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National Watchdog Releases '10 Worst Negligent Research Animal Deaths in 2014' List, Featuring Electrocutions, Drowning and Strangulations

Washington, DC – A national research watchdog group released its annual "10 Worst Negligent Research Animal Deaths in 2014" list and it features a host of horrific animal deaths in research laboratories all over the U.S.

Despite supposedly stringent federal regulation, internal and government documents obtained by a national research watchdog SAEN (Stop Animal Exploitation NOW!) during 2014 prove that negligence is rampant in U.S. labs -- and that this negligence causes animals to die horribly.

Animals including monkeys, rabbits, voles, sheep, mice and rats all died horribly as a result negligence. The causes of death included electrocution, dehydration, strangulation, drowning, being boiled alive, frozen, among other horrors.

"If anyone believes that animal experimentation is tightly regulated, after reading all of these thoroughly-documented incidents, then they simply aren't paying attention. These deaths are horribly cruel and totally unnecessary. What does it say about the ability of these labs to do science if they can't even tell if animals are alive or dead?" said Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T., Executive Director, SAEN.

10 Worst Negligent Research Animal Deaths in 2014

- 1. University of Louisiana** (Lafayette, LA) – Monkey electrocuted by faulty wiring.
- 2. Massachusetts Institute of Technology** (Boston, MA) – Rabbit boiled alive.
- 3. West Virginia University** (Morgantown, WV) – Living sheep put out in trash.
- 4. Pacific Biolabs** (Hercules, CA) – Living rabbit placed in carcass freezer.
- 5. MPI Research** (Kalamazoo, MI) – 134 rabbits killed due to botched needle-in-eye procedure.
- 6. Johns Hopkins University** (Boston, MA) – 419 mice boiled alive when hot water hose broke.
- 7. SNBL (WA & TX)** – 25 primates die of debilitation in connection to shipping.
- 8. University of Wisconsin** (Madison, WI) – 2 cows drown in manure pit.
- 9. (tie) Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute** (Albuquerque, NM), **Primate Products** (Miami, FL), **University of Houston**, **Wake Forest University** (Winston-Salem, NC), **Eastern Virginia Medical School** (Norfolk, VA), **University of Michigan** (Ann Arbor, MI), **Texas Biomedical Research Institute** (San Antonio, TX) – All had individual or multiple primate deaths by strangulation.
- 10. University of South Florida** (Tampa, FL) – Monkey died of ketosis brought on by unapproved, deliberate water deprivation. Resulted in criminal animal cruelty investigation.