

December 7, 2023

To: Amber Floyd
From: Office of Research Integrity, Bruton
RE: Business Justification for Gentige Professional Service Plan

On behalf of Nicholas Young, our animal facilities manager, I hereby attest to the necessity of a sole source preventative maintenance contract (Professional Service Plan) with Gentige. Gentige is the manufacturer of USM's autoclave, which is used to clean animal cages to standards set by federal regulations (USDA, OLAW). Autoclaves require regular maintenance and occasionally new parts. Gentige is the sole source for Gentige parts. We queried Steris, a firm that frequently services lab equipment, and Steris confirmed that it could not provide Gentige parts and service the autoclave, as Gentige parts are available only from Gentige, a German manufacturer. As part of the Professional Service Plan, Gentige will regularly service the autoclave and provide emergency service in the event of a breakdown. Thus, the sole source contract is needed to keep USM's animal research program in compliance with federal animal subjects research regulations.

Sincerely,



Samuel V. Bruton

Director, Office of Research Integrity