

United States Department of Agriculture



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WASHINGTON BULLETIN 230-7-2

January 22, 2007

SUBJECT: EOP – Civil Rights Policy Statement

Purpose: To affirm NRCS Civil Rights Policy

Expiration Date: January 22, 2008

As your State Conservationist, I am firmly committed to ensuring NRCS' compliance with civil rights and equal employment opportunity for everyone regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital or family status, political beliefs, parental status, or protected genetic information.

There is no principle more important. We must comply with our Nation's civil rights laws. To do otherwise is simply not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

As public servants, we cannot be effective without being fair. We cannot be responsible without being respectful. We cannot deliver programs and services without being sensitive to the human issues that are so much a part of our work.

Our adherence to these principles requires that we have a swift, reasonable, and credible process for addressing and remedying deficiencies. We must also ensure consistent education and outreach to ensure civil rights are protected, our laws are enforced, and discrimination in any form is prevented.

This must be our passion and our vision. We must continue to strive for a workplace and society that are inclusive and respectful of differences while working toward unity and harmony. Our actions must always speak louder than words.

With your help and commitment, we can create a better workplace for all employees, and an environment that delivers programs and services to all people fairly and with integrity and equality.

R. L. "GUS" HUGHBANKS
State Conservationist

Enclosures

DIST: E