



In Reply Refer to: HCR-20
DOT# 2021-0090

September 22, 2022

(b) (6)

Subject: Dismissal of Complaint DOT# 2021-0090

Dear (b) (6)

This letter is to inform you that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Civil Rights has determined that it will dismiss the above complaint, which alleges violations that may be related to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Title VI implementation regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 21 and/or FHWA's Title VI regulations at 23 C.F.R. Part 200 (hereinafter Title VI). Title VI prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance.

You allege that the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning (County) discriminated against you and your companies, (b) (6) because of your race and color. Specifically, you allege that the County denied your companies fire roads permits, filed a notice of violation (NOV), and refused to process your appeal to the NOV. In addition, you allege the County denied your companies permits for growing hemp because of the pending NOV in an attempt to harass, intimidate, discriminate, and retaliate against the you and your companies.

To be accepted for investigation, a complaint must meet the jurisdictional requirements provided by 49 C.F.R. § 21.11. First, complaints must be filed within 180 calendar days of the alleged discriminatory act. Second, the matters must concern recipients of federal financial assistance for a program or programs authorized under a law administered by FHWA. Finally, the complaint must describe an alleged discriminatory act or acts that, if true, would fall under FHWA's jurisdiction and potentially violate FHWA's Title VI regulations.

After careful consideration, FHWA has determined not to accept the complaint for further investigation because the allegations and facts in your complaint are not sufficient to establish a case of disparate impact or intentional discrimination under Title VI. In addition, the Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning is not a recipient of federal assistance from the FHWA. For these reasons, the complaint will be dismissed by FHWA and closed with no further action.

If you have any questions, please contact Nichole McWhorter at (202) 366-1396.

Sincerely,

Nichole McWhorter

Nichole McWhorter
Title VI Team Leader
Office of Civil Rights

cc: Vincent Mammano, Division Administrator, FHWA California Division Office
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