



September 25, 2025

Deborah Schenk, DVM  
Executive Director  
New Mexico Board of Veterinary Medicine  
7301 Jefferson Street, N.E.  
Albuquerque, NM 87109-4363

Delivered via email: [Deborah.Schenk@bvm.nm.gov](mailto:Deborah.Schenk@bvm.nm.gov)

Dear Ms. Schenk,

I am checking in to see if there are any new updates relative to the [email string](#) from August 14, 2025. In addition to my previous complaint, I would like to bring to the Board's attention the [USDA Inspection Report from August 2025](#). This report documents yet more serious failures at Lovelace Biomedical Research Institute—failures that fall squarely under the responsibility of the attending veterinarian.

At Lovelace, the attending veterinarian is the professional authority charged with ensuring that animals are not exposed to preventable suffering, that protocols comply with federal law, and that staff are adequately trained to respond to welfare risks. Yet USDA inspectors continue to document lapses that demonstrate a breakdown of veterinary leadership.

- Inspectors found that on June 15, 2025, 24 quarantined, long-tailed macaques were left in dangerously high heat for hours after climate-control alarms sounded. As the senior veterinary authority, the Attending Veterinarian and veterinary staff are directly responsible for ensuring that basic husbandry standards—such as safe housing temperatures—are maintained and that warning alarms are acted upon immediately. Their failure to do so placed animals at risk of heat stress and suffering.
- Inspectors cited Lovelace's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) for approving Protocol #FY25-132, which authorized a maximum-tolerated-dose experiment, classified as Category E, on four beagle dogs. By definition, Category E experiments subject animals to unrelieved pain and distress. Yet the IACUC approved this protocol without any documentation of a required literature search for alternatives, and with the principal investigator explicitly stating that no alternatives were considered. The absence of this fundamental information should have been apparent to the Attending Veterinarian at the time of review.

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

Entities:

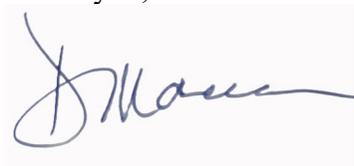
- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Switzerland
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)

These failures are not isolated---they reveal a veterinary staff that is failing at its most basic professional duties. Now, in 2025, monkeys endured the very same neglect. The fact that the identical violation recurred two years apart is not coincidence. It is evidence that Lovelace's attending veterinarian and veterinary staff have not corrected systemic problems, have not ensured adequate training, and have not upheld the legal and ethical standards required of their profession. This is not a paperwork gap or staff error—it is a failure of veterinary leadership that falls directly within the scope of the Board's oversight.

In each case, USDA inspectors held exit interviews with the attending veterinarian, underscoring that the AV was fully aware of these violations. By law and by professional ethics, the AV bears ultimate responsibility for safeguarding animal welfare. The persistence of these violations demonstrates a pattern of ineffective oversight and abdication of duty by Lovelace's veterinary leadership.

We urge the Board to investigate these serious infractions and to take appropriate disciplinary action before additional violations occur and more animals are put at risk.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D Manera', is displayed on a light pink rectangular background.

Dorothy Manera  
Senior Technical Advisor  
Laboratory Investigations Department  
PETA