



**THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE**

SUBJECT: Reporting Animal Concerns and Whistleblowers

DATE: August 11, 2021

Reporting Animal Concerns and Whistleblower Guideline

The University of Toledo (UToledo) is committed to the humane care and use of live vertebrate animals used in research at UToledo. The use of live vertebrate animals in this way is a privilege and carries with it the responsibility to follow applicable laws, policies, and procedures developed by the federal government and the Institution. These basic rules can be found in the *ILAR Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (NRC 2011), and the *PHS Policy for the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*.

If you have concerns or questions involving laboratory animals at UToledo, their human handlers, adherence to approved protocols, or any related matter, we encourage you to report such instances to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (Chair, [Dr. Viviana Ferreira](#), 419-383-6533; Vice Chair, [Dr. F. Scott Hall](#), 419-383-1504), IACUC Administrator ([Dr. Elaine Joseph](#) 419-383-4251), or the DLAR Veterinarian ([Dr. Lisa Root](#) 419-383-4314).

Providing the following information, when reporting concerns, may also be helpful:

1. Describe the incident.
2. Indicate whether you witnessed the incident yourself
3. When and where the incident occurred
4. In which animal facility and/or investigator laboratory the incident occurred
5. Whether you have reported the incident to anyone else and what steps/actions may have already been taken

All complaints will be reviewed and investigated as necessary. You may make your complaint anonymously if you choose using this [link](#). Your complaint, whether made anonymously, will be dealt with confidentially. It is important for you to know that the regulations issued under the Animal Welfare Act, federal regulations, and Ohio state law provide protection for facility employees, committee members, and laboratory personnel against discrimination or reprisal for reporting animal welfare concerns or non-compliance with approved protocols or federal regulations (i.e., whistleblower protections).