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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:

Abraham Carpenter, Jr. (Docket No. **17-0245**);

Danny Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0246**);

Katie Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0247**);

Albert Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0248**);

Carlos Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0249**);

Bobbie Jean Clark (Docket No. **17-0250**); and

Abraham Carpenter, Sr. (Docket No. **17-0251**),

Petitioners,

Dismissal (With Prejudice)

Appearances:

Mr. Corey Lea, representative for Abraham Carpenter, Jr., Danny Carpenter, Katie Carpenter, Albert Carpenter, Carlos Carpenter, Bobbie Jean Clark, and Abraham Carpenter, Sr., Petitioners; and

Mr. Juan Carlos Alarcon, Esq. with the Office of the General Counsel, Civil Rights Litigation Division, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington D.C.

1. I have carefully reviewed the Petitioners' Request for a Formal Hearing Before the Administrative Law Judge filed March 29, 2017; and the Agency Responses filed April 12, 2017, a separate Response for each docket number (**17-0245, 17-0246, 17-0247, 17-0248,**

17-0249, 17-0250, and 17-0251).

2. I conclude that Administrative Law Judges have no authority to grant the relief requested, as stated in the Agency Responses. Consequently, the case of Abraham Carpenter, Jr. (Docket No. **17-0245**); Danny Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0246**); Katie Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0247**); Albert Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0248**); Carlos Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0249**); Bobbie Jean Clark (Docket No. **17-0250**); and Abraham Carpenter, Sr. (Docket No. **17-0251**), Petitioners, is DISMISSED (With Prejudice).

Copies of this Dismissal (With Prejudice) order shall be served by the Hearing Clerk upon each of the parties.

Done at Washington, D.C.
this 26th day of April 2017



Jill S. Clifton
Administrative Law Judge

Hearing Clerk's Office
U.S. Department of Agriculture
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1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20250-9203
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OALJHearingClerks@ocio.usda.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Abraham Carpenter, Jr.	17-0245
Danny Carpenter	17-0246
Katie Carpenter	17-0247
Albert Carpenter	17-0248
Carlos Carpenter	17-0249
Bobbie Jean Clark	17-0250
Abraham Carpenter, Sr.	17-0251

Having personal knowledge of the foregoing, I declare under penalty of perjury that the information herein is true and correct and this is to certify that a copy of the DISMISSAL (WITH PREJUDICE) has been furnished and was served upon the following parties on April 27, 2017 by the following:

USDA OGC (Civil Rights Litigation Division) - Electronic Mail

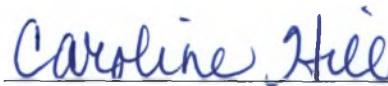
Juan Carlos Alarcon, OGC

Juan.Alarcon@ogc.usda.gov

Petitioner(s) Representative – Electronic Mail

cowtownfoundation@gmail.com

Respectfully Submitted,



Caroline Hill, Assistant Hearing Clerk
USDA/Office of Administrative Law Judges
Hearing Clerk's Office, Rm. 1031-S
1400 Independence Ave., SW
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