

December 2, 2008

UCLA
Records Management & Information Practices
Attn: Rebecca Beatty
10920 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 500
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Dear Ms. Beatty:

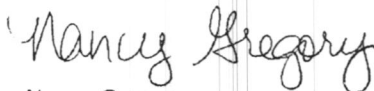
I am writing to you today to request information on a female Vervet, id # 1992-015 being held for research at your facility. The specific information I would like is the following:

- ~A complete description of the experiments and any procedures performed on her
- ~All the lab reports for her, including any and all procedures – invasive and/or non-invasive performed on/with her
- ~All records of immunizations and all drugs given to her
- ~Is she still alive? If so, is she singly confined or living with others? Please provide me with documented specifics about enrichment provided to her.
- ~If she is deceased, please provide me with her necropsy.

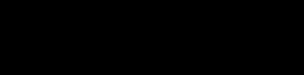
As a taxpayer, I am entitled to this information. Federal tax money, including mine, is used for these experiments.

I look forward to your response!

Sincerely,



Nancy Gregory



Cc: Representative Tom Tancredo
Senator Wayne Allard
Senator Ken Salazar



RECORDS MANAGEMENT AND INFORMATION PRACTICES
10920 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, 5TH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90024-6302

December 21, 2008

Nancy Gregory
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Gregory:

This letter is to acknowledge your letter dated October 28, 2008, requesting the following information on Female Vervet 1992-015:

- Laboratory Reports
- Protocols
- Daily Care Logs
- Veterinary Reports
- Photographs
- Videotapes
- Any and all other records

Appropriate UCLA offices have been notified of your request and a search for the information has been completed. For Female Vervet 1992-015, we have confirmed that this animal has never been at UCLA and there are no responsive documents in our current or archived records for this subject. This animal was located at another facility.

Please call me at (310) 794-8741 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frances Thompson".

Frances Thompson
Records Coordinator
Information Practices Office

December 30, 2008

Frances Thompson
Records Mgmt & Information Practices
10920 Wilshire Blvd, 5th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90024-6302

Dear Ms. Thompson:

I received your letter in response to my request for information on a female Vervet, 1992-015. Unfortunately, you were given incorrect information that she has never been at UCLA . As you will see on the 2nd page (I have highlighted for you) of the enclosed letter from Lynn Fairbanks, this girl absolutely has been, and probably still is at UCLA. Please let these offices know that they are wrong, and they need to go back and find this information for me. I should not have to request this twice. I would have assumed record keeping would have been more accurate. If this Vervet girl was transferred to another facility, please forward to me all of the information I have requested during the time she was at UCLA, and give me the name, address, and contact information for the facility to which she was transferred.

Sincerely,

Nancy Gregory





DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System
11301 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles CA 90073

In Reply Refer To:

• January 23, 2009

Nancy Gregory
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Gregory:

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated December 2, 2008. Your request was received in my office on January 21, 2009.

You have requested the following information pertaining to the Female Vervet, #1992-015:

1. Whether she is located at the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, and if so why?
2. A complete description of the experiments and any procedures performed on her;
3. All lab reports;
4. All immunizations and drugs administered to her;
5. Is she alive?
6. Does she live alone?
7. Documentation of enrichment provided her; and
8. A copy of the necropsy report, if deceased.

Please be advised that the Vervet Colony is no longer located at this facility; and no agency records have been located in response to your request.

Also, please be advised that the Freedom of Information Act does not compel the agency to answer questions or interrogatories, generate or compile records in response to FOIA requests. It only requires the agency to provide records that exist at the time the request is made, where such records are not prevented from disclosure by an exemption.

Bakersfield Ambulatory
Care Center
1801 Westwind Dr.
Bakersfield, CA 93301
805 632-1800

Los Angeles Ambulatory
Care Center
351 E. Temple St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012
213 253-2677

Santa Barbara Ambulatory
Care Center
4440 Calle Real
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
805 683-1491

Sepulveda Ambulatory Car
Center and Nursing Home
16111 Plummer Street
Sepulveda, CA 91343
818 891-7711

West Los Angeles
Healthcare Center
11301 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90073
310 478-3711

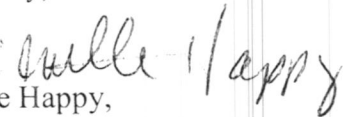
Your request was processed by the undersigned. You may appeal any determination made within this response to:

General Counsel (024)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420

If you should choose to file an appeal, please include a copy of this letter with your appeal and clearly indicate why you disagree with each determination you choose to appeal.

If you require any additional assistance you may contact me at (310) 478-3711 X41513.

Sincerely,


Jenelle Happy,
FOIA Officer (00EI)

January 26, 2009

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

I am writing to you today to make you aware that UCLA Chancellor Block is not providing public information upon request and is in violation of the California Open Records Act. I have personally asked for information on a female vervet, with ID # 1992-015, that is being held there and they have told me she has never been at this facility. This is not true. Records I have obtained, provided by UCLA, show this particular girl's information. This blatant lying to the public is unethical. And you may not know that Chancellor Block is costing California taxpayers too much in unnecessary animal-related litigation.

I urge you and the Attorney General to investigate Block and remove him as Chancellor. I don't believe California can, nor wants to, afford this ridiculous excess spending by UCLA. And if you are able to help me obtain the information I have requested from UCLA on this primate, I would be very grateful. Please let me know if you will be able to do this for me. And let me know if you need any more information from me to accomplish this.

I look forward to your response in these matters.

Thank you.

Nancy Gregory



January 30, 2009

Frances Thompson
UCLA
Records Mgmt & Information Practices
10920 Wilshire Blvd, 5th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90024-6302

Dear Ms. Thompson:

Please find enclosed copies of correspondence I have sent to you and let me know the status of my request.
Thank you.

Nancy Gregory





RECORDS MANAGEMENT AND INFORMATION PRACTICES
10920 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, 5TH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90024-6302

February 3, 2009

Nancy Gregory


Dear Ms. Gregory:

Regarding your second request for documents on Female Vervet 1992-015:

- Laboratory Reports
- Protocols
- Daily Care Logs
- Veterinary Reports
- Photographs
- Videotapes
- Any and all other records

For Female Vervet 1992-015, we have confirmed that this animal has never been at UCLA and there are no responsive documents in our current or archived records for this subject. This animal was located at another facility. Because Principal Investigator Lynn Fairbanks used UCLA letterhead, the impression may have been created that this animal was at UCLA. Please accept our apologies for this misdirection.

Please contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Frances Thompson
Records Coordinator
Information Practices Office

February 16, 2009

General Counsel
Department of Veterans' Affairs
810 Vermont Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been instructed to contact you per the enclosed copy of the letter I received in response to my requests for records on a female Vervet 1992-015 that is currently being held or has been held in the past for research at UCLA.

Since she has obviously been there at one point (as I'm being told she "is no longer located at this facility"), I would like to know to what facility she was transferred.

This is completely ridiculous. I am a United States citizen, and there is no valid excuse to not provide this information to me. I do wonder what the office of the Department of Veterans Affairs is trying to hide...

How do I obtain the information that I have requested?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nancy Gregory



February 16, 2009

Frances Thompson, Records Coordinator
UCLA
Records Mgmt & Information Practices
10920 Wilshire Blvd, 5th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90024-6302

Dear Ms. Thompson:

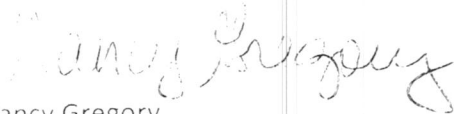
I am in receipt of your letter in response to my requests for information on Female Vervet 1992-015 (see attached).

I do not understand what you mean in your statement, "Because Principal Investigator Lynn Fairbanks used UCLA letterhead, the impression may have been created that this animal was at UCLA." What does this mean? Ms. Fairbanks, a UCLA employee, created this list of all Primates that UCLA was holding, so this does mean she has been at UCLA at one time or another. There is no other explanation.

You have already acknowledged that you know "This animal was located at another facility" in your letter to me dated December 21, 2008. So, once again, please give me the name and contact information for that facility to which she was transferred from UCLA if this is indeed the case.

I am asking for the truth, and I have a right to the truth, according to the California Open Records Act. This is PUBLIC information.

Sincerely,



Nancy Gregory



Cc: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
Representative Mike Coffman
Senator Michael Bennet
Senator Mark Udall

February 16, 2009

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

Please see attached correspondence I have had with UCLA regarding my request for records on a female Vervet primate that they are either currently holding in their research facility, or have done so in the past.

As you may be aware, there are currently at least two lawsuits filed against UCLA for refusing to provide PUBLIC information. They are not being truthful with me, as well. This is inappropriate and nexcusable. Is this something you would be able to help me with?

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Nancy Gregory







OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

March 2, 2009

Ms. Nancy Gregory

Dear Ms. Gregory,

Thank you for your correspondence to Governor Schwarzenegger. Education has always been the Governor's top priority, and he appreciates hearing from Californians like you. 

Unfortunately, the matter you described in your letter is a local university issue that falls outside the Governor's jurisdiction.  accordance with the procedures set forth by the University of California, you should address your concerns to the Chancellor of your university by sending a formal request for action to their office.

If you require additional assistance you may contact the University of California Board of Regents at:

University of California
Board of Regents
1111 Franklin Street
Oakland, California 94607
(510) 987-9074
www.universityofcalifornia.edu

Again, thank you for your letter and for caring about the future of California.

Sincerely,

Office of Constituent Affairs