

April 4, 2024

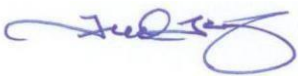
Dear Member of the WVU Research Community:

WVU has a long history of collaborating on research with the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and has repeatedly assumed responsibility as IRB of Record on those studies that include NIJ involvement and/or funding. However, NIJ procedures mandate compliance with additional regulations, directives, and instructions that increase the complexity of human subject research protections, intensify WVU's institutional risk, and deepen the regulatory burden, especially for the IRB of Record. Therefore, from this point forward WVU will cede IRB review and oversight to an external IRB on studies that involve NIJ involvement and funding. To achieve this end:

- 1) It will be the WVU investigator's responsibility to work with an appropriate external IRB to obtain proper approval to proceed with the study. The WVU investigator will be required to register his/her study with WVU IRB and ensure appropriate reliance agreements are properly executed between the respective institutions before beginning the study. Any fees for outside IRB review should be included in the study budget. These requirements also apply to those studies in development or pending initial review unless granted a waiver by the VP of Research.
- 2) Active studies currently overseen by WVU IRB that involve the NIJ will continue to be overseen by WVU IRB until the study closes unless WVU recommends that the study be transferred to an outside IRB, either now or in the future.

If you have any questions related to the execution of these new procedures, please contact Gretchen McMasters, Director, WVU Office of Human Research Protections at (304) 293-7555/ [gretchen.mcmasters@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:gretchen.mcmasters@mail.wvu.edu) or Kasandra Lambert, Assistant Director, at (304) 293-7073/[kasandra.lambert@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:kasandra.lambert@mail.wvu.edu).

Sincerely,



Fred L. King, PhD  
Vice President for Research  
Professor for Chemistry

cc: Lesley Cottrell, PhD  
Richard Vaglianti, MD  
Melanie Page, PhD  
Gretchen McMasters  
Kasandra Lambert