

### **Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board**

2175 K Street, NW Suite 650 Washington, DC 20037 Phone 202-261-7619 Fax 202-974-7619 www.csb.gov

October 18, 2011

Via Email

Alice M. Young, Ph.D. Associate Vice President for Research Texas Tech University Lubbock, Texas 79409

Re: FOIA Request R11-048

Dear Dr. Young:

This is an initial response to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated September 12, 2011, that you submitted to the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB). Your request seeks the CSB database of accidents that have occurred in university laboratories. The CSB received your request on September 19, 2011. The tracking number for your request, which should be referenced in any future communications, is R11-048.

The CSB has identified a total of 120 incidents between 2001 and 2011 that fall within the scope of your request. I have determined that a list of 80 of those incidents that are included in the CSB's incident screening database may be released in full. A copy of the list is enclosed with this letter. There is additional data for each of these 80 incidents. The CSB will provide the releasable portions of that data in the near future.

The remaining 40 incidents were identified by CSB investigators in the course of preparing the forthcoming case study on the January 2010 laboratory explosion at Texas Tech University. After the case study is released and the incident data is reviewed for FOIA purposes, the CSB will also release additional information on these 40 incidents.

My current estimate is that additional information on all 120 incidents should be available within three to four weeks. In the meantime, I hope the information released with this letter is sufficient to summarize the scope of this safety issue.

The CSB will continue to keep you apprised as the processing of your request progresses. If you have any questions about your FOIA request, please feel free to contact me by telephone at 202-261-7619, or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:Chris.Kirkpatrick@csb.gov">Chris.Kirkpatrick@csb.gov</a>. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Kirkpatrick FOIA Officer

Enclosure



## CSB Lab Incidents 2001-2011

Number of Incidents 80

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Incident Date and Time	Company	City	State	Fatalities	Injuries	
7/23/2001	University of California, Irvine	IRVINE	California	0	3	
10/10/2001	University of Utah campus	Salt Lake City	Utah	0	0	
12/31/2002	University of Washington Medical Center	Seattle	Washington	0	0	
1/31/2006	Cornell University	Ithaca	New York	0	1	
2/20/2006	West Chester University	West Chester	Pennsylvania	0	2	
2/24/2006	University of Denver	Denver	Colorado	0	0	
3/2/2006	University of Idaho	Moscow	ldaho	0	1	
4/3/2006	University of Maryland Biotechnology Instit	Baltimore	Maryland	0	1	
4/20/2006	Scripps Research Institute - Florida Atlantic	Jupiter	Florida	0	0	
4/21/2006	Northwestern University	Evanston	Illinois	0	1	
5/16/2006	Georgia Technical University	Atlanta	Georgia	0	1	
6/16/2006	Binghamton University	Vestal	New York	0	0	
6/28/2006	Brown University	West Lafayette	Indiana	0	0	
7/20/2006	University of Colorado	Boulder	Colorado	0	3	
7/20/2006	University of Minnesota	St. Paul	Minnesota	0	0	
7/27/2006	Colorado University	Boulder	Colorado	0	1	
8/1/2006	University of Washington	Seattle	Washington	0	1	
8/24/2006	Rice University	Houston	Texas	0	0	
8/27/2006	Indiana University	Bloomington	Indiana	0	0	
9/6/2006	Georgia State University	Atlanta	Georgia	0	6	
10/31/2006	Louisiana State University	Baton Rouge	Louisiana	0	2	
11/3/2006	University of Kentucky	Lexington	Kentucky	0	7	



10/14/2007

10/19/2007

University of California, Santa Barbara

Marshall University

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**Incident Date and Time** Company City State **Fatalities** Injuries 11/12/2006 **Yale University New Haven** Connecticut 1 12/21/2006 University of Arkansas **Fayetteville Arkansas** 0 0 2/20/2007 James Madison University Harrisonburg Virginia 0 0 2/26/2007 **Duquesne University Pittsburgh** Pennsylvania 0 0 3/20/2007 **Boston College Boston** Massachusetts 0 1 3/27/2007 **NC State University** Raleigh **North Carolina** 0 1 4/10/2007 0 **West Virginia University** Morgantown West Virginia 3 5/1/2007 **University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee** Milwaukee Wisconsin 0 0 5/24/2007 **University of Pittsburgh** Pittsburgh Pennsylvania 0 1 0 5/28/2007 Florida University of South Florida Tampa 3 0 6/18/2007 **Delaware State University** Dover Delaware 2 Cookville 7/18/2007 **Tennessee Tech University** Tennessee 0 1 7/27/2007 **University of Arizona** Tucson Arizona 0 0 8/3/2007 Getzvillle 0 **UB University New York** 0 Washington University - Lab 130b 8/6/2007 St. Louis Missouri 0 0 9/11/2007 **Ball State University** Muncie Indiana 0 Unknown 9/11/2007 **University of Vermont Geology Lab** Burlington Vermont 0 15 9/17/2007 **University of Michigan Ann Arbor** Michigan 0 0 9/19/2007 0 **Purdue University** West Lafayette Indiana 0 10/1/2007 0 **Boston University Boston** Massachusetts 0

Santa Barbara

Hungtington

California

West Virginia

0

0

0

0



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<b>Incident Date and Time</b>	Company	City	State	Fatalities	Injuries
10/25/2007	Yale University	New Haven	Connecticut	0	1
10/29/2007	Drake University	Des Moines	lowa	0	0
10/30/2007	Northwestern University	Evanston	Illinois	0	0
11/27/2007	University of North Carolina	Chapel Hill	North Carolina	0	2
12/6/2007	Brigham Young University	Provo	Utah	0	0
2/5/2008	University of Washington	Seattle	Washington	0	Unknown
2/13/2008	Souther Illinois University Carbondale	Carbondale	Illinois	0	0
2/13/2008	University of South Dakota	Vermillion	South Dakota	0	0
2/22/2008	University of WisconsinMadison	Madison	Wisconsin	0	0
3/5/2008	Johns Hopkins University	Baltimore	Maryland	0	2
3/30/2008	University of Texas	Austin	Texas	0	0
4/7/2008	University of Washington	Seattle	Washington	0	0
4/10/2008	Florida A&M University	Tallahassee	Florida	0	1
5/21/2008	University of South Florida	Tampa	Florida	0	6
5/27/2008	University of Arizona	Tucson	Arizona	0	0
6/12/2008	University of Florida	Gainesville	Florida	0	0
6/23/2008	University of CA Davis	Sacramento	California	0	2
7/16/2008	University of Colorado	Boulder	Colorado	0	0
7/22/2008	Colorado State University	Fort Collins	Colorado	0	0
8/8/2008	Auburn University	Auburn	Alabama	0	0
9/8/2008	University of Alabama	Tuscaloosa	Alabama	0	1
9/8/2008	Michigan State University	East Lansing	Michigan	0	0



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Company	City	State	Fatalities	Injuries	
Clark Atlanta University	Atlanta	Georgia	0	0	
Chico State University	Chico	California	0	0	
Boise State University	Boise	Idaho	0	1	
Texas Tech University	Lubbock	Texas	0	1	
Texas A&M	College Statioin	Texas	0	2	
Southern Illinois University Carbondale	Carbondale	Illinois	0	1	
University of Missouri Schweitzer Hall Explo	Columbia	Missouri	0	4	
Northwestern University	Evanston	Illinois	0	1	
Oregon Health and Science University	Portland	Oregon	0	4	
LSU lab incident	Baton Rouge	Louisiana	0	1	
University of California, Berkeley	Berkeley	california	0	1	
Clarkson University's Center for Advanced I	Potsdam	New York	0	1	
Purdue University	West Lafayette	Indiana	0	6	
University of West Florida	Pensacola	Florida	0	2	
	Clark Atlanta University Chico State University Boise State University Texas Tech University Texas A&M Southern Illinois University Carbondale University of Missouri Schweitzer Hall Expl Northwestern University Oregon Health and Science University LSU lab incident University of California, Berkeley Clarkson University's Center for Advanced I Purdue University	Clark Atlanta University Chico State University Chico Boise State University Boise Texas Tech University Lubbock Texas A&M College Statioin Southern Illinois University Carbondale University of Missouri Schweitzer Hall Exple Columbia Northwestern University Evanston Oregon Health and Science University Portland LSU lab incident Baton Rouge University of California, Berkeley Clarkson University's Center for Advanced I Purdue University West Lafayette	Clark Atlanta University Chico State University Chico California  Boise State University Boise Idaho  Texas Tech University Lubbock Texas  Texas A&M College Statioin Texas  Southern Illinois University Carbondale Carbondale University of Missouri Schweitzer Hall Exple Columbia Missouri  Northwestern University Evanston Illinois  Oregon Health and Science University Portland Oregon LSU lab incident Baton Rouge Louisiana University of California, Berkeley Berkeley Clarkson University's Center for Advanced I Potsdam New York  Purdue University Idaho  California  Missouri Baton Rouge Louisiana  Clarkson University's Center for Advanced I Potsdam New York  Purdue University Nest Lafayette	Clark Atlanta University  Chico California  Boise State University  Boise Boise State University  Boise Bois	Clark Atlanta University  Chico State University  Chico California  Chico State University  Boise Idaho  1  Texas Tech University  Lubbock  Texas  College Statioin  Texas A&M  College Statioin  Texas  Columbia  University of Missouri Schweitzer Hall Explx  Columbia  Northwestern University  Evanston  University  Doregon Health and Science University  Portland  Doregon  California  Columbia  Missouri  Columbia  Missouri  Columbia  Missouri  Columbia  Missouri  Columbia  Columbia  Missouri  Columbia  Columbia  Missouri  Columbia  O o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o