

## **URGENT NEWS ADVISORY**

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### **Attention: Daybook/Assignment Desk**

## **UC Davis Monkey Found Dead Hanging by Bungee Cord, and Maggot-infested Corpse of 2d Primate Prompts Watchdog Complaint; 'Open the Cages Tour' Protest Targets UCD Thursday**

**DAVIS, Ca** – Internal records released today on a public website reveal new, shocking incidents of abuse and negligence within the UC Davis California Regional Primate Research Center – leading to an official federal complaint asking for sanctions by a national research watchdog organization.

And, a barnstorming 'Open the Cages Tour' has targeted the primate center for a protest at **11:15 a.m. THURSDAY/July 19** (Hutchison Drive and County Road 98). Similar protests led to scores of arrests since the 1980s. The "Tour" is targeting key animal research facilities along the West Coast.

**COMPLAINT DETAILS:** In the documents released "WikiLeaks-style" by national research watchdog SAEN, post mortems and veterinary records for primates at CRPRC show one monkey died with a Bungee cord wrapped around her neck, and another dead primate was not noticed until the carcass was found infested with maggots.

The documents also disclose more than a dozen animals were engaging in self-destructive behavior, and several were killed by UC Davis.

The shocking incidents at UC Davis have prompted Stop Animal Exploitation NOW (SAEN) to request a federal investigation. A complaint has been filed with the Western Regional Office of the USDA's Animal Care division. The complaint insists on serious penalties.

“If the staff of the UC Davis Primate Center does not notice that a primate is dead until the body is ‘autolyzed and infested with maggots,’ then something is severely wrong,” said Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T., Executive Director SAEN. “And if that wasn’t bad enough, another dead monkey was found after being hung by a bungee cord. Is anyone paying attention?”

In line with organizations like WikiLeaks, SAEN is making approximately 3,000 pages of UC Davis internal records available to the public. “U.S. taxpayers have a right to know what happens in labs like UC Davis,” added Budkie. “After all, they are footing the bill for this negligence.”

Complaint: <http://www.all-creatures.org/saen/ca/res-fr-ca-ucd-letter-usda-20120718.html>

Medical Records (1990 pages): <http://www.all-creatures.org/saen/ca/res-fr-ca-ucd-demographic-20120312.html>

Necropsy (post-mortem) reports: <http://www.all-creatures.org/saen/ca/res-fr-ca-ucd-necropsy-20120313.html>