



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

APR 16 2013

OFFICE OF  
CIVIL RIGHTS

**Return Receipt Requested**

Certified Mail#: 7004-1160-0002-3622-7953

**In Reply Refer to:**

EPA File No.: 01R-13-R5

Michael Alston  
Director, Office of Civil Rights  
Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice  
810 Seventh Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20531-3718

**Re: Referral of Administrative Complaint**

Dear Mr. Alston,

On January 16, 2013, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Civil Rights (OCR), received a complaint from a prisoner at the Saginaw Correctional Facility making allegations that there are insufficient wastewater treatment services at the facility. Because EPA OCR has responsibility for processing complaints alleging a violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and EPA's nondiscrimination regulations found at 40 C.F.R. Part 7, we assumed for purposes of processing the correspondence that the complaint was made under Title VI. None of the entities involved in providing wastewater treatment services to the Saginaw Correctional Facility are recipients of EPA financial assistance. Therefore, the complaint is not within EPA OCR's jurisdiction to investigate, and OCR must reject the complaint for investigation. 40 C.F.R. § 7.15.

However, because the Department of Justice may have subject matter expertise over the allegations in this complaint, the complaint is being referred to the Department of Justice to review and investigate as you deem appropriate. We have notified the complainant that the complaint has been forwarded to the Department of Justice and provided your contact information. If you have any questions about this matter, please contact Helena Wooden-Aguilar at (202) 564-0792, via email at [wooden-aguilar.helena@epa.gov](mailto:wooden-aguilar.helena@epa.gov), or via mail at U.S. EPA, Office of Civil Rights, (Mail Code 1201A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC, 20460.


Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vicki Simons".

Vicki Simons  
Acting Director

Enclosure(s)

cc: Stephen G. Pressman, Associate General Counsel  
Civil Rights and Finance Law Office (MC 2399A)

  
Saginaw Correctional Facility  
9625 Pierce Road ·  
Freeland, MI 48623-8102

Diana Embril  
EPA Region 5  
MC C-14J