



Stop Animal Exploitation NOW!

SAEN

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Dr. Elizabeth Goldentyer
USDA/APHIS/AC
920 Main Campus Drive, Suite 2000
Raleigh, NC 27606

5/6/13

Dr. Goldentyer,

I am contacting you today relevant to Alpha Genesis inc. 56-B-0120/56-R-0105. This animal dealer/laboratory has recently been cited for non-compliances which killed 5 primates. I must insist that your office take swift and severe action against this lab for negligently killing primates, including issuing the largest fine allowable by law, which is \$10,000 per infraction.

The inspection report dated 12/11/12 lists violations for improper handling of animals. Within this citation it is revealed that 2 primates died of hyperthermia and one other later had to be euthanized for the same cause. Additionally, two other primates are listed as dying of hypothermia during the winter of 2011 - 2012. These deaths are listed in the inspection report as violating section **2.131 Animal Handling** of the Animal Welfare Act regulations.

However, these animals are not the only ones that died this way. Information which SAEN obtained from the National institutes of Health (attached) lists a total of four (4) hypothermia primate deaths (DV31 on 1/13/12, T-C091 on 2/5/12, GB2G on 2/17/12, and H551 on 10/17/12) and a total of five hyperthermia deaths (DK82 on 4/18/12, CX95 on 4/18/12, DK7L on 4/18/12, H285 on 7/1/12 and FA4V on 8/31/12) at Alpha Genesis during 2011 - 2012. Any of these deaths not already examined would also violate **Sec. 2.131 Animal Handling** of the Animal Welfare Act regulations. Therefore, we must insist that your office investigate these deaths and cite this lab accordingly.

However, hyperthermia and hypothermia are not the only deaths at Alpha Genesis that have potentially violated the Animal Welfare Act. Additional information contained in the NIH records indicates other very troubling deaths have occurred. This information also lists a significant number of deaths from "**fatal trauma**" (8C4-43 on 11/9/11, CC5K on 11/26/11, T-D328 on 8/6/12, T-D442 on 9/9/12, T-D413 on 8/9/12, and H-174 on 10/22/12). Several other primates were listed as being "**eviscerated**" (T-C0565 on 1/13/12, T-D331 on 7/23/12, T-D431 on 9/17/12). Deaths from either fatal trauma or evisceration could indicate either improper animal handling or inadequate observation of animals to prevent injuries (violations of **Sec. 2.33 Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care**. -- (3) Daily observation of all animals to assess their health and well-being). While SAEN is glad to see that monkeys at Alpha Genesis are group housed, the presence of so many traumatic deaths suggests that the care staff was not carefully monitoring the animals or was not properly trained to know what to observe. Severe aggression is almost always preceded by lesser incidents and proper observation by appropriately trained staff should allow these severe kinds of incidents to be prevented.

Therefore, I am hereby filing an Official Complaint against the Alpha Genesis animal dealer 56-B-0120/laboratory 56-R-0105). I insist that your office investigate these other deaths immediately and at the conclusion of your investigation you institute the largest fine allowable by law, which is \$10,000 per infraction.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future about the fate of this facility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T.,
Executive Director, SAEN

Attachments: Alpha Genesis Inc. Inspection Report, Alpha Genesis Necropsy report file (obtained from the National Institutes of Health via FOIA)