

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BEFORE THE  
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE  
DOCKET NO. \_\_\_\_\_

In re: \_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner

The petitioner moves the ALJ to enter The Cowtown Foundation Inc. and any representative thereunder, to represent me or the estate, in which I am legally responsible for, in this matter. All correspondence should include copies sent to the following:

The Cowtown Foundation Inc.  
P.O. Box 422  
Arrington, Tn. 37014

Check All That Apply

\_\_\_\_\_ I or the estate that I am legally responsible for, am a prevailing Pigford Class Member, Track A, am seeking a refund of all offsets taken from 1981-1996 and/or from 1999 to the present.

\_\_\_\_\_ I or the estate that I am legally responsible for, was denied Pigford Class Injunctive relief. I sent all correspondence to the monitor for review and was unable to reach the monitor due to the fact that the phone lines were not in operation and/or I did not receive any correspondence acknowledging my review request.

\_\_\_\_\_ I certify that I farmed or attempted to farm between 1981-1996 and timely turned in my Pigford Class Membership to Class Counsel and was denied by the arbitrator or adjudicator. I am now requesting all of my farm records from the United States Department of Agriculture.

\_\_\_\_\_ I or the estate that I am legally responsible for, have yet to receive a formal hearing on the merits before the Administrative Law Judge as Track B applicant in

Pigford I or II. I now request a formal hearing on the merits before the ALJ in accordance with the findings of the DC Circuit Court of Appeals in Benoit v. The USDA-

“In 1998 the Congress passed legislation reviving ECOA claims of discrimination that had been filed with the USDA from 1981 to 1996 but were barred by the statute of limitations. Section 741 of the Department's 1999 Supplemental Appropriations Act\* created a two-year window within which farmers who had filed such complaints could pursue their claims in court notwithstanding the statute of limitations. Sections 741(a) and (b) each gave affected farmers a distinct option: Either file the claim (a) directly in federal district court or (b) with the USDA and, if the USDA denies the claim, then seek review of the agency decision in district court, as provided in § 741(c). Of course, a farmer who chooses option (a) “forego[es]” option (b), *Garcia v. Vilsack*, 563 F.3d 519, 523 (D.C.Cir.2009), and vice versa, see § 714(b) (“The complainant may, in lieu of filing a civil action, seek a determination on the merits [by the USDA]”).”

“The plaintiffs in this case chose option (b) and duly filed their claims, styled “Section 741 Complaint Requests” by the USDA, which considers such matters in two stages. The first is an informal settlement process overseen by the Director of the Office of Civil Rights (OCR). 7 C.F.R. § 15f.9. The Director may consider documents submitted by the complainant, review documents in the Department's files, and refer the case for investigation. *Id.* Ultimately the Director either negotiates a settlement with the complainant or sends him a letter stating that the OCR will not settle the complaint and informing him of his “options, including [ the ] right to request formal proceedings before an ALJ.” *Id.*”

\_\_\_\_\_ I or the estate that I am legally responsible for, have a pending discrimination complaint before the Office for Civil Rights. There is currently no Assistant Secretary for the Office for Civil Rights who has been authorized by Congress or delegated the Authority by The Secretary of Agriculture to resolve my case. My case has been pending for more than 180 days and now I am requesting a formal hearing before the Administrative Law Judge pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 706(1)(2).

\_\_\_\_\_ I or the estate that I am legally responsible for, currently have farmland that was once mortgaged by the Department of Agriculture. I am requesting a formal hearing on the merits or an order from the ALJ to acknowledge the cancellation of all debts that include farm ownership or farm operating loans, either by the Pigford Consent Decree, payment in full or any other settlement agreement.



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Petitioner' Name

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Street

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City and State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address of Farm

Mail Petition Certified To:

United States Department of Agriculture  
% Hearing Clerk  
1400 Independence Ave., SW  
Stop 9203, Room 1031, South Building  
Washington, DC 20250-9203