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

MAY 2 2012

OFFICE OF
CIVIL RIGHTS

Return Receipt Requested
Certified Mail# 7004-2510-0004-2241-6817

In Reply Refer to:
EPA File No. 08R-11-R4

Leon Rodriguez, Director
Office for Civil Rights
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Room 509F HHH Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20201-0004

Re: Referral of Civil Rights Complaint

Dear Mr. Rodriguez:

On July 21, 2011, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Civil Rights (OCR) received an administrative complaint submitted by [redacted] on behalf of the Citizens of South Brooksville. The complaint alleges that the City of Brooksville, Hernando County, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), and the Florida Department of Health (FDEH) (hereinafter "entities") have violated Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (Title VI), 42 U.S.C.§§ 2000d *et seq.*, and EPA's regulations implementing Title VI, found at 40 C.F.R. Part 7.

Specifically, [redacted] alleged that the entities named have limited the opportunity of minorities to gain equal access to services and programs by denying them access to information and opportunities for public participation in the development of the Hernando County Health Needs Report 2007. Due to the nature of the allegation, OCR has determined that it would be more appropriate for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to investigate this matter. EPA therefore, is referring the July 21, 2011 allegation to HHS for review and action. A copy of the complaint letter is enclosed with this correspondence. We have also copied the complainant on this letter to acknowledge that we have forwarded this complaint to you. EPA is enclosing all of the complainant's supplemental clarifying information along with the original complaint for your reference.

If you have any questions, please contact me by telephone at (202) 564-0792, by e-mail at wooden-aguilar.helena@epa.gov, or by mail to U.S. EPA Office of Civil Rights (Mail Code 1201A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20460.

Sincerely,

Helena Wooden-Aguilar
Assistant Director
External Complaints and Compliance Program

Enclosures

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

Manuela Roblez, EEO Officer
EPA Region IV (w/out enclosures)

Katherin E. Hall, Assistant General Counsel
Civil Rights and Finance Law Office (MC 2399A)(w/out enclosures)

Jennifer C. Rey, SPHR, Esq.
Certified Circuit & County Mediator
City Attorney, City of Brooksville, Florida
Post Office Box 485
Brooksville, Florida 34605-0485

[redacted]