



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

JAN 14 2013

OFFICE OF  
CIVIL RIGHTS

**Return Receipt Requested**

Certified Mail#: 7004-1160-0002-3622-6260

**In Reply Refer to:**

EPA File No.: 12R-12-R4

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 August 14, 2012, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Civil Rights (OCR) received a complaint, which was amended September 24, 2012, from an inmate at the Easterling Correctional Facility. The complaint alleged that operations at the Easterling Correctional Facility, which is managed by the Alabama Department of Corrections and Barbour County, the municipal entity responsible for drinking water supply and wastewater treatment at the Easterling Correctional Facility, have subjected the inmates to dangerous environmental conditions. Easterling Correctional Facility, the Alabama Department of Corrections, and Barbour County are not recipients of EPA financial assistance. Therefore, the complaint is not within EPA OCR jurisdiction to investigate and OCR must reject the complaint for investigation.

However, because the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) may have a federal financial assistance link to the Alabama Department of Corrections and subject matter expertise over the allegations in this complaint, the complaint is being referred to DOJ to review and investigate as you deem appropriate. We have notified the complainant that his complaint has been forwarded to DOJ and provided him with 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 black ink that reads "Rafael DeLeon".

Rafael DeLeon  
Director

Enclosure(s)

cc: [REDACTED] Complainant

Ms. Naima Halim-Chestnut, Title VI Contact  
EPA Region 4  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Mail Code: 9T25  
Atlanta, GA 30303

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