

**From:** Justin Goodman [<mailto:JustinG@peta.org>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 01, 2015 11:21 AM

**To:** Volkov, Marina (NIH/OD) [E]

**Subject:** RE: Complaint regarding violations of HHS "Guidelines for Ensuring the Quality of Information Disseminated to the Public"

Dr. Volkov,

Thank you very much for the update. Seeing as the inquiry is ongoing, I would like to submit additional, new evidence that NIH continues to publish false and misleading information about the matter in question.

The 2014 Annual Report for Steve Suomi's laboratory that was published on the NIH website since our original complaint to your office states, in part:

*"In a third standard rearing environment, surrogate-peer rearing (SPR), infants are separated from their mothers and nursery-reared just as PR infants, but then at one month are **housed in individual cages containing an inanimate surrogate "mother" and additionally are placed in a play cage with three other like-reared peers for two hours daily** for the next are 6 months."*

(<http://annualreport.nichd.nih.gov/suomi.html>)

This excerpt is notable for several reasons.

First, the claim that the singly-housed infants are "placed in a play cage with three other like-reared peers for two hours daily" is at odds with the laboratory's own approved protocols stating that the infants are only given this time with others on weekdays, not every day.

Additionally, the excerpt and other contents of the report confirm our allegation that Constantine Stratakis' claim to the media that the monkeys used in these experiments live outdoors in large groups is not true.

Thank you for your time and attention. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Justin Goodman, M.A.

Director

Laboratory Investigations Department

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

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**From:** Volkov, Marina (NIH/OD) [E] [<mailto:mvolkov@od.nih.gov>]

**Sent:** Friday, June 26, 2015 11:55 AM

**To:** Justin Goodman

**Cc:** Wolinetz, Carrie (NIH/OD) [E]; Tapley, Kate (NIH/OD) [E]; Lea, Allison (NIH/OD) [C]; Cole, Joy (NIH/OD) [C]

**Subject:** RE: Complaint regarding violations of HHS "Guidelines for Ensuring the Quality of Information Disseminated to the Public"

Dear Mr. Goodman:

Thank you for your Request for Correction of Information under the National Institutes of Health Guidelines for Ensuring the Quality of Information Disseminated to the Public dated February 20, 2015.

Your request for reconsideration under the National Institutes of Health Guidelines for Ensuring the Quality of Information Disseminated to the Public is still under review. While our goal is to respond within 60 days to such requests, we are unable to do so in this case. We anticipate that a response providing the Agency's views will be forwarded to you by September 9, 2015.

Thank you for your interest in the quality of information disseminated by NIH. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Marina Volkov, PhD  
Director, Office of Science Management and Reporting  
Office of Science Policy  
Office of the Director  
National Institutes of Health  
6705 Rockledge Drive, Suite 750  
Bethesda, MD 20892

**Marina Volkov, Ph.D.**  
**Director, Office of Science Management and Reporting**  
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