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**3 Botched University of Toledo Projects, Records Falsification & New Animal Cruelty – Watchdog Calls for Outside Investigation**

**TOLEDO, OH** – The University of Toledo (UT), already the target made public this week of a federal complaint for a horrific animal death due to “severe dehydration,” is now the subject of a national watchdog’s call for their lab accreditation to be investigated, and revoked.

SAEN, a national watchdog nonprofit that investigates animal abuse and illegal activities at U.S. research facilities, said its continuing investigation of the university has now uncovered the suspension (by UT research administration) of three separate UT projects in less than three years.

One project involved the falsification of records. The University of Utah was forced to absorb the costs of the lone federally-funded project due to the suspension and record falsification.

The project suspended in 2021 involved failure to euthanize suffering animals, and denying animals supplemental food & fluids which were required by the protocol. This project was suspended February of 2021.

A second project was suspended in 2020 after it was discovered that the use of a diluted/contaminated drug, which was stored at room temperature, caused the deaths of nine animals.

The 2020 report also states, “This same laboratory failed to monitor mice post-operatively on three separate occasions in June and falsified post-operative records.”

The NIH refused to fund the \$323,543 (annual) project during the period of non-compliance.

A third project was suspended during 2019 for multiple other non-compliances.

SAEN has contacted the American Association for the Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC), calling for the accreditation of the University of Toledo to be investigated and revoked.

In the investigation request sent to AAALAC, SAEN co-founder Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T. said, “The issues raised in these documents demonstrate much more than inability to follow federal regulations. There is no respect for consistency, honesty, or humanity in these projects.”

“It is clear that those involved in these experiments do not consider them important enough to follow scientific method. Collectively, these incidents demonstrate contempt for science itself,” Budkie added.