



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, REGION XV

600 SUPERIOR AVENUE EAST, SUITE 750  
CLEVELAND, OH 44114-2611

REGION XV  
MICHIGAN  
OHIO

MAR 15 2013

Ms. Helen Moore  
8335 Indiana Street  
Detroit, Michigan 48204

Re: OCR Docket #15-13-4012

Dear Ms. Moore:

On July 10, 2012, and August 6, 2012, the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), received your complaint allegations against the Detroit Public Schools (the District)(OCR Docket No. 15-12-1255), which included an allegation against the State of Michigan. On January 18, 2013, OCR notified you that it was opening a separate complaint against the State of Michigan and evaluating that complaint. Specifically, the complaint alleges that the State of Michigan discriminated against black and Hispanic students and parents in the Detroit Public School District (the District) based on race and national origin by appointing emergency managers to the District but not appointing emergency managers to similarly situated predominantly white suburban school districts.

OCR is responsible for enforcing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*, and its implementing regulation, 34 C.F.R. Part 100. Title VI prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin by recipients of Federal financial assistance from the Department. The State is a recipient of such financial assistance; thus, OCR has jurisdiction over this complaint.

Because OCR has determined that it has jurisdiction and that the complaint was filed timely, it is opening this allegation for investigation. Please note that opening an allegation for investigation in no way implies that OCR has made a determination with regard to its merits. During the investigation, OCR is a neutral fact-finder, collecting and analyzing relevant evidence from the complainant, the recipient, and other sources as appropriate. OCR will ensure that its investigation is legally sufficient and is dispositive of the allegation in accordance with the provisions of Article III of OCR's *Case Processing Manual*.

Please note that, although you provided information about this allegation dating back to 2009, OCR's investigation will focus on the 180-day period prior to the filing of this complaint (i.e., from January 12, 2012, forward), the timely portion of the complaint. OCR will, however, consider relevant historical information as background in its investigation.

OCR works to resolve allegations of discrimination promptly and appropriately. We will communicate with you periodically during our investigation. When contacting our office about this complaint against the District, please refer to OCR Docket #15-13-4012. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Millette by telephone at (216) 522-2679 or by e-mail at [Ann.Millette@ed.gov](mailto:Ann.Millette@ed.gov).

Sincerely,



Karla K. Ussery  
Team Leader