

BERNICE ATCHISON
Testimony before the Constitution Subcommittee
Black Farmer Hearing
November 18, 2004

The question that we are asking in Chilton County is: Did Judge Freedman mean to leave this county out by not posting or notifying the Black Farmers and Farm Helpers?

While we worked to produce and help produce the products that are raised in this county and shipped to many other states to be sold, we had hoped to be treated fairly. We contacted the USDA of Chilton County and were told that they could not help us. We immediately wrote certified letters to class council and to the Monitor stating that there was no Affidavit and there was no claim package at the USDA and they informed us they could not help us. The USDA of Chilton County did not have a copy of the Consent Decree nor the stipulation for us to view. It was not published in County News Paper or the U.S. Agriculture for the extension service here in Chilton County. We were not notified by mail, nor were we given a chance to apply even after we notified Class Council there was no legal help in this county for us.

Many of us were sent denial letters and many were not answered or given a tracking number. We have sent packages to inform you and ask that the error be corrected. These Packages contain proof.

We know you have received them. Eight copies were sent by certified mail and 8 packages. We have called time after time to NO Avail beginning in April of 2000 until now asking, pleading that class council re-certify the error. Many of us own farms in Chilton County. Many are farm helpers, share croppers, and some have FMNP numbers as I do. Yet you have denied me and many more.

I have lived on the same farm all my life. I was born here in 1938. My Mother and Father worked hard to secure their own land for their own children to inherit. You are now holding me accountable for a late claim affidavit when you did not send them to us as we requested. When we notified you that we had no claims even your affidavit was not sent to any of our people until after August 16. That left only 20 working days with the Labor Day weekend in that. Less than 20 days with no affidavit claim for our people or our family who all own farms.

The problem was a USDA and Class Council problem. They defied the Judge order in Chilton County. They did not post, they did not notify by mail. The Judge said plainly: ("IT SHALL BE POSTED OR MAILED") It was not and the USDA did not have a copy of the decree or stipulation for us to view. Without that information or instructions we had no way of knowing what was needed to apply.

I am a farmer who own 39 ac. and 239 Grandfather 80 Grandmother 39 Aunt. We do have the said evidence to prove that we notified by certified mail at least 8 times to make you aware of our problem. When your response on August 10 came on August 16, 2000 we had less than 20 working days to respond and only one affidavit. That was all you sent.

To serve our county

Yours Truly,

Bernice Atchison

Bernie Atchison (W)
1072 Hwy 191
Jemison, Ala 35088
205-688-2715
I will come

Dear Congressman

I am a 67 year old woman who file for the Black Farmer Relief we own our own property and we shared in several other that you will find noted in these papers of mine and of my son Randall the last 15 years Randall has struggled try to keep our land and his grand father and great grand mother land in tact now he is told his application was receive after the date which proof show from Oct 15 2004 letters they are in error. Not only are they in error they refuse to send claim pack or affidavit after they were requested. There are 10 certified letters to prove it from my house alone, and there was other sent because I wrote them Note the Certification NO I have the Receipt This County Did Not Post and I have proven it that is your extra ordinary Circumstances USDA and Class Counsel Defied the Judge order and discriminated against me and my family
Yours truly Bernie Atchison
Randall Atchison

Office of the Monitor
Pigford v. Veneman (D.D.C.)
Brewington v. Veneman (D.D.C.)

Post Office Box 64511
St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0511
Phone (toll-free): 1-877-924-7483

October 12, 2004

S#: 11

RANDALL ATCHISON
PO BOX 423
1072 HWY 191
JEMISON, AL 35085

Tracking # 135994

Dear Claimant:

Thank you for the correspondence you recently sent to the Office of the Monitor.

Our records indicate that you have filed or attempted to file a late claim for relief under the Consent Decree in the *Pigford v. Veneman* case. This is the case in which African-American farmers sued the United States Department of Agriculture alleging race discrimination. The only way to apply for relief is to file a written claim form and election sheet. The deadline for a timely filing of a claim under *Pigford* was October 12, 1999.

By court orders dated December 20, 1999, and July 14, 2000 the Court authorized the Arbitrator to make decisions about permission to file late claims. The deadline for requesting permission to file a late claim was September 15, 2000.

According to our records, you submitted your request for permission to file a late claim after September 15, 2000. Therefore, your claim cannot be accepted. Unfortunately, you will not receive any relief under the Consent Decree. The Office of the Monitor has no authority to take any action regarding this decision. If you have additional questions, please call the Claims Facilitator at 1-800-646-2873.

Sincerely,

Office of the Monitor

FMNP
750

The Chilton Co Committee

has sent class Council and the monitors these
 Certified letters beginning in April 2000
 up to now asking for the proof of NO posting we
 corrected and that claim package and affidavits
 be sent. We know that we have met the
 Extraordinary Circumstances that is required
 for this County these are the Certified Card return
 letter receipts Tracking Number

| | | | | |
|--------|------|------|------|------|
| ① 7004 | 1160 | 0004 | 4836 | 5948 |
| ② 7000 | 0600 | 0022 | 7306 | 2696 |
| ③ 7000 | 0520 | 0014 | 8584 | 9786 |
| ④ 0300 | 1290 | 0000 | 9805 | 8889 |
| ⑤ 7001 | 1140 | 0003 | 0674 | 7526 |
| ⑥ 7001 | 1140 | 0003 | 0674 | 9049 |
| ⑦ 0300 | 1290 | 0000 | 9805 | 5268 |
| ⑧ 7000 | 0600 | 0022 | 7305 | 8309 |
| ⑨ 7000 | 0520 | 0014 | 8584 | 9786 |
| ⑩ 7001 | 1140 | 0003 | 0675 | 0120 |

Committee - Tracking no
 Bernice Atchison 5887600
 Randall J. Atchison Track 135994
 Morris Wilson #5604600

FMNP 750
Randell J Atchison
Tracking No. 135994
Affidavit 72267
P.O Box 423
Jemison, Alabama 35085
Farm Location Hwy. 191

To The Monotor

The question that we are asking in Chilton County is Did Judge Freedman mean to leave this county out by not posting or notifying the Black Farmers and Farm helpers?

While we worked to Produce and help produce the products that is raised in this county and shipped to many other states to be sold..

We had hope to be treated Fairley. We contacted USDA of Chilton County and were told that they could not help us. We imediately wrote certified letters to class councle and to the Monotor, telling that there were no Affidavit and there was no claim package at USDA and that they had in form us they could not help us. USDA Chilton County did not have a copy of the Concent Decree nor the stipulation for us to view.It was not published in our County News Paper or the U.S. Agriculture for the extension service here in Chilton County . We were not notified by mail, we were not given a chance to apply even after we notified Class Councle there was no legal help in this County for us.

Many of us was sent denial letters and many were not answered or given a tracking number. We have sent packages after packages to inform you and ask that the error be corrected.

We know you receive them 8 copies were sent by certified mail 8 packages. We have called time after time to No Avail beginning in April 2000 until now asking,pleading that class councle recertify the error. Many of us own farms now here in Chilton County many are Farm Helpers, Share Croppers, some have FMNP No. as I do, yet you have denied me and many more. I have lived on the same farm all my life I was born here in 1957 my mother and father worked hard to secure their own land for their own children to inherit. You are now holding me accountable for a late Claim Affidavit When you did not send them to us as we requested. When we notified you that we had no claims even your affidavit was not sent to any of our people until after August 16 that left only 20 working days with the Labor Day weekend in that.Less than 20 days with no

affidavit claim for our people our family who all own farms.

The problem was a USDA and class Council problem they Defyed the Judge order here in Chilton County they did not post. The Judge said it plainly IT SHALL BE POSTED. It was not and the USDA did not have a copy of the Decree or Stipulation for us to view. Without that information those instructions we had no way of knowing what was needed to apply. I am a farmer 39 ac and 239 Grandfather 80 Grandmother 39 Grandmother. We declare under purgery the Forgoing Statement are true and that we do have the said evident to prove that we notified by Certified Mail at least 8 times to make you aware of our problem. When you respond of Aug 10 came on Aug 16 2000 we had less than 20 working days to respond and only one affidavit that was all that you sent

Yours Truly

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randall J. Atchison". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Yours Truly".

Black Farmers' Settlement

P.O. Box 4390
Portland, OR 97208-4390
1-800-646-2873

January 8, 2002

RANDALL ATCHISON
PO BOX 423
1072 HWY 191
JEMISON, AL 35085

TRACKING # 135994
AFFIDAVIT # 72267

Re: Pigford et al. v. Veneman - Civil Action No. 97-1978 (PLF)
Brewington et al. v. Veneman - Civil Action No. 98-1693 (PLF)

Dear Claimant:

The deadline for filing a claim in the Black Farmers Settlement against the U.S. Department of Agriculture, pursuant to Paragraph 5(c) of the Consent Decree, was October 12, 1999. On December 20, 1999, Judge Paul L. Friedman issued an Order giving me the responsibility for reviewing all late-filed claims. On July 14, 2000, Judge Friedman issued a second Order important to those who missed the October 12, 1999 deadline. One portion of that Order states, "~~All putative class members who seek relief under 4-5(g) of the Consent Decree shall submit written requests for such relief to the Facilitator without a Claim Sheet and Election Form postmarked not later than September 15, 2000.~~" No extensions of that deadline will be granted for any reason." Simply put, your petition for filing a late claim had to be postmarked by September 15, 2000.

Sept 15 2000

Your petition to file a late claim was postmarked after the September 15, 2000 deadline. Because your petition was postmarked later than September 15, 2000, I have no authority to approve your participation in the Pigford settlement. Under the terms of Judge Friedman's order, I must deny your request to participate in the settlement. My decision regarding the filing of your late claim may not be appealed to the Monitor or to the Court.

If we were to meet the deadline the settlement would have been post and he probably did that

Sincerely,

Michael K. Lewis
Arbitrator

FMNP
750

FMNP
750

Form F1661

72267

Willie Lee CAVER
AFFIDAVIT 87434

September 7, 2004

To: Randi Ilyse Roth,

*Box 4, Chilton County, NC 28511
919-1978 2111 5 95 1495111*

It is stated you are appointed to see that the decree functions properly. It has failed in everyway in Chilton County. We began notifying Class Counsel by Certified mail and calling the office in April 2000 that there was no claim package or affidavit in Chilton County. We notified and asked for more time. We have that proof of certified mail with six (6) copies. The Class Counsel and Monitor both knew of the problems we were having because we sent it to them. They denied Randall Atchison with a FMNP Number 750 with land of thirty-nine (39) acres 239-80-40 39, and 20 acres. He was sent an affidavit in September which I immediately returned. This was after the notice date not because we did not try. There was no consent decree and no stipulations any where for us to have as a guide. Yet court paid lawyers and monitors and question is ask, Did Judge Freedman mean for us to be left out? The order was defied by all he appointed and we have written letter after letter trying to rectify the error. We are poor disable people and in need. We can prove we own land and we can prove USDA did not post this information at any time. What more do you want from us? Class Counsel and the Monitor have received proof from us.

You sent out the stipulation signed on July 14, 2000, but the Judge signed it on July 19, 2000. We received the first copy on August 16, 2000 and immediately returned it the same day and applied to you for a claim package and affidavit. Since none were in Chilton County. Proof of this certified mail is receipt number 7000 05 20 0014 8584 9786. There were no affidavits sent before September 15, 2000 deadline which was twenty (20) working days away. How was we to get you an on time affidavit, How were we to know? You did not have it posted anywhere and we were unable to view a copy to know what was needed. *The AFFIDAVIT WAS WITHHELD FROM OUR GROUPE MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO GET A ON TIME AFFIDAVIT INTO YOU*

*yours Truly
Randall J. Atchison
135994
F MNP 750*

4
5
Randall Atchison FMNP 750
P. O. Box 423
Farm on Hwy 191
Jemison, Alabama 35085

Proof of Notification

Certified Letters – 6 copies *6 different Letters*

Package from Chilton County

1 County Letter *from Mayaw*

4 City Letters – Four

Probate Judge – 1

County Library – 1

No notice to Farmers by County Paper

No Consent Decree until after deadline

No Stipulation until September 16, 2000

No help from USDA but we asked

No help from class counsel but we called

No help from Monitor Michael K. Lewis but we notified him

There was no notice to any Black Farmers *in our group*

USDA Agriculture send flyers constantly, there was no notice in them
but ye my farm has been appointed the FMNP number 750.

Yours truly,

Randall Atchison

TRA NO 135994
AF 22267

Tracking # 130944
Affidavit # 72147

Pigford -et -al. v Veneman-Civil Action no 97 1978 plf
Brewington et -al. v Veneman Civil Action no 98 1693 plf

The Facilitator.

As A Farmer here in Chilton County we are being held accountable for the USDA mistake . They did not post it is plainely set out in the stipulation claims that show extraordinary circumstance beyond my controll is allowed this is what the JUDGE said.

paragraph (7) said copies of the stipulation and the order shall be posted in conspicuious public places in every USDA farm service agency and county offices no(2) or be mail by the facilitator to every pearson who requested a claim form (3) who did not summitte a compleat claime to thefacilitator with in the pirod precribed

This stipulation, the original decree, nor the extension were posted at our USDA as order by JUDGE Friedman. the usda farm office, court house, or usda extension office. WE ask at each office the county farm service said they could not help us, the usda extension office had no knowledge of the suite at all.

MR Gray send out notices of enformation on programs farms session agriculture meeting farm marketing information several times each year. there has not ben any information on this matter. Even your letter to inform this state was not wrote until Feb 25 2000 and mail in march 2000 by then all days had expired for going to Selma ALA. to see Lawyer Chestnut, which was 70 miles away we call him he was not taking any at that time, yet we are being held accountable for not filling a on time claim. there was no claims at our USDA office the secitary said she was not able to help us. we went to every office trying to get help the probate Judge did not know what to do You fail to post as judge order we had no information this is extraordinary circumstance

Judge FRIEDMAN Gave the order for you to post or notify by mail this was not done Iam a farmer have farmed all my life to deny us after we prove our aligation is also unjust we ask to participate

Yours Truly

Richard J. Fitch

cc. Alexander Pines

Tracking # 135093
Affidavit # 76610

These are none
2 letters 7

ATTN: Mr. Michael K. Lewis

RE: Letter 2002

I am requesting that I be reviewed under the monitor review. I know that you have the authority to review from January 17, 2000 until January 18, 2005. I believe that we have proven extraordinary circumstances. We have submitted to you letters from the Mayors office, the Probate Office, and the Libraries showing that it was an error. It was not posted in any of the public facilities. None of these facilities received notice to post.

If we were to meet the dead line of Sept. 15, 2000, it was the responsibility of the facilitator to post or by mail from the Court House notify land owners. For less that \$6.00 every black Church could have been notified touching literally every black family. There are only 17 black Churches in this County. As you noted in the monitor review, there has been problems in the claim process. It would be a miscarriage of justice to leave us out. After we brought to your attention that USDA failed to post. We were not notified of the original suite. Nor the extension that was approved by the judge. We would like to have this error rectified. How can we be held accountable to know when the deadline was when you did not post. We believe that this is an extraordinary circumstance and we should be allowed to participate. We have stated that there was no lawyer in this error, therefore we are trying the best way we can to answer your petition.

Did Judge Freedman intend for Chilton County to be left out because USDA did not post. That would be injustice, we have submitted to you proof. I respectfully submit our name for consideration

WE DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

SINCERELY,

Bernice Atchison 5887600
Morris Wilson 5604600
Randall Atchison 135994
COMMITTEE

May 2002

List of NAME

JUNE 2002

JEMISON, ALABAMA 35085

RE: To your letter on May 9, 2002

Pigford et al. v. Veneman - Civil Action No. 97-1978 (PLF)
Brewington et al. v. Veneman - Civil Action No. 98-1693 (PLF)

Dear: Mr. Michael K. Lewis,

We are asking for your reconsideration that we may participate in the settlement. We are enclosing the document necessary to prove to you the extraordinary circumstance that was beyond our control.

USDA did not post the information, in any city here in CHILTON COUNTY. Neither did they post it in the extension office. Therefore we are asking to join the settlement, based on these facts. We have read your petition in the Monitor Review. And we know that you were appointed from January 18, 2000 to January 17, 2005. (Page 7 paragraph 14). These are facts that we found.

The fact it was not posted, and we have sent copies with each petition to prove it. (Paragraph 5 of page 3) There is a fundamental miscarriage of justice. (Paragraph 6 of page 3) We have gathered the necessary document to show the miscarriage of justice by the USDA of Chilton County. They fail to post the information in any town. (Paragraph 7) You already know the problem. This is a USDA problem of failing in their job as the Judge has ordered. It was not posted in our USDA office, or the county court house for us to view. Page 3 the class lawyer says describe the error or mistake, that makes it a miscarriage of justice.

(1) We are poor in need of these funds, and to be deprived of our share would be a miscarriage of justice.

(2) We are African American.

(3) We have farmed all our life. We all have.

(9 A) We notified Mr. Lewis in the beginning, there were no lawyers in our area, and that we were older people on S.S. and disabled. That is why we are trying to answer these petitions.

(Page 7) Yes we contacted USDA and was told they could not help us, the secretary stated that the case was being brought against them by the USDA. We would have to do it on our own. We are asking to be permitted to participate in the suit. Because it was not our fault that it was not posted as the judge ordered. This was clearly a USDA problem. We have sent you the proof that it was not posted. They fail to post it as the judge ordered. They did not even post the extension. It would be unfair to hold us accountable for USDA failure, we are asking for justice as farmers.

Did Judge Freedman intend that this county be denied by not posting at any time. How was we to know what or when, if it is not posted to read, even the extension was not posted. That is why so many miss the deadline. It was a lack of information. Information that was due us by law, and could have been mailed to every black land owner.

We declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

19#10859000

9
Tracking # 135093
Affidavit# 76610

ATTN: Mr. Michael K. Lewis

RE: Letter 2002 July 9

I am requesting that I be reviewed under the monitor review. I know that you have the authority to review from January 17, 2000 until January 18, 2005. I believe that we have proven extraordinary circumstances. We have submitted to you letters from the Mayors office, the Probate Office, and the Libraries showing that it was an error. It was not posted in any of the public facilities. None of these facilities received notice to post.

If we were to meet the dead line of Sept. 15, 2000, it was the responsibility of the facilitator to post or by mail from the Court House notify land owners. For less than \$6.00 every black Church could have been notified touching literally every black family. There are only 17 black Churches in this County. As you noted in the monitor review, there has been problems in the claim process. It would be a miscarriage of justice to leave us out. After we brought to your attention that USDA failed to post. We were not notified of the original suite nor the extension that was approved by the judge. We would like to have this error rectified. How can we be held accountable to know when the deadline was when you did not post.

JACK

We believe that this is an extraordinary circumstances and we should be allowed to participate.

We have stated that there are no lawyers in this area. therefore, we are trying the best that we can to answer your petition.

WE DECLAIR UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

SINCERELY *Randall Jatchon*
135 99 4

The Next few pages will show that you defied the
Judge order you did not post in Chilton Co
any where and there were no ~~D~~ Consent Decree
or Stipulation at our USDA office
we visited it and was told they could not help
us we call the number given and we wrote
& Certified letter asking for help and confirming
there were no claim package or affidavit
we went to ever office in Chilton Co looking for
help we call and was given no information
we were told we would get information
over

Randall J Atchison

Tracking No. 135994

Affidavit No. 72267

P.O. Box 423

Jemison, Alabama 35085

Farm on Highway 191 Jemison, Alabama
CHILTON COUNTY EVENT PACKAGE

*We own 39 ac Shore 239- 80- 40- 20
that is Grandfather Grandmother Aunts that are
now Deceased*

2

12

The question that we are now asking in Chilton County is "Did Judge Feadman mean to leave this county out by not posting or notifying the Black Farmers and Farm helpers?" While we work to produce and help produce the produce that is raised in this county and shipped to many other states to be sold.

We had hoped to be treated fairly, we contacted USDA of Chilton County and were told that they could not help us. We immediatley wrote certified letters to class counsel and to the monotor, telling that there were no affidovit and there was no claim package at USDA and that they had informed us they could not help. USDA Chilton did not have a copy of the Concent Deree nor the stipulation for us to view. It was not published in our county news paper or the U.S. agriculture for the extension service here in Chilton County. We were not notified by mail, we were not given a chance to, even after class councler knew their was no legal help in this county for us. Many of us was sent denial letters and many were not answered or given a track number. We have sent package after package to inform you and ask that the error be corrected. We know you received them, they were sent certified mail. We have called time after time to no avoid beginning in April of 2000 until now, asking class counsel to please recetify the error.

Many of us own farms now here in Chilton County, many are farm helpers some have FmNp no as I do yet you have denied me and many more, I have lived on the same farm all of my life and I was born in 1957. My mother and father worked hard to secrete their own land for their own children to inherit. You are now holding me accountable for a late claim affidavit when you did not send them to us as we requested and when we notified you that we received them late you have still denied us, the problem was USD^A and class counsel. They defied the Judge order here in Chilton Co. by not obeying the stipulation. It plainly stated it shall be posted, we had no way of knowing what we needed to do without those instructions and a claim package or affidavit. We declare under purgey the for going statements are true and that we do have evidence to all of said charges.

Sincerely,
Randall J. Atchison

FMNP
750

FMNP
750

(Proof)

131

City of Jemison

KENNETH RAY
MAYOR

P.O. BOX 609
JEMISON, ALABAMA 35085
TELEPHONE (205) 688-4492 OR (205) 688-4493
FAX (205) 688-1109

MARY ELLISON
CITY CLERK

November 5, 2001

Black Farmers' Settlement
P. O. Box 4390
Portland, OR 97208-4390

RE: Pigford et al. V. Veneman- Civil Action No. 97-1978 (PLF)
Brewington et al. V. Veneman - Civic Action No. 98-1693 (PLF)

Dear Sir:

The City of Jemison did not receive a notice to post regarding the Black Farmers' Settlement, so therefore, it has not been posted for the public to review.

If you have any further questions, please call.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellison

Mary Ellison
City Clerk.

TOWN CLERK
Sally Alchison

P. O. BOX 9
Maplesville, Alabama 36750
(334) 366-4211 or (334) 366-4212
Fax (334) 366-4210

124
Elizabeth Hayes
Aubrey Lottman
Ray Charles Mitchell
Karl Wallace

Nov 7, 2001

Black Farmer's Settlement
P.O. Box 4390
Portland, OR 97208-4390

RE: Pigford et al. V. Veneman-Civil Action No. 97-1978 (PLF)
Brewington et al. V. Veneman-Civil Action No. 98-1963 (PLF)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Town of Maplesville, Town Hall or Mayor's Office did not receive a notice to post regarding the Black Farmers' Settlement, so therefore, it has not been posted for the public to review.

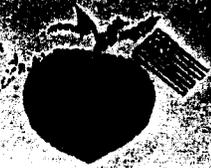
Sincerely,

W.C. Hayes, Jr
Mayor of Maplesville

Town of Thorsby

All Members:
 The Mayor
 Town Clerk
 James Skapchick
 Alvin Hanson
 Willie Rott
 Clerk:
 Lynn Adkins

P.O. Box 608
 Thorsby, Alabama 35171
 phone (205) 646-2575
 fax (205) 646-2414



Town of Thorsby
 Alabama

"Contentful" 1901 2001

November 13, 2001

Black Farmers' Settlement
 P.O. Box 4390
 Portland, OR 97208-4390

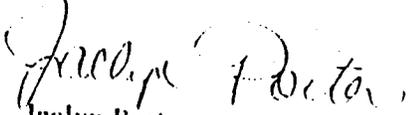
RE: Pigford et al. V. Veneman- Civil Action No. 97-1978 (P.L.F)
 Brewington et al. V. Veneman- Civil Action No. 98-1693 (P.L.F)

Dear Sir:

The Town of Thorsby did not receive a notice to post regarding the Black Farmers' Settlement, so therefore, it has been posted for the public to review.

If you have any further question, please call.

Sincerely,


 Jaclyn Porter
 Assistant Clerk



City of Clanton

Post Office Box 4100 - Clanton, Alabama 36016 0500 - Telephone (205) 755-4051

Bill Lee, Mayor
Della Wilcox, City Clerk
John Hall, Jackson, Jr., City Attorney

COUNCIL

Ann Baker
James H. Daniels
Eleanora Frazier
May McCall Smith
Robert K. Easterbrook

November 9, 2001

P O Box 4100
Portland, OR 97208 4100

Re: Black Farmers Settlement

To Whom It May Concern

The City of Clanton did not receive a notice of any type publication to have put up a City Hall for the Black Farmers Settlement

If you need anything further, please feel free to give me a call at 755-4051

Sincerely,

Brandi Patterson
Sec/Personnel Clerk

"A good place to visit - A better place to live"



OFFICE OF
PROBATE COURT
CHILTON COUNTY
CLANTON, ALABAMA 35045

November 5, 2001

ROBERT M. MARTIN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

SHIRLEY P. ROBINSON
CHIEF CLERK

Black Farmers' Settlement
P. O. BOX 4390
Portland, OR 97208-4390

RE: Pigford et al. V. Veneman-Civil Action No. 97-1978 (PLF)
Brewington et al. V. Veneman-Civic Action No. 98-1693 (PLF)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Chilton County Probate Office of Clanton, Alabama did not receive a notice to post regarding the Black Farmers' Settlement, so therefore, it has not been posted for the public to review.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Martin

Robert M. Martin, Probate Judge



OFFICE OF
PROBATE COURT

CHILTON COUNTY
CLANTON, ALABAMA 35045

November 5, 2001

ROBERT M. MARTIN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

MURLEY D. ROBINSON
CHIEF CLERK

Black Farmers' Settlement
P. O. BOX 4390
Portland, OR 97208-4390

RE: Figford et al. V. Veneman-Civil Action No. 97-1978 (PLF)
Brewington et al. V. Veneman-Civil Action No. 98-1693 (PLF)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Chilton County Probate Office of Clanton, Alabama did not receive a notice to post regarding the Black Farmers' Settlement, so therefore, it has not been posted for the public to review.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Martin

Robert M. Martin, Probate Judge

Chilton/Clanton Public Library
100 First Avenue
Clanton, AL 35045
205-755-1768

Library

Mary Jo Abernathy
Mary Jo Abernathy
Director

4

01-07-00 10-24
JAN 06 1999 11:20

202 219 3880

(AT THE FSA OFFICE (TUSCALOOSA)
USDA FSA SMO OFFICE

PHONE 202-219-3880

003/003
1-01-01



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Farm and
Foreign
Agricultural
Services

Farm Rental
Agency

1400 Independence
Ave. SW
Washing. DC
20250-0244

January 6, 1999

TO: State Executive Director

FROM: Robert Springer
Robert Springer
Executive Director for State Operations

SUBJECT: Litigat Settlement for Black Farmers

Since the media has released information regarding the settlement for the Black Farmers, State and County Offices have received many calls from producers and the media. To ensure everyone is providing the same information to producers and the media, refer all calls from:

the media, to Laura Trivers, Deputy Press Secretary @ 202-720-4673

farmers, to Black Farmers Litigation Hotline @ 1-800-646-2873 from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm EST

1/8/99 letter 2/3/99

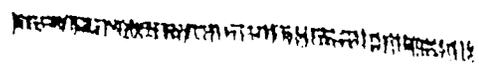
1/20/99 letter 1/20/99

Received Sept 7 2000

From Tuscaloosa

Dear Sir,
USDA
Nov 2000
Administrative Reply
Washington, DC
1/20/99

Handwritten notes and signatures, including a signature that appears to be 'Laura Trivers'.



Black Farmers' Settlement

Claims Facilitator

P.O. Box 4390

Portland, OR 97208-4390

1-800-646-2873

Handwritten notes:
 20
 12-13
 all days for 2000
 8/25/00

To: Black Farmers

Date: February 25, 2000

Re: Pigford, et al., v. Glickman; Civil Action No. 97-1978 (D.D.C.) (PLF)
Brewington, et al., v. Glickman; Civil Action No. 98-1693 (D.D.C.) (PLF)

This is your claim package. A completed claim package (which includes your signature and a lawyer's signature) must be submitted to the Black Farmers' Settlement Claims Facilitator in order for you to be eligible to participate in the settlement.

In order to assist you in completing the claims package, lawyers from the eight law firms involved in this case will be holding meetings in the following cities on the dates listed below.

| STATE, CITY | LOCATION | DATE | TIME |
|----------------------------|--|--------------------|------------------|
| ALABAMA, Selma | IBPOEW -- Elks Building 4304 Water Ave. Selma, AL | Saturday, Jan. 23 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| MISSISSIPPI, Jackson | Tougaloo College Health & Wellness Center, Gym Tougaloo, MS | Tuesday, Feb. 2 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| ALABAMA, Selma | IBPOEW -- Elks Building 4304 Water Ave. Selma, AL | Saturday, Feb. 6 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| ALABAMA, Tuskegee | Tuskegee University Kellogg Conference Center Tuskegee, AL 36088 | Friday, Feb. 12 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| GEORGIA, Albany | Albany Civic Center 100 West Oglethorpe Blvd. Albany, GA | Saturday, Feb. 13 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| MISSISSIPPI, Jackson | Tougaloo College Health & Wellness Center, Gym Tougaloo, MS | Tuesday, Feb. 16 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| VIRGINIA, Richmond | Richmond Marriott Hotel 500 East Broad Street Richmond, VA | Tuesday, Feb. 16 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| ARKANSAS, Pine Bluff | Pine Bluff Convention Center One Convention Center Plaza Pine Bluff, AR | Wednesday, Feb. 24 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| CALIFORNIA, Fresno | Law Offices Of Ritchel & Smith 2350 W. Shaw Ave., #154 Fresno, CA | Saturday, Feb. 27 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| SOUTH CAROLINA, Orangeburg | Smith, Hamilton, Middleton Memorial Center Buckly Street South Carolina State University 300 College St., N.E. Orangeburg, SC | Thursday, March 4 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |

Handwritten notes:
 These boys was already pass when you wrote the letter. You could see we could not go back when you did send it out to us until Aug 2000 we got on 16 of Aug 2000 we notified you of this.

Handwritten notes:
 2. I'd like to see you explained before you sent out this notice. I even wrote it 7/28/00 7/99.

21
Friday, June 11, 2004

Bernice Atchison
1072 Hwy 191
Jemison, AL 35085

Law Offices
Conlon, Frantz, Phelan, & Pires, LLP
Suite 700
1818 N Street N.W.
Washington D.C. 20036

Att Alexander J. Pires Jr.
Phillip L. Fraiss Class Counsel

We the people of Chilton County have waited for an answer from class counsel on the Pigford and Brewington case Black Farmers case.

We received your explanation of the Late claims sent to Bernice Atchison dated August 10, 2000. Many of us tried filing the late claims affidavit. Many were denied.

We understand, after receiving your letter of August 10, 2000 that the consent decree allows a person to participate. If he or she can show the claim was late due to Extraordinary Circumstances beyond his or her control. This was Judge Friedman's order.

After receiving this information, we got a committee together and we set out to prove to you that we met the extraordinary circumstances beyond our control. We sent to your office and Mr. Mikel K. Lewis's office, letters from the Four Mayors of this county, the probate Judge, and County Library, stating that they did not receive any copy from USDA to post for viewing.

Even though we went to USDA offices of this county, we were told that they could not help us, we were given this number to call: 1-800-646-2873, they did not have a copy for us to view. They did not have a copy of the extension, they did not have any application or any affidavit. As you can see this was not given to us until September 7, 2001. There is no counsel on the matter in Chilton County. I have sent written explanations with every claim and every request. We have proven to you as our class counsel, the extraordinary circumstances. We are asking that the error be corrected, Many of us still own farmland, Many of us worked on Farms as share croppers and care takers. It would be a miscarriage of Justice to deny what is due to us. We are willing to prove we have farms and that we own farms. Just tell us what we need to do. Now that I am better, I am willing to help the people of our county. I will go to the churches, there are only 17. I will put out fliers to help.

Our people need the money. We could bond a few people in each community and get the job done. Most people can name the farms they worked on and describe the location. Others can prove they own land by producing tax receipts. Just tell us what you need so we can receive our payment. We know we have met your conditions as stated in the review and the extension.

Yours Truly,

Bernice Atchison

1072 Hwy 191
Jemison, AL 35085

11 We still own 39 ac
of my father's personal land
that was not in 1500 ac

Rondell Atchison 12
Po Box 423
Jemison Ala
Jem 1072 Hwy 191
Jemison, AL 35085
August 20, 2002
(205) 688-2715

Dear: Mr. Ted Hosp

I received an answer from Governor Seigerman, Dated July 23, 2002, in regard to a letter I wrote about a land dispute.

Mr Hosp this land has been in our family for more than a 100 years, since before 1883. Originally there was about 1500 acres but much of it has been lost through various means.

This case CV97-177R is a discrimination case against a black widow woman and is a dishonor to the law. Its ruling has broked state and federal law, following are some of the errors that I have found. I have tried all legal means to correct the ruling.

- (1) None feason that is admitted, the court does nothing.
- (2) Death of plaintiff who has no heirs, except a step daughter.
- (3) Money paid out of escrow account before case goes to court.
- (4) Sixteen heirs ask court to let the land stay in family and negotiated amongst ourselves for \$51,875.00 to be paid to heirs seeking relief.
- (5) Step daughter received \$9,687.30 in October before hearing in December and while the case was being contested.
- (6) Edward Delane received \$10,431.28, while his other twelve siblings received \$743.98 each. How did this happen? He declared Mr. Latham as is lawyer.
- (7) In open court the judge ask me if I had \$50,000.00 to pay for the land, I said "yes" . He replied you are not going to get it for \$50,000.00. Mr. Earskin Ford asked the judge why? she is an heir, ~~is~~ *is*. The judge said, "I am judge and you will pay \$80,000.00 plus taxes." I agreed to do that and asked for a copy of the order so I could get the money. On July 2, 2000, I reported to the court clerk that I had secured the loan and I asked how I should get it to the court, I asked if I should bring a certified check or have it electronically transferred, I was informed by the bank that it could be done in 24 hours. *Now He Did Not Tell us it gone up to \$110,000.00*
- (8) On December 13, 2000 I proved to the court that I had bargained with the family for \$51,875.00. I showed the signatures of the family member agreeing to the amount.
- (9) This court never once notified any of the heirs of any of the court hearings, our addresses were available and most of us have cars and land, ~~so~~ we pay taxes. (we also vote)

Cott to Rondell

LAW OFFICES
CONLON, FRANTZ, PHELAN & PIRES, LLP

DAVID J. FRANTZ*
BRIAN P. PHELAN*
MICHAEL J. CONLON*
ALEXANDER J. PIRES, JR.*
ANURAG VARMA

SUITE 700
1818 N STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

(202) 331-7050
FAX: (202) 331-9306
e-mail: firm@cfpplaw.com

RICHARD A. MEHLER
(1920-1987)

OF COUNSEL
F. JOSEPH BRINIG**
LAWRENCE BERNSTEIN

* ALSO ADMITTED IN VA
* ALSO ADMITTED IN MD

June 17, 2004

Ms. Bernice Atchison
1072 Hwy 191
Jemison, AL 35085

Re: The Black Farmers Case / Your Late Claim

Dear Ms. Atchison:

I received your letter dated June 11, 2004, in which you ask us to help you with your late claim.

You petitioned the Arbitrator to file a late claim. The Arbitrator denied your petition. You timely filed a request for reconsideration with the Arbitrator, and your request is now pending at the Office of the Arbitrator.

The Arbitrator decides all late claim petitions; we do not decide them.

You have done everything you can do. The Arbitrator will send a decision directly to you once he has reviewed your request for reconsideration.

Sincerely,


Alexander J. Pires, Jr.

Black Farmers' Settlement

P.O. Box 4390
Portland, OR 97208-4390
1-800-646-2873

JULY 19, 2001

CLAIM #
TRACKING # 00005887600
AFFIDAVIT # 01187

BERNICE ATCHISON
1072 HIGHWAY 191
JEMISON AL 35085

Re: Pigford et al. v. Veneman - Civil Action No. 97-1978 (PLF)
Brewington et al. v. Veneman - Civil Action No. 98-1693 (PLF)

Dear Claimant:

The deadline for filing a claim in the Black Farmers Settlement against the U.S. Department of Agriculture, pursuant to Paragraph 5(c) of the Consent Decree, was October 12, 1999. Paragraph 5(g) of the Consent Decree in this case provides that farmers who missed the October 12, 1999 deadline may petition the Court to permit the farmer to nonetheless participate in the claims resolution procedures set out in the decree.

The Consent Decree also establishes a high standard for the review of late claims in that the farmer must demonstrate that his failure to submit a timely claim was due to extraordinary circumstances beyond his control. On December 20, 1999, Judge Friedman delegated to me the review of all late-filed claims.

After a thorough review of your late claim affidavit and supporting documentation, I have concluded that you have not met the high standard contained in paragraph 5(g). Thus, your request to be permitted to participate in the settlement is denied. My decision is final and may not be appealed to the Monitor or to the Court.

Sincerely,



Michael K. Lewis
Arbitrator

**FMNP
750**

DewyAW

2

Black Farmers' Settlement

P.O. Box 4390
Portland, OR 97208-4390
1-800-646-2873

OCTOBER 29, 2001

CLAIM #
TRACKING # 00005887600
AFFIDAVIT # 01187

*Ask for
Reconsideration*

BERNICE ATCHISON
1072 HIGHWAY 191
JEMISON AL 35085

RE: Pigford et al. v. Veneman - Civil Action No. 97-1978 (PLF)
Brewington et al. v. Veneman - Civil Action No. 98-1693 (PLF)

Dear Claimant,

As you know, you previously received a letter from me that denied your petition to file a late claim in the Black Farmers' Settlement. This letter is to inform you that there is a process for me to reconsider your application. Such a request must be sent in writing to the address above, postmarked within 60 days of the date of this letter. If you previously, have requested reconsideration, you do not need to respond to this letter.

Before you make a request for reconsideration, I ask that you think about any circumstances that make stronger your argument that you should be permitted to participate in the settlement. As I said in my first letter to you, the standard established in the consent decree is that only circumstances beyond the control of the claimant should be considered. Only information or documents I do not already have will convince me to change my decision.

All written information must be accompanied by a cover letter signed by the potential claimant. The following sentence must be written above the claimant's signature: "I DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT."

As you may be aware, there were thousands of people who petitioned to file late claims. Although you have received a decision from me, many others have not. Fairness dictates that before I review your petition for a second time, I must decide the petitions of those who have not heard from me once. In time, I will review your petition if you send me a request for reconsideration, but please be advised that it may be as much as a year before you hear from me again.

Sincerely,



Michael K. Lewis
Arbitrator

Office of the Monitor
Richard J. Veneman (D.D.C.)
Barrington v. Veneman (D.D.C.)

Post Office Box 64511
St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0511
Phone (toll-free): 1-877-924-7483

June 29, 2004

BERNICE ATCHISON
1072 HIGHWAY 191
JEMISON, AL 35085

Tracking # 58876

Dear Claimant:

Thank you for the correspondence you recently sent to the Office of the Monitor. We received it on 6/18/2004.

We are in the process of preparing a more detailed response. You should receive a follow-up letter from us shortly.

Sincerely,

Office of the Monitor

Office of the Monitor
Pigford v. Veneman (D.D.C.)
Brewington v. Veneman (D.D.C.)

5
Post Office Box 64511
St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0511
Phone (toll-free): 1-877-924-7483

June 29, 2004

Tracking # 58876

BERNICE ATCHISON
1072 HIGHWAY 191
JEMISON, AL 35085

Dear Claimant:

Thank you for the correspondence you recently sent to the Office of the Monitor.

Our records now indicate that you have filed a late claim affidavit for relief under the Consent Decree in the *Pigford v. Veneman* case. This is the case in which African-American farmers sued the United States Department of Agriculture alleging race discrimination. The only way to apply for relief is to file a written claim form and election sheet. The deadline for a timely filing of a claim under *Pigford* was October 12, 1999.

Your affidavit will be forwarded to Michael Lewis, the Arbitrator in this case. By court order dated December 20, 1999, the Court authorized the Arbitrator to make decisions with regard to late claims. Permission to file a late claim will be granted only if you demonstrate to the Arbitrator that your failure to submit a timely claim was due to extraordinary circumstances beyond your control.

The decision of the Arbitrator is final. If you would like an update on the status of your claim, or if you need further information, please call the Claims Facilitator at 1-800-646-2873.

Sincerely,

Office of the Monitor

This claim
outage
RANDOM DENYAL

C6

FMNP 750 - 6

September 7, 2004

To: Randi Ilyse Roth,

Black Farmers Class Action
97-1978 PLF & 98-1693 PLF

It is stated you are appointed to see that the decree functions properly. It has failed in everyway in Chilton County. We began notifying Class Counsel by Certified mail and calling the office in April 2000 that there was no claim package or affidavit in Chilton County. We notified and asked for more time. We have that proof of certified mail with six (6) copies. The Class Counsel and Monitor both knew of the problems we were having because we sent it to them. They denied Randall Atchison with a FMNP Number 750 with land of thirty-nine (39) acres 239-80-40 39, and 20 acres. He was sent an affidavit in September which I immediately returned. This was after the notice date not because we did not try. There was no consent decree and no stipulations any where for us to have as a guide. Yet court paid lawyers and monitors and question is ask, Did Judge Freedman mean for us to be left out? The order was defied by all he appointed and we have written letter after letter trying to rectify the error. We are poor disable people and in need. We can prove we own land and we can prove USDA did not post this information at any time. This meets your standards of extraordinary circumstances beyond our control. What more do you want from us? Class Counsel and the Monitor have received proof from us.

You sent out the stipulation signed on July 14, 2000, but the Judge signed it on July 19, 2000. We received the first copy on August 16, 2000 and immediately returned it the same day and applied to you for claim packages and affidavit. Since none were in Chilton County. Proof of this certified mail is receipt number 7000 05 20 0014 8584 9786. There were no affidavits sent before September 15, 2000 deadline which was twenty (20) working days away. How were we to get you an on time affidavit, How were we to know? You did not have it posted anywhere and we were unable to view a copy to know what was needed.

TRACK # 135994

72267

CERTIFIED LETTER 7604 1160 0004 4836 5948

LAW OFFICES
CONLON, FRANTZ, PHELAN & PIRES, LLP
SUITE 700
1818 N STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

RICHARD A MEHLER
(1920-1987)

OF COUNSEL
F. JOSEPH BRING
LAWRENCE BERNSTEIN

ALSO ADMITTED IN VA.
ALSO ADMITTED IN MD.
ALSO ADMITTED IN NY
NOT ADMITTED IN DC

(202) 331-7050
FAX: (202) 331-9306
e-mail: firm@cfppllaw.com

August 10, 2000

Mr Phillip L. Freed
Alexander J. Pires

AL 35085

TRACKING #
58876-00

DAVID J. FRANTZ
BRIAN P. PHELAN
MICHAEL J. CONLON
ALEXANDER J. PIRES, JR.
MARY JEAN FASSETT
ANURAG VARMA
MICHELLE A. PILGRIM
INGRID HITTO
JAMES E. FISHER, II
LEANDRA OLLIE
SHANTHI JEGATHESWARAN
MALCOLM C. GRACE
GREG J. KIRSCHNER

Request for
Exhibit
to Mail Aug 16 2000
Mail - Key 7000 0520 0014 8534 9736

BERNICE ATCHISON
1072 HIGHWAY 191
JEMISON

Dear Farmer:

Late Claim Deadline

1. Introduction

You are receiving this letter because you asked for a Claim Sheet and Election Form and did not complete it and return it on time in *Pigford v. Glickman* - the Black Farmers' Settlement against the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

On July 14, 2000, the Judge in this lawsuit, the Honorable Paul L. Friedman, issued an important Order. An Order from the Judge has the force of law. The Order is written in legal language. This letter will help explain its meaning to you. A copy of the Order is enclosed.

2. What is a "late claim"?

In order to be part of the Pigford settlement under Track A or Track B, each person must send to the Facilitator a six-page Claim Sheet and Election Form (or a "claim"). The settlement agreement (also known as the "Consent Decree") set a deadline October 12, 1999 for filing these claims. A late claim, therefore, is any claim postmarked after October 12, 1999.

3. Some late claims are allowed

The Consent Decree allows a person to participate in this case if he/she can show that the claim was late - that is, it was sent after October 12, 1999 - due to extraordinary circumstances beyond his/her control. Said another way, Judge Friedman has ordered that your late claim will be accepted if the Arbitrator in this case agrees that your claim was late due to extraordinary circumstances beyond your control.

Form E8402

*Proof of extraordinary
circumstance*



City of Jemison



KENNETH RAY
MAYOR

P.O. BOX 609
JEMISON, ALABAMA 35085
TELEPHONE (205) 688-4492 OR (205) 688-4493
FAX (205) 688-1109

MARY ELLISON
CITY CLERK

November 5, 2001

Black Farmers' Settlement
P. O. Box 4390
Portland, OR 97208-4390

RE: Pigford et al. V. Veneman- Civil Action No. 97-1978 (PLF)
Brewington et al. V. Veneman – Civic Action No. 98-1693 (PLF)

Dear Sir:

The City of Jemison did not receive a notice to post regarding the Black Farmers' Settlement, so therefore, it has not been posted for the public to review.

If you have any further questions, please call.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellison

Mary Ellison
City Clerk.

James Shepheard
Attn: Nancy
Willetts (Ratt)
Clerk:
Sign. Address

Thorshy, Alabama 35171
phone (205) 646 2575
fax (205) 646 2414

Continental 1901 2001



Sam Bentley
Mayor

November 13, 2001

Black Farmers' Settlement
P.O. Box 4390
Portland, OR 97208-4390

RE: Pigford et al. v. Veneman - Civil Action No. 97-1978 (P.L.E)
Brewington et al. v. Veneman - Civil Action No. 98-1693 (P.L.E)

Dear Sir:

The Town of Thorshy did not receive a notice to post regarding the Black Farmers' Settlement, so therefore, it has been posted for the public to review.

If you have any further question, please call.

Sincerely,

Jaelyn Porter

Jaelyn Porter
Assistant Clerk

Thorshy Ala 35171

MAYOR
W.C. Hayes, Jr.

TOWN CLERK
Sara Alcham

Town of Maplesville

P. O. Box 9
Maplesville, Alabama 36750
(334) 366-4211 or (334) 366-4212
Fax (334) 366-4210

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Mike Bearden
Elizabeth Hayes
Aubrey Latham
Ray Charles Mitchell
Kurt Wallace

Nov. 7, 2001

Black Farmer's Settlement
P.O. Box 4390
Portland, OR 97208-4390

RE: Pigford et al. v. Veneman-Civil Action No. 97-1978 (P.L.F)
Brewington et al. v. Veneman-Civil Action No. 98-1963 (P.L.F)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Town of Maplesville, Town Hall or Mayor's Office did not receive a notice to post regarding the Black Farmers' Settlement, so therefore, it has not been posted for the public to review.

Sincerely,

W.C. Hayes, Jr.
Mayor of Maplesville





OFFICE OF
PROBATE COURT
CHILTON COUNTY
CLANTON, ALABAMA 35045

ROBERT M. MARTIN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

November 5, 2001

SHIRLEY P. ROBINSON
CHIEF CLERK

Black Farmers' Settlement
P. O. BOX 4390
Portland, OR 97208-4390

RE: Pigford et al. V. Veneman-Civil Action No. 97-1978 (PLF)
Brewington et al. V. Veneman-Civic Action No. 98-1693 (PLF)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Chilton County Probate Office of Clanton, Alabama did not receive a notice to post regarding the Black Farmers' Settlement, so therefore, it has not been posted for the public to review.

Sincerely,

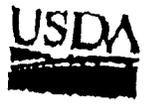
Robert M. Martin, Probate Judge

01/07/99 10:24
JUL 06-1998 17:20

208 278 3880

AL. RT. FSA OFFICE ... TURCALOOSA
USDA FSN SUN OFFICE

PAGE. 005/000
005/003
F. 01/01



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Farm and
Foreign
Agricultural
Services

Farm Service
Agency

1400 Independence
Ave. SW
Wash. DC
20250-0544

January 6, 1999

TO: State Executive Directors
FROM: Robert Springer
Executive Director for State Operations
SUBJECT: Litiguit Settlement for Black Farmers

Since the media has released information regarding the settlement for the Black Farmers, State and County Offices have received many calls from producers and the media. To ensure everyone is providing the same information to producers and the media, refer all calls from:

- the media, to Lorna Trivers, Deputy Press Secretary @ 202-720-4623
- farmers, to Black Farmers Litigation Hotline @ 1-800-646-2873 from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm EST

1800 646 2873
1800 543 1289
Received Sept 7 2000
From Juscaloosa

Dan Slickman
USDA
Room 200A
Administrative Bldg
Washington
DC
20250

Dan Slickman
USDA
Room 200-A
Administrative Bldg
Washington, DC
20250

[Faint handwritten notes and signatures]

This One Come from
Juscaloosa sept 7 2000

202 2203631

Black Farmers' Settlement

Claims Facilitator

P.O. Box 4390

Portland, OR 97208-4390

1-800-646-2873

*After important
to be better
Jan 12-13-1
all days had already
reported*

To: Black Farmers

Date: February 25, 1990

Re: Pigford, et al., v. Glickman; Civil Action No. 97-1978 (D.D.C.) (PLF)
Brewington, et al., v. Glickman; Civil Action No. 98-1693 (D.D.C.) (PLF)

This is your claim package. A completed claim package (which includes your signature and a lawyer's signature) must be submitted to the Black Farmers' Settlement Claims Facilitator in order for you to be eligible to participate in the settlement.

In order to assist you in completing the claims package, lawyers from the eight law firms involved in this case will be holding meetings in the following cities on the dates listed below.

| STATE, CITY | LOCATION | DATE | TIME |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------|------------------|
| ALABAMA, Selma | IBPOEW -- Elks Building 4304 Water Ave. Selma, AL | Saturday, Jan 23 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| MISSISSIPPI, Jackson | Tougaloo College Health & Wellness Center, Gym Tougaloo, MS | Tuesday, Feb. 2 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| ALABAMA, Selma | IBPOEW -- Elks Building 4304 Water Ave. Selma, AL | Saturday, Feb. 6 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| ALABAMA, Tuskegee | Tuskegee University Kellogg Conference Center Tuskegee, AL 36088 | Friday, Feb. 12 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| GEORGIA, Albany | Albany Civic Center 100 West Oglethorpe Blvd. Albany, GA | Saturday, Feb. 13 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| MISSISSIPPI, Jackson | Tougaloo College Health & Wellness Center, Gym Tougaloo, MS | Tuesday, Feb. 16 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| VIRGINIA, Richmond | Richmond Marriott Hotel 500 East Broad Street Richmond, VA | Tuesday, Feb. 16 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| ARKANSAS, Pine Bluff | Pine Bluff Convention Center One Convention Center Plaza Pine Bluff, AR | Wednesday, Feb. 24 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| CALIFORNIA, Fresno | Law Offices Of Ritchel & Smith 2350 W. Shaw Ave., #154 Fresno, CA | Saturday, Feb. 27 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |
| SOUTH CAROLINA, Orangeburg | Smith, Hamilton, Middleton Memorial Center Bucky Street South Carolina State University 300 College St., N.E. Orangeburg, SC | Thursday, March 4 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. |

Selma

*Selma
Domile
Tuskegee*

*Chilton Co
we did not
get a copy*
*Alabama says applied
before you sent out the notice
on 2/25/1999
you did not notify us*

My Ep going

**FMNP
750**



OFFICE OF
PROBATE COURT
CHILTON COUNTY
CLANTON, ALABAMA 35045

November 5, 2001

SHIRLEY P. ROBINSON
CHIEF CLERK

BERT M. MARTIN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

Black Farmers' Settlement
P. O. BOX 4390
Portland, OR 97208-4390

Re: Pigford et al. V. Veneman-Civil Action No. 97-1978 (PLF)
Brewington et al. V. Veneman-Civic Action No. 98-1693 (PLF)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Chilton County Probate Office of Clanton, Alabama did not receive a notice of posting regarding the Black Farmers' Settlement, so therefore, it has not been posted for the public to review.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Martin, Probate Judge

Chilton/Clanton Public Library
100 First Avenue
Clanton, AL 35045
205-755-1768

Mary Jo Abernathy
Director

15
Bernice Atchison
1072 Hwy 191
Jemison, AL 35085

Law Offices
Conlon, Frantz, Phelan, & Pires, LLP
Suite 700
1818 N Street N.W.
Washington D.C. 20036

Att Alexander J. Pires Jr.
Phillip L. Fraiss Class Counsel

We the people of Chilton County have waited for an answer from class counsel on the Pigford and Brewington case Black Farmers case.

We received your explanation of the Late claims sent to Bernice Atchison dated August 10, 2000. Many of us tried filing the late claims affidavit. Many were denied.

We understand, after receiving your letter of August 10, 2000 that the consent decree allows a person to participate. If he or she can show the claim was late due to Extraordinary Circumstances beyond his or her control. This was Judge Friedman's order.

After receiving this information, we got a committee together and we set out to prove to you that we met the extraordinary circumstances beyond our control. We sent to your office and Mr. Mikel K. Lewis's office, letters from the Four Mayors of this county, the probate Judge, and County Library, stating that they did not receive any copy from USDA to post for viewing.

Even though we went to USDA offices of this county, we were told that they could not help us, we were given this number to call; 1-800-646-2873, they did not have a copy for us to view. They did not have a copy of the extension, they did not have any application or any affidavit. As you can see this was not given to us until September 7. There is no counsel on the matter in Chilton County. I have sent written explanations with every claim and every request. We have proven to you as our class counsel, the extraordinary circumstances. We are asking that the error be corrected, Many of us still own farmland, Many of us worked on Farms as share croppers and care takers. It would be a miscarriage of Justice to deny what is due to us. We are willing to prove we have farms and that we own farms. Just tell us what we need to do. Now that I am better, I am willing to help the people of our county. I will go to the churches, there are only 17. I will put out fliers to help.

Our people need the money. We could bond a few people in each community and get the job done. Most people can name the farms they worked on and describe the location. Others can prove they own land by producing tax receipts. Just tell us what you need so we can receive our payment. We know we have met your conditions as stated in the review and the extension.

Yours Truly,
Bernice Atchison

June 11 2004

Received answer July 14 2004
Date June 29 2004



Tracking # 135093
Affidavit # 76610

ATTN: Mr. Michael K. Lewis

RE:Letter 2002

I am requesting that I be reviewed under the monitor review. I know that you have the authority to review from January 17, 2000 until January 18, 2005. I believe that we have prove3n extraordinary circumstances. We have sumitted to you letters from the Mayors office, the Probate Office, and the Libraries showing that it was an error. It was not posted in any of the public facalities. None of these facalities received notice to post.

If we were to meet the dead line of Sept. 15, 2000, it was the responsibility of the facalitor to post or by mail from the Court House notify land owners. For less that \$6.00 every black Church could have been notified touching literally every black family. There are only 17 black Churches in this County. As you noted in the nomotor review, there has been problems in the claim process. It would be a miscarriage of justice to leave us out. After we brought to your attention that USAD failed to post. We were not notified of the original suite. Nor the extention that was approved by the judge. We would like to have this error rectorfied. How can we be held accountiable to know when the deadline was when you did not post. We believe that this is an extraordaniary circumstances and we should be allowed to participate. We have stated that there was no lawyer in this error, therefore we are trying the best way we can to answer your petition.

Did Judge Freedman intend for Chilton County to be left out because USDA did not post. That would be injustice, we have sumitted to you proof. I respectely sumitt our name for consideration

WE DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

SENCERELY,

Bernice Atchison 5887600

Morris Wilson 5604600

Randall Atchison 135994

COMMITTE 205 688-2715

Pigford, et al. v. Glickman, et al.

Late Claim Affidavit

The Consent Decree in the *Pigford v. Glickman* case established the deadline for filing a claim as October 12, 1999. Any claim filed after October 12, 1999 is considered a late claim, the conditions for which are set out in ¶ 5 (g) of the Consent Decree. Paragraph 5(g) provides that a farmer attempting to file a late claim must establish that circumstances beyond the farmer's control prevented him or her from filing a claim by the October 12, 1999 deadline. **On July 14, 2000, Judge Friedman issued an order establishing September 15, 2000 as the final date by which a farmer can seek permission to file a late claim.** The July 14, 2000 order also established that the decision of whether a farmer meets the standard specified in the Consent Decree would be made by the Arbitrator.

The Arbitrator will review all late claim petitions postmarked by September 15, 2000. The standard he will use is that contained in Paragraph 5 (g) of the Consent Decree – circumstances beyond the control of the farmer that prevented the farmer from filing a timely claim.

You do not have to use this form to file a petition for a late claim, but **all late claim petitions must be in writing.** It is important to include as much detailed information about the circumstances of the late filing as possible, because you have to convince the Arbitrator that circumstances or conditions beyond your control prevented you from filing a claim by October 12, 1999. If you have documents that help you explain why your claim is late, please include copies with your petition.

You will receive a letter from the Arbitrator telling you whether you have been given permission to file a claim or not. If the Arbitrator approves your petition, a claim form will be forwarded to you.

Bernie Atchison, did not file a claim by the October 12, 1999 because of the following circumstances which were beyond my control (use additional paper if necessary): We Could Not Obtain the Claim package or the Affidavit I Mail the 1st got Aug 16 2000
We Receive 1 Late Claim affidavit Aug 16 and Return it Same day by Certified Mail (Order on July 14 2000 with held them until late Aug
How could we get 700 people in there we had less than 20 days with no application

Certified Mail # 7000 0520 0014 8584 9786

Bernice Atchison
Tracking No.5887600
Affidavit 01187

Pigford -et -al. v Veneman-Civil Action No.97 1978 plf. Brewington et -al. v Veneman Civil Action No. 98 1693 plf.

The Facilitator.

As a farmer here in Chilton County we are being held accountable for the USDA mistake. They did not post, it is plainely set out in the stipulation claims that shows extraordinary circumstance beyond my control is allowed this is what the Judge said. Paragraph (7) said copies of the stipulation and the order shall be posted in conspicuous public places. In every USDA farm service agency and County Offices. (2) or be mailed by the facilitator to every person who requested a claim .(3) Who did not submit a complete claim to the facilitator within the period perscribed . This stipulation the original decree nor the extension were posted at our USDA as orded by Judge Friedman the USDA farm office Crurthouse or USDA Extension Office had no notices we asked at each office the County Farm Service said they could not help USDA Extention Office had no knowledge of the suite at all. Mr. Gray sends out notices of information on programes , farms sessions, agriculture meeting, farm marketing information, several times each year. There has not been one notice on this matter even your letter to inform this state was not wrote until February 25,2000 and mailed in March 2000 by then all days had expired for going to Selma Al. to see Lawyer Chestnut which was 70 miles away. We called him he was not taking any more claims at that time stating he had gotten his quoter yet we are being held accountable for not filing on time. There was no claim at USDA Office in Chilton County .The setetary stated she was not able to help us. We went to every office trying to get help. The Probate Judge did not know what to do. You failed to post a notice with him . This is exteraordinary circumstances Judge Friedman gave the order for you to post or notify by mail this was not done. I am a farmer has farmed all my life to deny us after we proved our aligation is unjust. We asked to participate Judge Fredman ordered on July 14,2000 was never published or posted in Chilton County. As the Facilitator you are appointed in this area we had no phone calls or letters from anyone that was appointed for this area . How can you hold us responsible for not getting a late claim in on time when you did not post or mail or give us nqtice .

Sincerely Bernice Atchison
Commiteman

(use this one)

Tracking 00006821700
 Affidavit 06242
 July 29 02

Pigford et al. v. Veneman - Civil Action No. 97 -1978 (PLF)
 Brewington et al. v. Veneman - Civil Action No. 98 -1693 (PLF)

Dear: Mr. Michael K. Lewis,

We are asking for your reconsideration that we may participate in the settlement. We are enclosing the document necessary to prove to you the extraordinary circumstance that was beyond our control.

USDA did not post the information, in any city here in C HILTON COUNTY. Neither did they post it in the extension office. Therefore we are asking to join the settlement, base on these facts. We have read your petition in the Montor Review. And we know that you where appointed from January 18, 2000 to January 17, 2005. (Page 7 paragraph 14). These are facts that we found.

The fact it was not posted, and we have sent copies with each petition to prove it. (Paragraph 5 of page 3) There is a fundamental miscarriage of justice. (Paragraph 6 of page 3) We have gather the necessary document to show the miscarriage of justice by the USDA of Chilton County. They fail to post the information in any town. (Paragraph 7) You already know of the problem. This is a USDA problem of failing in there job as the Judge has ordered. It was not posted in our USDA office, or the county court house for us to view. Page 3 the class lawyer say describe the error or mistake, that makes it a miscarriage of justice.

(1) We are poor in need of these funds, and to be deprived of our share would be a miscarriage of justice.

(2) We are African American.

(3) We have farm all of our life. We all have.

(9 A) We notified Mr. Lewis in the beginning, there were no lawyers in our area, and that we were older peoples on S.S. and disable. That is why we are trying to answer these petition.

(Page7) Yes we contact USDA and was told they could not help us, the secretary stated that the case was being brought against them the USDA. We would have to do it own our own. We are asking to be permitted to participate in the suit. Because it was not our fault that it was not posted as the judge order. This was clearly a USDA problem. We have sent you the proof that it was not posted. They fail to post it as the judge order. They did not even post the extension. It would be unfair to hold us accountable for USDA failure, we are asking for justice as farmers.

Did Judge Freedmon intend that this county be denied by not posting at any time. How was we to know what or when, if it is not posted to read, even the extension was not posted. That is why so many miss the dead line. It was alack of information. Information that was due us by law, and could have been mail to every black land owner.

We declair under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

SIGN: *Bernie C. Atchison*

SIGN:

FMNP 750
 Randell J Atchison
 Tracking No. 135994
 Affidavit 72267
 P.O Box 423
 Jemison, Alabama 35085
 Farm Location Hwy. 191

To The Monotor

The question that we are asking in Chilton County is Did Judge Freedman mean to leave this county out by not posting or notifying the Black Farmers and Farm helpers?

While we worked to Produce and help produce the products that is raised in this county and shipped to many other states to be sold..

We had hope to be treated Fairley. We contacted USDA of Chilton County and were told that they could not help us. We imediately wrote certified letters to class councle and to the Monotor, telling that there were no Affidavit and there was no claim package at USDA and that they had in form us they could not help us. USDA Chilton County did not have a copy of the Concent Decree nor the stipulation for us to view.It was not published in our County News Paper or the U.S. Agriculture for the extension service here in Chilton County . We were not notified by mail, we were not given a chance to apply even after we notified Class Councle there was no legal help in this County for us.

Many of us was sent denial letters and many were not answered or given a tracking number. We have sent packages after packages to inform you and ask that the error be corrected.

We know you receive them 8 copies were sent by certified mail 8 packages. We have called time after time to No Avail beginning in April 2000 until now asking,pleading that class councle recertify the error. Many of us own farms now here in Chilton County many are Farm Helpers, Share Cropers, some have FMNP No. as I do, yet you have denied me and many more. I have lived on the same farm all my life I was born here in 1957 my mother and father worked hard to secure their own land for their own children to inherit. You are now holding me accountable for a late Claim Affidavit When you did not send them to us as we requested. When we notified you that we had no claims even your affidavit was not sent to any of our people until after August 16 that left only 20 working days with the Labor Day weekend in that.Less than 20 days with no

affidavit claim for our people our family who all own farms.

The problem was a USDA and class Council problem they Defyed the Judge order here in Chilton County they did not post. The Judge said it plainly IT SHALL BE POSTED. It was not and the USDA did not have a copy of the Decree or Stipulation for us to view. Without that information those instructions we had no way of knowing what was needed to apply. I am a farmer 39 ac and 239 Grandfather 80 Grandmother 39 Grandmother. We declare under purgery the Forgoing Statement are true and that we do have the said evident to prove that we notified by Certified Mail at least 8 times to make you aware of our problem. When you respond of Aug 10 came on Aug 16 2000 we had less than 20 working days to respond and only one affidavit that was all that you sent

Yours Truly

Bernice Atcham
Randall J. Atcham
Morris Wilson Committee

Copy Sent to Class Counsel
Copy Sent to Michael B Lewis

Randall

11/2000
Tracking # 35 994
Affidavit 72267

Pigford -et -al. v Veneman-Civil Action no 97 1978 plf
Brewington et -al. v Veneman Civil Action no 98 1693 plf

The Facilitator.

As A Farmer here in Chilton County we are being held accountable for the USDA mistake . They did not post it is plainly set out in the stipulation claims that show extraordinary circumstance beyond my controll is allowed this is what the JUDGE said.



paragraph (7) said copies of the stipulation and the order shall be posted in conspicuous public places in every USDA farm service agency and county offices no (2) or be mail by the facilitator to every pearson who requested a claim form (3) who did not summitte a compleat claime to thefacilitator with in the pirod precribed

This stipulation, the original decree, nor the extension were posted at our USDA as order by JUDGE FRIEDMAN. the usda farm office, court house, or usda extension office. WE ask at each office the county farm service said they could not help us, the usda extension office had no knowledge of the suite at all.

MR Gray send out notices of enformation on programs farms session agriculture meeting farm marketing information several times each year. there has not ben any information on this matter. Even your letter to inform this state was not wrote until Feb 25 2000 and mail in march 2000 by then all days had expired for going to Selma ALA. to see Lawyer Chestnut, which was 70 miles away we call him he was not taking any at that time. yet we are being held accountable for not filling a on time claim. there was no claims at our USDA office the secitary said she was not able to help us. we went to every office trying to get help the probate Judge did not know what to do You fail to post as judge order we had no information this is extraordinary circumstance

Judge FRIEDMAN Gave the order for you to post or notify by mail this was not done Iam a farmer have farmed all my life to deny us after we prove our aligation is also unjust we ask to participate

Yours Truly

K. Andrew J. Johnson

Randall J Atchison

Tracking No. 135994

Affidavit No.72267

P.O. Box 423

Jemison, Alabama 35085

**Farm on Highway 191 Jemison, Alabama
CHILTON COUNTY EVENT PACKAGE**

The question that we are now asking in Chilton County is "Did Judge Feadman mean to leave this county out by not posting or notifying the Black Farmers and Farm helpers?" While we work to produce and help produce the produce that is raised in this county and shipped to many other states to be sold.

We had hoped to be treated fairly, we contacted USDA of Chilton County and were told that they could not help us. We immediatley wrote certified letters to class counsel and to the monotor, telling that there were no affidovit and there was no claim package at USDA and that they had informed us they could not help. USDA Chilton did not have a copy of the Concent Deree nor the stipulation for us to view. It was not published in our county news paper or the U.S. agriculture for the extension service here in Chilton County. We were not notified by mail, we were not given a chance to, even after class councile knew their was no legal help in this county for us. Many of us was sent denial letters and many were not answered or given a track number. We have sent package after package to inform you and ask that the error be corrected. We know you received them, they were sent certified mail. We have called time after time to no avoidAL beginning in April of 2000 until now, asking class counsel to please recetify the error.

Many of us own farms now here in Chilton County, many are farm helpers some have FmNp no as I do yet you have denied me and many more, I have lived on the same farm all of my life and I was born in 1957. My mother and father worked hard to secrete their own land for their own children to inherit. You are now holding me accountable for a late claim affidavit when you did not send them to us as we requested and when we notified you that we received them late you have still denied us, the problem was USD and class counsel. They defied the Judge order here in Chilton Co. by not obeying the stipulation. It plainly stated it shall be posted, we had no way of knowing what we needed to do without ^{those} instructions and a claim package or affidavit. We declare under purgey the for going statements are true and that we do have evidence to all of said charges.

Sincerely,
Randall J. Atchison

We have proven to you the extraordinary Circumst-
ance and the miscarage of justill
we have brought it to your attention we have sent to you the
Proof now we ask that you know the stipulation as it was
order and give us the justice that is due us!
Those of us that con prove we own farm and still farm
deserve to be payed, I own a farm and has a FmNp # 9750
yet you have denyed me I am still farming at this date.
Justice demand that you correct the error that made in Chilton County

**Feeder Pigs Association
Inspected Farms
(Supervisors-Mims & Simms)**

1965-1992

**Chilton County Feeder Pigs Programs
Black Farmers**

FARMS

Allen C. Atchison
Issac Campbell
Jim Powell
Wilson Bryant
J.W. Atchison
O.T. Nunn ,
L.C. Hudson

BOYS

Dekinyon & Adam
Gregory
Jimmie
Esburn
Marcus
David
James

RANDALL S AITCHISON
TRACKING 135994
AFFIDAVIT 72269
PO Box 423
Jemison ALA 35885
Farm on Hwy 91 Jemison

3 Law Suit Copies Sent to Class Counsel
and to Monitor
Class Action Benefit per Court Order in

McRahon v Life of South
CT-AL - CV 95 pt 3373E US District

Court for Northern District of Ala

USDA Sent us to Bank The Bank owed
Charge

Farms As Listed

1) Burbet Farm
Hwy 191 Jemison, AL.35085
Cattle-Hay-Horses

2)Jemison Milling Co.
Hwy 191 Jemison, AL 35085
Feed-Fertilizer-Seeds

3) Hays Farms
Hwy 5 Jemison, AL. 35085
Corn-Beans-Okra

4) Charlie Childress Farm
Hwy 50 Jemison, AL. 35085
Vegetables-Fruit-Cotton-
Cattle-Hay-Chicken eggs

5) Bently Farms
Hwy. 31 Thorsby, AL. 35171
Peaches-Plums-Apples-
Potatoes

6) J.T. Porter Farms
Hwy.191 Jemison, AL.35085
Hay-Watermelon-Corn-Beans-
Cattle

7) Pat Lowrey Farm
Main Street Jemison,Al. 35085
Hay-Watermelon-Seeds-Feed-
Fertilizer

8) Luke Porter Farm
Jemison, AL. 35085
Peas-watermelon-Catfish-
Corn-Hay

9) Pete Land Farm
Hwy 50 Jemison,AL. 35085
Cotton-Corn

10) James Rasco Angus Farm (David Nunn)
631 Co. Rd. 208 Jemison, AL. 35085
Angus Cows-Hay

11) Charles Cup Farms (Joshlynn Allen)
Jemison AL. 35085
Peaches-Apples

12) Clyde Burnett Farm
Jemison, AL. 35085
Tomatoes-Peaches-Cotton-Corn

13) Norah Latham Farm
Hwy 22 Maplesville, AL. 36750
Chickenhouse-Cattle-Hay- Corn

14) Hoyte Freeman Farms
Hwy 191 Maplesville, AL. 36750
Cotton- Corn-Vegetables

15) Lathan Lenore
Hwy. 191 Maplesville AL. 36750
Cattle-Hay-Logging
Farm Lands

16) Fancey Farm/Fred Christian
Clanton, AL. 35045
Peaches

17) Otis Nunn Farm
658 Co. Rd. 205 Jemison, AL. 35085

List Of Farm Workers

1) Marcus Wilson
1197 Co. Rd. 87 Maplesville, AL. 36750

2) Melvin Bell
Co. Rd. 87 Box 1199 Maplesville, AL. 36750

3) Barbara Arnold
P.O Box 313 Maplesville, AL. 36750

4) Allen D. Atchison
Rt. 1 Box 343 Jemison AL. 35085

5) Carl Eugene Binion
6435 Co. Rd. 53 Clanton, AL. 36045

6) Luvert Caver
6435 Co. Rd. 53 Clanton AL. 35045

7) Johnnie W. Underwood 5792900
3947 Reed St. Clanton, AL. 35045

8) Willie Lee Caver c/o Bernice Atchison 89229
P.O. Box 423 Jemison, AL. 35085

9) Adam Allen
Co. Rd. 402 Clanton, AL. 35045

10) Dekinyon Baldwin-Atchison Farm
Hwy 191 Box 970 Jemison, AL. 35085

11) Jimmie Nunn
658 Co. Rd. 205 Jemison Alabama 35085

12) Cecil Williams Williams Farm
Thorsby, Alabama 35171
Peaches, plums, Potatoes

3
28
1-17-01
655
Tracking # 135093
Affidavit# 76610

ATTN: Mr. Michael K. Lewis

RE:Letter 2002

I am requesting that I be reviewed under the monitor review. I know that you have the authority to review from January 17, 2000 until January 18, 2005. I believe that we have proven extraordinary circumstances. We have submitted to you letters from the Mayors office, the Probate Office, and the Libraries showing that it was an error. It was not posted in any of the public facilities. None of these facilities received notice to post.

If we were to meet the dead line of Sept. 15, 2000, it was the responsibility of the facalitator to post or by mail from the Court House notify land owners. For less than \$6.00 every black Church could have been notified touching literally every black family. There are only 17 black Churches in this County. As you noted in the monotor review, there has been problems in the claim process. It would be a miscarriage of justice to leave us out. After we brought to your attention that USDA failed to post. We were not notified of the original suite nor the extention that was approved by the judge. We would like to have this error rectorfied. How can we be held accountiable to know when the deadline was when you did not post. We believe that this is an extraordaniary circumstances and we should be allowed to participate. We have stated that there are no lawyers in this area, therefore, we are trying the best that we can to answer your petition.

WE DECLAIR UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

SINCERELY *DAVID AICKS*

The Chilton Co Committee

has sent Class Councils and the Monitors these
 Certified letters beginning in April 2000
 up to Now asking for the error of NO posting be
 corrected and that Claim packages and affidavits
 be sent. We know that we have met the
 extraordinary Circumstance that is required
 for this County these are the Certified Card return
 letter receipts Tracking Number

| | | | | |
|--------|------|------|------|------|
| ① 7004 | 1160 | 0004 | 4836 | 5948 |
| ② 7000 | 0600 | 0022 | 7306 | 2696 |
| ③ 7000 | 0520 | 0014 | 8584 | 9786 |
| ④ 0300 | 1290 | 0000 | 9805 | 8889 |
| ⑤ 7001 | 1140 | 0003 | 0674 | 7526 |
| ⑥ 7001 | 1140 | 0003 | 0674 | 9049 |
| ⑦ 0300 | 1290 | 0000 | 9805 | 5268 |
| ⑧ 7000 | 0600 | 0022 | 7305 | 8309 |
| ⑨ 7000 | 0520 | 0014 | 8584 | 9786 |
| ⑩ 7001 | 1140 | 0003 | 0675 | 0120 |

Committee
 Bernice Atchison
 Randall Atchison
 Morris Wilson