals are accompanied by a valid CVI.

9 CFR § 2.78(a)(1): “No dealer … shall deliver to any intermediate handler or carrier for transportation, in commerce, or shall transport in commerce … any … nonhuman primate unless the … nonhuman primate is accompanied by a health certificate executed and issued by a licensed veterinarian [stating that] the licensed veterinarian inspected the … nonhuman primate on a specified date which shall not be more than 10 days prior to the delivery of the … nonhuman primate for transportation.”

9 CFR § 2.78(c): “No intermediate handler or carrier to whom any live dog, cat, or nonhuman primate is delivered for transportation by any dealer, research facility, exhibitor … shall receive a live dog, cat, or

Entities

- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Switzerland
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)

nonhuman primate for transportation, in commerce, unless and until it is accompanied by a health certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section, or an exemption issued by the Secretary in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section.”

9 CFR § 2.38(h)(1)(i): “No research facility, including a Federal research facility, shall deliver to any intermediate handler or carrier for transportation, in commerce, or shall transport in commerce any ... nonhuman primate unless the ... nonhuman primate is accompanied by a health certificate executed and issued by a licensed veterinarian. The health certificate shall state that ... the licensed veterinarian inspected the ... nonhuman primate on a specified date which shall not be more than 10 days prior to the delivery of the ... nonhuman primate for transportation.”

The attached CVI is for the movement of 10 long-tailed macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*) by JKL Secure Freight from New Iberia Research Center to Charles River Laboratories, Reno. The inspection occurred on December 12, 2024, while the monkeys were not shipped until January 8, 2025, **28 days after the initial inspection.**

CVIs are a critical requirement for tracking and verifying the health status of animals in transit—especially in the primate trade, where persistent tuberculosis outbreaks in colonies make timely, accurate health certification essential for protecting animal welfare, public health, and biosecurity. This lapse is even more concerning given that recent findings have documented [tuberculosis circulating in multiple primate facilities](#) during 2023–2024, including several operated by Charles River Laboratories.

This is not the first time JKL Secure Freight has violated AWA regulations; they have had eight violations related to the transportation of nonhuman primates since 2022. On June 1, 2022, the company received a [violation](#) for failing to abide by 9 CFR § 2.78(c) while transporting nonhuman primates on 14 different occasions, following a complaint submitted to USDA by PETA. Another one of the occasions PETA brought to USDA’s attention in the complaint came from Charles River – Reno, which was also [cited](#) by USDA for the improper shipment. On April 21, 2023, the company received a [repeat violation](#), as they once again accepted nonhuman primates for transport who had not been inspected by a licensed veterinarian within 10 days of the shipment date. This was also brought to USDA’s attention by PETA. In July 2023, it was [cited](#) following a shipment of 336 monkeys imported on Ethiopian Airlines were left in crates on the hot Atlanta tarmac for 95 minutes and then roughly handled as they were packed into JKL trailers for transport to laboratories. These repeated violations continue to increase the risk of unhealthy monkeys being transported, while also putting staff transporting the monkeys, staff at the receiving institutions, and potentially the public at risk.

The public expects that USDA-accredited veterinarians and primate facilities comply with federal regulations designed to safeguard animal welfare and protect public health. We urge the USDA to investigate these apparent violations and take swift, decisive action, including issuing citations to both registrants for each of the AWRs violated. Given JKL’s repeated failure to

uphold AWA requirements for primate transportation inspections, we also urge you to refer the case to the USDA's Investigative and Enforcement Services for further action.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Amy Meyer
Associate Director of Primate Experimentation Campaigns
Laboratory Investigations Department
AmyM@peta.org

Enclosure

Certificate of Veterinary Inspection



CERTIFICATE OF VETERINARY INSPECTION

CERTIFICATE NUMBER

72-012660-405509-1

Contact State of Destination for Movement Requirements and Certificate Validity - Certificate is valid for thirty days from date of inspection

REC 1/6/2025

INTERNATIONAL REGULAR HEALTH MAINTENANCE PROGRAM 72 Hour Hold

INSPECTION DATE	ISSUE DATE	SHIP DATE	ENTRY PERMIT #	BRAND INSPECTION FORM #	BRAND INSPECTION ISSUE DATE
Dec 12 2024	Jan 06 2025	Jan 08 2025		N/A	

NAME ULLafayette New Iberia Research	ORIGIN OF SHIPMENT	PHONE # 3374820204	NAME Charles River Reno PReclinical Service	PHONE # 7753003009	NAME JKL Secure Transport	PHONE # 7754613631
PHYSICAL ADDRESS 4401 W. Admiral Doyle Dr.	PREMISES I.D. 72-R0007	PHYSICAL ADDRESS 6995 Longley Lane	PREMISES I.D. 14-R0144	PHYSICAL ADDRESS PO Box 18950		
CITY New Iberia	State LA	ZIP 70560	CITY Reno	State NV	CITY Reno	State NV
COUNTRY USA	EMAIL(S) dana.hasselschwert@louisiana.edu james.oliver@louisiana.edu	COUNTRY USA	EMAIL(S)	COUNTRY USA	EMAIL(S)	

NAME ULLafayette New Iberia Research	CONSIGNOR PRESENT OWNER OF SHIPMENT Same as above - <input type="checkbox"/>	NAME Charles River Reno PReclinical Service	CONSIGNEE "NEW OWNER" OF SHIPMENT Same as above - <input type="checkbox"/>	Origin of Shipment GPS Coordinates Latitude <input type="text"/> Longitude <input type="text"/>
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PHYSICAL ADDRESS 4401 W. Admiral Doyle Dr.	COUNTRY USA	PHYSICAL ADDRESS 6995 Longley Lane	COUNTRY USA	TEST RECORDS	
CITY New Iberia	State LA	ZIP 70560	CITY Reno	ZIP 89511	Herd / Flock #

# in Shipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Animals	0	Cervids	0	Purpose(s) of Movement (check all that apply)	Show <input type="checkbox"/> Sale <input type="checkbox"/> Training <input type="checkbox"/> Grazing <input type="checkbox"/> Race <input type="checkbox"/> Breeding <input type="checkbox"/> Slaughter <input type="checkbox"/> Pet <input type="checkbox"/> Rodeo <input type="checkbox"/> Feeding <input type="checkbox"/> Medical <input type="checkbox"/> Companion Animal <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Travel/Transit <input type="checkbox"/> Owner relocating <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) <input type="checkbox"/>	Intra-state <input type="checkbox"/>	Carrier <input type="checkbox"/> Air <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Boat <input type="checkbox"/> Rail <input type="checkbox"/> Car <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Land <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Flock / Herd Free For <input type="checkbox"/> TB Free <input type="checkbox"/> John's <input type="checkbox"/> NPIP <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Bruc. <input type="checkbox"/> Scrapie <input type="checkbox"/> PRV <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Trich <input type="checkbox"/> EIA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Current State / Area Status Tuberculosis <input type="checkbox"/> Free <input type="checkbox"/> MAA <input type="checkbox"/> MA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA Brucellosis <input type="checkbox"/> Free <input type="checkbox"/> Class A <input type="checkbox"/> Class B Class C <input type="checkbox"/> GYA, DSA (Class A) <input type="checkbox"/> PRV Free <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Beef Cattle	0	Dairy Cattle	0	Camelids	0						
Horses	0	Sheep	0	Semen/Embryos	0						
Goats	0	Swine	0	Aquaculture	0						
Avian	0	Dogs & Cats	0	Other	0						

VETERINARY CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS:	Transfer of cynomolgus macaques (Macaca fascicularis) for the conduct of research ; Fecal check -deworming Ivermectin
VIOLATION NO ENTRY PERMIT	

Line #	Qty	Species	OFFICIAL/FEDERAL EAR TAG # REGISTRATION TATTOO OR OTHER PERMANENT IDENTIFICATION *** You may place up to four unique animal identifiers with a comma between each entry ***	Age	Breed	Sex	Bruc Vac Tattoo	Test Date	Test	Accession #	Result +/-	Lab	Rabies/Other
1	1	OTH	[REDACTED]	>3 y	Cyno	Male		12/12/2024	TB MOT	N/A	N		Macaque panel, PCR SRV-Neg
2	1	OTH	[REDACTED]	>3 y	Cyno	Male		12/12/2024	TB MOT	N/A	N		Macaque panel, PCR SRV-Neg
3	1	OTH	[REDACTED]	>3 y	Cyno	Male		12/12/2024	TB MOT	N/A	N		Macaque panel, PCR SRV-Neg
4	1	OTH	[REDACTED]	>3y	Cyno	Male		12/12/2024	TB MOT	N/A	N		Macaque panel, PCR SRV-Neg

VETERINARY CERTIFICATION - I certify, as an accredited veterinarian that the above described animals have been inspected by me and that they are not showing signs of infectious, contagious and/or communicable disease (except where noted). The vaccinations and results of tests are indicated on the certificate. To the best of my knowledge, the animals listed on this certificate meet the state of destination and federal interstate requirements. No further warranty is made or implied.

OFFICIAL OFFICE USE ONLY

SIGNATURE 	NAME <input type="text"/> Dana Hasselschwert	STATE OF LICENSE <input type="text"/> LA
DATE <input type="text"/> Jan 06 2025	PHONE <input type="text"/> 3373691056	ADDRESS <input type="text"/> 4401 W. Admiral Doyle Dr
	E-MAIL <input type="text"/> dana.hasselschwert@louisiana.edu	LICENSE# <input type="text"/> 2027
	USDA ACCR.# <input type="text"/> 012660	CATEGORY <input type="text"/> II
	New Iberia	LA
		70560



OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE OF VETERINARY INSPECTION

CERTIFICATE NUMBER

72-012660-405509-1

Name of Consignor/Owner ULLafayette New Iberia Rese			Name of Consignee/Owner Charles River Reno PRecl			Vet Name: Dana Hasselschwert			# in Movement		Date Jan 06 2025				
Line #	Qty	Species	OFFICIAL/FEDERAL EAR TAG # REGISTRATION TATTOO OR OTHER PERMANENT IDENTIFICATION *** You may place up to four unique animal identifiers with a comma between each entry ***			Age	Breed	Sex	Bruc Vac Tattoo	Test Date	Test	Accession #	Result +/-	Lab	Rabies/Other
5	1	OTH	[REDACTED]			>3y	Cyno	Male		12/12/2024	TB MOT	N/A	N		Macaque panel, PCR SRV-Neg
6	1	OTH	[REDACTED]			>3y	Cyno	Female		12/12/2024	TB MOT	N/A	N		Macaque panel, PCR SRV-Neg
7	1	OTH	[REDACTED]			>3y	Cyno	Female		12/12/2024	TB MOT	N/A	N		Macaque panel, PCR SRV-Neg
8	1	OTH	[REDACTED]			>3y	Cyno	Female		12/12/2024	TB MOT	N/A	N		Macaque panel, PCR SRV-Neg
9	1	OTH	[REDACTED]			>3y	Cyno	Other		12/12/2024	TB MOT	N/A	N		Macaque panel, PCR SRV-Neg
10	1	OTH	[REDACTED]			>3y	Cyno	Other		12/12/2024	TB MOT	N/A	N		Macaque panel, PCR SRV-Neg