



OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND ADJUDICATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

February 27, 2026

Megan Whyte de Vasquez
Deputy Chief, Housing and Civil Enforcement Section
Civil Rights Division
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530
via email: megan.whyte.de.vasquez@usdoj.gov

RE: Referral of EPA Complaint No. 02-26-R3

Dear Deputy Chief Megan Whyte de Vasquez:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Civil Rights and Adjudication (OCRA), External Civil Rights Division (ECRD) received an external civil rights complaint alleging Prince George's County discriminated against residents of Brandywine, Maryland based on race by adopting a county resolution that removes safeguards that prevented developers from building additional developments in areas where police cannot timely respond to emergencies. Pursuant to EPA's non-discrimination regulations, EPA is closing the complaint because it lacks jurisdiction. *See* 40 C.F.R. § 7.120(d).

However, due to the subject matter of the allegations, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) may have jurisdiction over the alleged claims. Therefore, ECRD is referring this complaint to DOJ to make a determination regarding ECRD's referral. *See* attached.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Case Manager Nell Cormack by email at Cormack.Nell@epa.gov

Sincerely,

JuanCarlos M. Hunt, Director
U.S. EPA, Office of Civil Rights and Adjudication

Enclosures: Administrative Complaint and Recipient Rejection Letter

cc: Catherine Libertz, Deputy Regional Administrator/Deputy Civil Rights Official
Allison Gardner, Regional Counsel
U.S. EPA Region 3