FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Negligence Continues at Harvard's Primate Center;
Watchdog group Files complaint regarding primate escape, injuries, &
Botched experiments -- Insists on Second Federal Fine

BOSTON/SOUTHBOROUGH, MA – Research watchdog group SAEN (Stop Animal Exploitation NOW) today filed an Official USDA Complaint against the Harvard Medical School relevant to continued negligence and abuse at the New England Primate Research Center, following the payment of a $24,036 federal fine for multiple violations of the Animal Welfare.

According to federal reports obtained by SAEN Harvard reported a leg fracture to a marmoset on 2/25/13, a rhesus monkey escape and injury on 9/11/12, which also resulted in an injury to a caretaker.

Federal reports also documented the accidental performance of additional blood draws and drug administration to primates (12/3/12), and the use of five non-pharmaceutical grade chemicals in a primate study (9/25/12).

In light of the repeat and ongoing nature of the serious violations at Harvard's Primate Center, SAEN has insisted on a second federal fine, and the maximum allowable penalty of $10,000 per infraction.

"Harvard deserves a second major penalty," said Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T., Executive Director, SAEN (Stop Animal Exploitation NOW!). "Their staff still hasn't figured out how to keep monkeys in cages or how to handle them without causing bone fractures."

The Harvard Medical School was recently fined over $24,000 for repeated violations of the Animal Welfare Act from February 2011 - July 2012 for multiple incidents of primate deaths, injuries and escapes.

The federal records and complaint are available upon request from SAEN.

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