

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460



EXTERNAL CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE OFFICE
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

June 17, 2019

Return Receipt Requested

Certified Mail #: 7015 3010 0001 1267 1388

In Reply Refer To:

EPA Complaint No. 04R-19-R4

Ms. Cameron Quinn
Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Building 410, Mail Stop #0190
Washington, D.C. 20528

Certified Mail #: 7015 3010 0001 1267 1395

Mr. Sloan Farrell
Chief
Public Civil Rights Division
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Re: Referral of Administrative Complaint of Discrimination

Dear Ms. Quinn and Mr. Farrell:

On May 23, 2019, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) External Civil Rights Compliance Office (ECRCO) received a complaint from an employee of the Federal Railroad Administration. The complainant alleged that he had been discriminated against on the basis of race (Black) by employees of the Law Enforcement Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GA DNR).

This complaint involves the actions of officers of the GA DNR Law Enforcement Division during the period of heightened security prior to Super Bowl LIII. Super Bowl LIII had been designated a National Special Security Event (NSSE) by the DHS Secretary¹. By Presidential directive, the U.S. Secret Service, an agency located within DHS, is the lead agency for design and implementation of operational security plans for NSSEs². DHS provides federal financial assistance to GA DNR. In light of this, due to the subject matter of the allegations, ECRCO is referring the complaint to DHS's CRCL for appropriate handling.

¹ Conversation with Federal Bureau of Investigation Attorney Advisor Kelly Gray, June 14, 2019.

² See: National Special Security Events: Fact Sheet, Congressional Research Service, January 25, 2017, available at: <https://www.hsdl.org/?abstract&did=798471>

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Similarly, the Department of Interior (DOI) provides federal funding assistance to the GA DNR and has an Office of Law enforcement with duties similar to those handled by GA DNR's Law Enforcement Division. As such, due to the subject matter of the allegations, ECRCO is referring the complaint to DOI's Public Civil Rights Division for appropriate handling.

Considering these circumstances, ECRCO 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 questions about this matter, please contact ECRCO Team Lead Debra McGhee, by phone at (202) 564-4646, by email at mcghee.debra@epa.gov or by mail at 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Mail Code 2310A, Room 2524, Washington, DC, 20460-1000.

Sincerely,



Lilian S. Dorka
Director
External Civil Rights Compliance Office
Office of General Counsel

Enclosures

cc: Angelia Talbert-Duarte
Acting Associate General Counsel
Civil Rights & Finance Law Office

Beverly Banister
Acting Deputy Regional Administrator
Acting Deputy Civil Rights Official
EPA Region 4

Leif Palmer
Regional Counsel
EPA Region 4

Daria Neal
Deputy Chief
Federal Coordination and Compliance Section
Civil Rights Division
U.S. Department of Justice

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Rebekah Tosado, Section Chief
Amy Vance, Senior Policy Advisor
Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
U.S. Department of Homeland Security