

February 27, 2006

James Jauchem, Ph.D.
Senior Research Physiologist
Human Effectiveness Directorate
Air Force Research Laboratory
8262 Hawks Rd.
San Antonio, Texas 78235-5147

Dear Dr. Jauchem:

We are writing because, as part of the Brooks Air Force Base's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), you approved excruciating Taser tests on conscious pigs under protocol HEDR-01-21 ("Exploratory Assessment of Immediate Effects of Taser-Like Devices on Swine"). The use of animals in such cruel experiments is inexcusable given that an entire population of human Taser victims can provide more valuable information. We request your assurance as a member of the IACUC that you will deny any further protocols for testing Tasers on live animals.

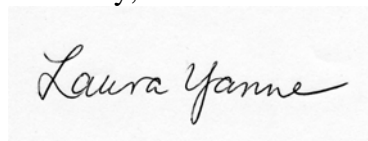
After repeated requests from our attorneys, the Air Force released a DVD of the pig experiment that you approved. I have enclosed a copy. Although it was sent to us without an audio track (we have formally requested the full, unedited version), it is obvious that the animals are screaming in pain as they frantically attempt to escape the electrified barbs. Please watch the video footage and ask yourself whether you would approve this cruel experiment again if given the chance.

Your fellow IACUC member John Ziriaux wrote, "On the good side, done well, this experiment could enhance the reputation of Brooks as a DoD bioeffects research lab. On the bad side, anything less than quality work has the potential for doing damage to our collective reputation and our ability to continue doing research with animals."

This experiment was unnecessary and shabby to say the least. Epidemiology studies of Taser effects are crucial to understanding what these weapons do to humans and should be used instead of experiments on animals whose physiology is so critically different from ours. Can you please assure us that you will advocate for human post-Tasering studies in the future and deny approval of animal studies if they come before you for consideration again?

I look forward to your response and can be reached at 757-622-8331, extension 8331, or via e-mail to LauraY@peta.org.

Sincerely,



Laura R. Yanne
Research & Investigations



PETA

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