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**Federal Reports Reveal Animal Welfare Act Violations at
Clemson: two animals injured, one killed -- Watchdog
Group Files Official Complaint**

GREENVILLE/CLEMSON, SC – Recently obtained federal reports reveal more major violations of the Animal Welfare Act within the labs of Clemson University, according to National Research Watchdog Group, SAEN.

A recent federal report reveals that as part of a field study Clemson staff inadvertently captured non-target animals – 3 raccoons. Apparently the raccoons were not discovered to be trapped for a substantial period of time because: “One raccoon chewed front digits when trapped and was euthanized. The animal was euthanized because foraging activity would be adversely effected with this injury. Two raccoons chewed rear digits and were released.”

SAEN has filed an Official Complaint with the United States Department of Agriculture for potential violations of the Federal Animal Welfare Act for inadequate observation of animals, improper animal handling, and unqualified personnel.

“Clemson cannot argue that these violations did not occur,” said Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T., Executive Director, SAEN. “They listed these incidents in their own report.”

The USDA reports are available upon request from SAEN.