

Supplemental Declaration of Joe M. Rascon

I, Joe M. Rascon, hereby state and declare the following:

1. I am over 18 years of age, a United States citizen, and a Hispanic farmer. My date of birth is April 21, 1954. My mailing address is 17171 W. Nielsen, Kerman, CA, 93630.
2. After a severe drought destroyed much of my crop in 1990, I applied for non-credit crop disaster benefits at the Fresno County Farmers Home Administration ("FmHA") of the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA").
3. The FmHA denied my non-credit crop disaster benefit application. I appealed their decision to the National Appeals Division ("NAD"). The NAD determined that the FmHA erred in their decision to deny me non-credit crop disaster payments. The NAD determined that I qualified to receive a payment of \$36,000.
4. The Fresno County Office disregarded the NAD decision and granted me only a small fraction (\$6,000) of the amount for which NAD had previously determined I was qualified to receive.
5. I noticed that the Fresno FmHA office was giving similarly-situated Anglo farmers the full amount of non-credit crop disaster benefits that they were entitled to receive.
6. Shortly thereafter, I complained to the USDA about FmHA's discriminatory treatment towards me when they refused to pay me the full amount of the non-credit crop disaster payment that the NAD had confirmed I deserved.
7. The Office of Civil rights never investigated my discrimination complaint.

I have reviewed the foregoing Declaration, consisting of seven (7) numbered paragraphs, and declare, under penalty of perjury that it is true and correct to the best of my personal knowledge.


Joe M. Rascon


Date