

THOMAS M. BUTLER, D.V.M., M.S.
CONSULTANT, LABORATORY ANIMAL MEDICINE

December 8, 2005

William P. Yonushonis, D.V.M.
Director
University Laboratory Animal Resources
The Ohio State University, Room 313
1960 Kenny Road
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Dr. Yonushonis:

At your request I accompanied you on a visit to Primarily Primates, Inc. on November 14, 2005. The charge for my visit was to assess that sanctuary's capability to accept nine chimpanzees from The Ohio State University (OSU) and to adequately maintain those animals in the future. Immediately after the visit I provided you with a verbal report. Below is my written report.

Primarily Primates, Inc. (PPI) is a well established animal sanctuary located outside San Antonio, TX. As their name states most of the animals there are a wide variety of nonhuman primates including such species as marmosets, lemurs, macaques, baboons, squirrel monkeys and apes. Other species of animals at PPI are birds and large cats. The sanctuary is not open to the public nor does it conduct any form of research or teaching.

I have known Mr. Wallace Swett, Founder and Director of PPI, for about 20 yrs and have visited PPI on many occasions; therefore, my assessment is based on more knowledge of PPI than I gained on my visit with you. Mr. Swett is a person who cares a lot for animals as evidenced by his long history of operating this sanctuary. He studies the biology of each species he maintains and is very knowledgeable about them. PPI first accepted chimpanzees approximately 20 yrs ago. The current population of chimpanzees is about 70 animals. These animals are housed in indoor-outdoor cages in social groups of 5 - 9 chimpanzees each.

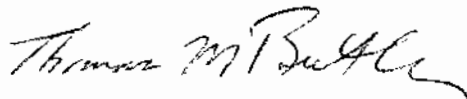
Based on my observations of the chimpanzees they were both physically and behaviorally healthy. Care is provided on a daily basis and feed includes commercial biscuits, fruits and vegetables. The cages have extensive climbing structures as well as manipulanda. The indoor portions of the cages are heated even though environmental temperatures in this area seldom fall below freezing. The chimpanzees are well acclimated to the local environment. From my past knowledge of this colony their morbidity and mortality data is definitely comparable to the six large research chimpanzee colonies with which I have experience.

If OSU needs to transfer their chimpanzees in the very near future PPI has an older housing building that with some renovations could be used as an adequate temporary housing facility. Even though this facility will work as such it is not adequate for the long term primarily due to space and the inability to sufficiently separate the chimpanzees if social problems arise.

For permanent housing PPI has two side by side buildings under construction that when fully completed will be suitable for lifetime housing of the OSU chimpanzees. Utilities need to be extended to these buildings and the heating systems need to be installed. Additionally, two outdoor areas of about 20 ft by 40 ft each and fully enclosed need to be constructed with a chute connecting them. These enclosures will provide the outdoor portions for the buildings. It is my opinion that both of these buildings are needed for the OSU chimpanzees. It is difficult to maintain chimpanzees in a single group of nine. Even if the animals can be initially grouped as one entity and the animals may be familiar with each other over time there will be conflicts within the group necessitating separation. It is in the best interest of the OSU chimpanzees to put them in two social groups from the start. It would be very valuable to do this if OSU would provide PPI with behavioral profiles of each chimpanzee and recommended makeup for two groups.

If additional information is needed please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas M. Butler". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Thomas M. Butler, D.V.M., M.S., DACLAM