Department Name: MSRB
Building: # 7516

Designated Emergency Assembly Point(s) Entry Number

1. Courtyard between Jones and MSRB
2. Grassy area between Jones Bldg and Research Drive

_____________________________________________________
Signature of Department Director, Manager              Date

_________________  _______________________
Signature of the Chairman, Duke University Safety Committee Date
PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING FIRE ALARM ACTIVATION DURING ANESTHETIZED
ANIMAL PROCEDURES

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide instruction and further clarification with respect
to proper procedure during fire alarms and drills. This resolution will protect human life, but
will also satisfy the IACUC with respect to animal life.

SCOPE

This procedure should only be followed when the fire alarm is activated during an
anesthetized animal research procedure. Research procedures on deceased animals or other
animal components are not affected by this policy and those involved are REQUIRED TO LEAVE
THE AREA IMMEDIATELY UPON FIRE ALARM ACTIVATION.

SCHEDULED FIRE DRILLS

The OESO Fire Safety Office will post notices of a scheduled fire drill at least 48 hours in
advance stating the date and window of time the drill will occur. If an unavoidable conflict
arises, the research personnel must notify the OESO Fire Safety office immediately. Our main
office phone number will be posted on the notice. If no prior notification is given, the drill will
be held, and ALL OCCUPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO EXIT THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY!

FIRE ALARM ACTIVATIONS

In every surgical lab, there will be a poster permanently displayed in a visible location
which lists a building contact person, an alternate contact person, and their mobile phone
numbers. The designated contact persons for fire alarm evacuations will be determined by the
department(s) upon the receipt of this policy. Alternates will also be determined. A list of
contact persons and their cell phone numbers will be distributed to all animal procedural areas.
1) If the fire alarm is activated, the research personnel shall first check the areas for signs for smoke, fire, toxins or other dangers. ONLY if they do not see any immediate signs of smoke, fire, or other hazards, they will immediately contact the department designated contact person in the building and state that they are remaining in the laboratory because they are performing an animal procedure on an anesthetized animal. If they decide to evacuate, they shall still notify the building contact of this as well. This ensures proper accountability.

2) If the research personnel and designee are remaining in the lab, the laboratory designee (if applicable) will continue to serve as a lookout person for signs for smoke, fire, or other hazards, and in charge of communications with the building contact person. If no others persons are in the lab to serve as a laboratory designee, the research personnel must watch for signs of changing conditions to the best of his/her ability.

3) The building contact person will notify responding units of the person(s) remaining in the laboratory and their exact location.

4) The building contact person will notify the research personnel or his/her designee immediately if conditions deteriorate and evacuation is necessary.

5) If evacuation is necessary, the research personnel and his/her designee will then take steps to safely and quickly euthanize the animal (e.g. perform a bilateral thoracotomy while anesthetized), if conditions allow, and evacuate the building immediately.

6) If the research personnel are alone when conducting the procedure, the research personnel shall notify the building contact person that the procedure is complete. Any alarms after this point will require prompt evacuation from the building for all occupants.