

May 13, 2005

John D. Wiley, Chancellor
University of Wisconsin-Madison
161 Bascom Hall
500 Lincoln Dr.
Madison, WI 53706

Dear Chancellor Wiley:

PETA has confirmed what we knew to be true: John Webster's experiment is not an independent study. But even the removal of Taser employee Robert Stratbucker from his paid role at UW-Madison fails to remove the obvious bias that still remains.

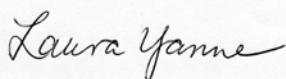
While Stratbucker's ouster is an acknowledgement that his presence would have been an obvious conflict of interest, we must draw your attention to the fact that all four of the consultants listed in the budget have strong Taser affiliations. Stratbucker's deliberate failure to mention his position as a Taser employee does not change the indisputable fact, for instance, that he and Wayne McDaniel (whose Taser credentials are also conspicuous by their absence) collaborated on experiments on pigs and dogs, and have co-authored numerous articles, often with Professor Webster. Webster's experiment is predicated on previous Taser-funded experiments, and he has stated the predictable outcome ("Tasers are safe") publicly and for the record.

While it is plausible that the Department of Justice was unaware of Stratbucker's background, it is impossible to believe that Webster was ignorant. It is troubling that Eric Sandgren did not adequately investigate the previous animal tests before approving Webster's extremely problematic protocols. But now, Chancellor Wiley, you do know, and you are in a position to call a halt to this malfeasance.

You have the opportunity to stop this now, and we ask you to do the honorable thing. There is simply no need to test weaponry on animals. It's a matter of marketing, not science. You've listened to Webster and you've heard Sandgren. We urge you to consider our point of view now, and stop indulging Webster's penchant for conducting unnecessary basic animal research, and Sandgren's toothless defense of it.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Laura Yanne
Research & Investigations



PETA

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