

Georgia Southern University  
Office of Research Services & Sponsored Programs

**Institutional Review Board (IRB)**

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**To:** Leftwich, Brandon; Adhikari, Atin

**From:** Office of Research Services & Sponsored Programs, Institutional Review Board (IRB)

**Approval Date:** 8/20/2019

**Subject:** Approval with Conditions from the Georgia Southern University Institutional Review Board – Exempt/Limited Review

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After a review of your proposed research project numbered: “**H19202**” titled: “**Assessing risk factors and risk management procedures for potential microbial contamination of Georgia hotel water distribution systems,**” it appears that (1) the research subjects are at minimal risk, (2) appropriate safeguards are planned, and (3) the research activities involve only procedures which are allowable.

Therefore, as authorized in the Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects, I am pleased to notify you that the Institutional Review Board has approved your proposed research **with the understanding that you will abide by the following conditions:**

- LOCs may be collected onsite from hotels if they agree to participate in your study. The researcher will return these completed LOCs to our office for the file.

According to the Code of Federal Regulations Title 45 Part 46, your research protocol is determined to be exempt from full review under the following exemption category(s):

Exemption 2      Research involving only the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behavior, if: Information obtained is recorded in such a manner that human participants cannot be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to them. Please visit our FAQ's for more information on anonymous survey platforms; Any disclosure of the human participant's responses outside the research could not reasonably place the participant at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the participant's financial standing, employ-ability or reputation; Survey or interview research does not involve children; The research project does not include any form of intervention.

Any alteration in the terms or conditions of your involvement may alter this approval. *Therefore, as authorized in the Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects, I am pleased to notify you that your research, as submitted, is exempt from IRB approval. You will be asked to notify the IRB upon project completion. If you alter the project, it is your responsibility to notify the IRB and acquire a new determination of exemption.*

Sincerely,



Eleanor Haynes  
Compliance Officer