UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

DEC 20 2013

OFFICE OF
CIVIL RIGHTS

Return Receipt Requested
Certified Mail#: 7004-1160-0002-3622-8417

In Reply Refer to:
EPA File No.: 07R-13-R9

Mr. Dan Ausman
President and CEO
Methodist Hospital
Emergency Department
300 W. Huntington Drive
Arcadia, CA 91007-3402

Re: REFERRAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

Dear Mr. Ausman:

On February 20, 2013, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA), Office of Civil Rights (OCR), received an administrative complaint against the Methodist Hospital Emergency Department (Methodist Hospital). The complaint alleges that Methodist Hospital discriminated against Ms. [redacted] due to her national origin, disability, and retaliation.

Pursuant to EPA's nondiscrimination administrative regulations, OCR conducts a preliminary review of administrative complaints for acceptance, rejection, or referral. 40 C.F.R. §7.120(d)(1). To be accepted for investigation, a complaint must meet the jurisdictional requirements described in EPA's nondiscrimination regulations. First, it must be in writing. 40 C.F.R. §7.120(b)(1). Second, it must describe alleged discriminatory acts that violate EPA's nondiscrimination regulations (*i.e.*, an alleged discriminatory act based on race, color, national origin, sex, or disability). *Id.* Third, it must be filed within 180 calendar days of the alleged discriminatory act. 40 C.F.R. §7.120(b)(2). Finally, it must be filed against an applicant for, or a recipient of, EPA financial assistance that committed the alleged discriminatory act. 40 C.F.R. § 7.15.

EPA does not provide financial assistance to Methodist Hospital, and, therefore, cannot accept the complaint for investigation. We are referring the complaint to the U.S.

Department of Health and Human Services for further review and any action they believe is appropriate.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Ericka Farrell at 202-564-0717, via email at farrell.ericka@epa.gov, or by mail to the U.S. EPA, Office of Civil Rights, (Mail Code 1201A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20460-1000.

Sincerely,

Vicki Simons
Acting Director
Office of Civil Rights

cc: Stephen G. Pressman, Assistant General Counsel
Civil Rights and Finance Law Office (MC 2399A)

Gina Edwards, EEO Officer
Region IX