Life Cycle of a Report to OLAW

Institution Reports to OLAW

An IACUC, through the Institutional Official, reports an incident of noncompliance with the PHS Policy to OLAW. A preliminary consultation or report may precede the final report.

OLAW Reviews the Report

A case is opened. OLAW reviews the report and requests additional information as necessary. Rarely, a site visit may be conducted if needed.

Whistleblower and Public Reports to OLAW

Whistleblower reports from any party may be made directly to OLAW. Whistleblower reports may be anonymous.

OLAW Responds to the Report

Possible Outcomes:

No Findings/ OLAW Accepts Corrective Actions

OLAW determines that the institution is operating according to the provisions of its Assurance and the PHS Policy.

Recommend Additional Corrective Actions

OLAW works with the institution to address the noncompliance and prevent reoccurrence.

Restrict the Assurance

OLAW may place restrictions on the Assurance as needed to assist the institution in responding appropriately to the incident.

Withdraw Assurance Approval

Rarely, serious uncorrected deficiencies can also result in revocation of the Assurance.

Case is Closed

Once the institution has satisfied all requirements and the incident is appropriately addressed, the case is closed by OLAW.

NIH National Institutes of Health
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare