

NEWS CONFERENCE ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

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UCLA Loses Lawsuit; Records Now Made Public Reveal Horrific Deaths & Federal Violations - Rabbit Set on Fire, Sea Lions Killed; News Briefing Tuesday

LOS ANGELES – Internal records, including some just now being made public as a result of a nearly two-year long lawsuit lost by UCLA, indicate the campus is involved in negligent, horrific and illegal research behavior – including setting a rabbit on fire and killing sea lions.

A national research watchdog non-profit said it will reveal details of the deaths and lawsuit at a **major news conference, 10 a.m., Tuesday/April 26 at UCLA** (corner of Westwood Blvd & Le Conte Ave).

SAEN said it had to sue UCLA in 2013 when the university refused to release the records despite a California Public Records Act request. Eventually, in response to the suit, UCLA agreed to release the records in a settlement with SAEN (Stop Animal Exploitation Now).

"Now we know what they were hiding," said Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T., Executive Director, SAEN, who will fly in from Ohio to conduct the press conference.

Budkie said he'll release an official complaint SAEN has filed with federal oversight officials, charging UCLA has broken federal laws, specifically the Animal Welfare Act, during the period that UCLA refused to release relevant records.

Budkie said he will also provide information showing that UCLA is not alone in breaking federal laws and negligently killing animals in research. Every year, he will show, nearly 200,000 animals are either killed or injured – or more than 500 per day - during illegal acts by laboratories like those at UCLA.

SAEN will provide UCLA documents, and legal documents involving the winning lawsuit against UCLA.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund represented SAEN in the lawsuit.