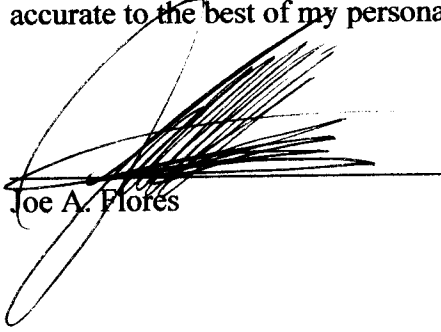


Supplemental Declaration of Joe A. Flores

I, Joe A. Flores hereby state and declare the following:

1. I am over 18 years of age, a permanent legal U.S. resident, and Hispanic. My date of birth is November 2, 1952. My mailing address is P.O. Box 2771, Fresno, CA 93745.
2. I have worked in the farming industry for over forty years. I grew up on a farm and began working in the field when I was 11 years old. In 1992 I began leasing and farming independently. At one time I leased about 100 acres, of which 80 acres were used to produce squash and chili peppers, and 20 acres were used to produce granny smith apples and grapes for raisins.
3. In 2000 my granny smith apple crop suffered severe damage from unseasonably warm weather. In 2001 I applied for non-credit crop disaster benefits from the Fresno County Farm Service Agency ("FSA") of the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA").
4. The Fresno county committee put me through six months of torture. Initially, they denied my application for non-insured crop disaster assistance. I was then forced to contact the University of California, Fresno, CA to obtain verifiable climate information, which I used as evidence in my motion to reconsider.
5. Eventually I won and the county committee reconsidered, but only after six months of constant battling with them. A similarly-situated Anglo farmer, Don Kazarian, who also produced granny smith apples applied for non-credit crop disaster funds at the same time I did and he received the non-credit relief promptly, without having to endure the six months of fighting with the county committee.
6. I believe that when I applied for the non-credit crop disaster relief assistance from the FSA I was qualified to receive it. I feel that the agency discriminated against me in initially denying my application because I am a Hispanic farmer.
7. I complained to the FSA about their discriminatory treatment towards me when they initially denied my non-credit crop disaster assistance application and then forced me to file for reconsideration to actually receive it.
8. The Office of Civil Rights has never investigated my discrimination complaint.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the above eight (8) numbered paragraphs are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge.



Joe A. Flores

10/23/06.
Date