



OFFICE OF EXTERNAL CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

October 20, 2023

In Reply Refer to:

EPA Complaint No. 01R-24-R9

Samuel Bagenstos
General Counsel (OGC)
The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Hubert H. Humphrey Building
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201
samuel.bagenstos@hhs.gov

Re: Referral of Administrative Complaint of Discrimination

Dear Mr. Bagenstos:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights Compliance, Office of External Civil Rights Compliance (OECRC), received a complaint on October 5, 2023, from (b)(6) Privacy, (b)(7)(C) Ent. Privacy alleging discriminated against Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) on the basis of race or national origin.

After careful consideration, OECRC has determined that it cannot accept the complaint for investigation because DPSS is not a recipient of EPA financial assistance. DPSS may be a recipient of financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Therefore, OECRC is referring this complaint to DHHS for appropriate action. Considering these circumstances, OECRC is closing this complaint as of the date of this letter. A copy of the complaint as well as a copy of our letter to the Complainant is enclosed.

If you have any questions, please contact me by telephone at (202) 809-3297 or by email at hoang.anhthu@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

**ANHTHU
HOANG**

Digitally signed by
ANHTHU HOANG
Date: 2023.10.20
11:52:25 -04'00'

Anhthu Hoang
Acting Director
Office External Civil Rights Compliance
Office of Environmental Justice and
External Civil Rights Compliance

Enclosures

cc: Ariadne Goerke
Deputy Associate General Counsel
Civil Rights & Finance Law Office

Cheree Peterson
Deputy Regional Administrator
Deputy Civil Rights Official
US EPA Region 9

Sylvia Quast
Regional Counsel