

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

TIMOTHY C. PIGFORD, et al.,
Plaintiffs,
v.
DAN GLICKMAN, SECRETARY,
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE,
Defendant.

Civil Action No.
97-1978 (PLF)

CECIL BREWINGTON, et al.,
Plaintiffs,
v.
DANIEL R. GLICKMAN,
Defendant.

Civil Action No.
98-1693 (PLF)

CONSENT DECREE

WHEREAS the parties desire to resolve amicably all the claims raised in these suits, including the plaintiffs' claims under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act ("ECOA"), 15 U.S.C. § 1691, et seq., and the Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"), 5 U.S.C. § 551, et seq.; and

WHEREAS the parties have agreed upon mutually satisfactory terms for the complete resolution of all the claims that have, or could have, been asserted by the plaintiffs in this litigation; and

WHEREAS, in light of the remedial purposes of this Consent Decree, the parties intend that it be liberally construed to effectuate those purposes in a manner that is consistent with law; and

WHEREAS the parties have entered into this Consent Decree for the purpose of ensuring that in their dealings with USDA, all class members receive full and fair treatment that is the same as the treatment accorded to similarly situated white persons;

NOW THEREFORE, the plaintiffs and the defendant, Dan Glickman, Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA"), hereby consent to the entry of this decree with the following terms:

1. Definitions

The following terms shall have the following meanings for purposes of this Consent Decree.

(a) The term "adjudicator" shall mean (i) the person or persons who is/are assigned by the facilitator to undertake the initial review of, and where appropriate make recommended decision on Track A claims under ¶ 9, below; and (ii) JAMS-Endispute, Inc., which shall make the final decision in all Track A claims and resolve issues of tolling under ¶ 6, below.

(b) The term "arbitrator" shall mean Michael K. Lewis of ADR Associates, and the other person or persons selected by Mr. Lewis who meet qualifications agreed upon by the parties and by

