

From: [Walker, Keri \(NIH/OD\) \[C\]](#)
To: csbrown@uab.edu
Cc: [Gibbens, Robert - APHIS](#); dgcannon@uab.edu
Subject: OLAW Case A3255-2J
Date: Thursday, October 1, 2020 3:25:05 PM
Attachments: [Brown UAB 3255-2J.pdf](#)

Dear Dr. Brown,

Attached please find Dr. Morse's final response to OLAW Case A3255-2J.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us by phone or by e-mail.

Best Regards,
Keri

*Keri Walker
Program Analyst (Contractor)
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
6700B Rockledge Dr., Suite 2500
Bethesda, MD 20892
301-435-2390
keri.walker@nih.gov*



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) 480-3387

October 1, 2020

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3255-01 [OLAW Case 2J]

Dr. Christopher S. Brown
Institutional Official
Vice President for Research
University of Alabama- Birmingham
1720 2nd Ave. S, 720C
Birmingham, AL 35294-0107

Dear Dr. Brown,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your September 24, 2020 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Your letter supplements the information in the preliminary phone report received in early June 2020. According to the information provided, OLAW understands a lab self-reported that three female ferrets (out of a total of ten in the cohort) died during a routine research cigarette smoke exposure. A pressurized fresh air line had worked loose over time and detached from the mixing bottle. Because of this, the system supplied more concentrated smoke to the ferrets than typical, affecting the three smallest ferrets in the cohort. The involved animal activity was funded by the PHS.

Corrective actions included the IACUC requiring the PI to maintain a checklist for the equipment to ensure the equipment is in working order before each exposure and to perform weekly checks of the machine when cleaned by the laboratory staff to minimize any reoccurrence.

OLAW appreciates the prompt consideration of this matter by the University of Alabama at Birmingham, which was consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken to investigate and correct the deficiency, and to prevent recurrence. We appreciate being informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

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

cc: IACUC Contact
Dr. Robert M. Gibbens, USDA, APHIS, AC

From: [Gibbens, Robert - APHIS](#)
To: [Martha - APHIS Keller \(Martha.Keller@usda.gov\)](#); [Napoli, Kristin - APHIS](#)
Subject: FW: OLAW Case A3255-2J
Date: Thursday, October 1, 2020 3:33:00 PM
Attachments: [Brown UAB 3255-2J.pdf](#)

FYI

From: Walker, Keri (NIH/OD) [C] [mailto:keri.walker@nih.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 1, 2020 1:25 PM
To: csbrown@uab.edu
Cc: Gibbens, Robert - APHIS <robert.m.gibbens@usda.gov>; dgcannon@uab.edu
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From: [Brown, Christopher](#)
To: [Walker, Keri \(NIH/OD\) \[C\]](#)
Cc: [Gibbens, Robert - APHIS](#); [Cannon, David Grove](#); (b) (6)
Subject: RE: OLAW Case A3255-2J
Date: Thursday, October 1, 2020 5:37:56 PM
Attachments: [Brown UAB 3255-2J.pdf](#)

Keri:

Thank you, letter received.

Chris Brown

Christopher S. Brown, PhD | Vice President for Research

UAB | The University of Alabama at Birmingham

P: (b) (6) | csbrown@uab.edu

From: Walker, Keri (NIH/OD) [C] <keri.walker@nih.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 1, 2020 2:25 PM
To: Brown, Christopher <csbrown@uab.edu>
Cc: Robert.m.gibbens@usda.gov; Cannon, David Grove <dgcannon@uab.edu>
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