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University of Utah Admits Animal Cruelty After Denying Dog Pain Relief After Surgery; Watchdog Group Files New Federal Complaint

SALT LAKE CITY, UT – As a scandal swirls around the primate laboratories at the University of Utah, a new federal report reveals the university may be in more trouble after it admitted denying pain relief to a dog who was subjected to major thoracic surgery.

The report reveals the suffering of this dog: “The following morning, CMC personnel noted that the animal seemed to be in pain and was reluctant to move.”

SAEN, a national watchdog nonprofit that investigates animal abuse and illegal activities at U.S. research facilities, has filed a new federal complaint against the university, alleging inadequate veterinary care for the dog, and seeking the maximum penalty of \$10,000 per infraction/per animal.

The University of Utah has been the center of an ongoing scandal regarding multiple non-human primate deaths, as well as an internal coverup of those deaths, said SAEN.

The dog torture admission by the University of Utah comes at a time when the illegal abuse of dogs in U.S. research laboratories is increasing. Federal reports, like the University of Utah admission that staff denied pain relief to the dog, demonstrate the increase.

During the entire year of 2020 only three reports involving dog abuse in labs were filed across the U.S. , and those reports involved only three dog deaths, said SAEN, adding that although less than four months have passed in 2021, already four dog abuse reports have already been filed, including the deaths of five dogs.

“University records prove that the University of Utah is guilty of multiple monkey deaths and injuries. Now dog abuse has been added to the list of research misconduct,” said Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T., co-founder, SAEN. “This laboratory deserves the maximum penalty.”