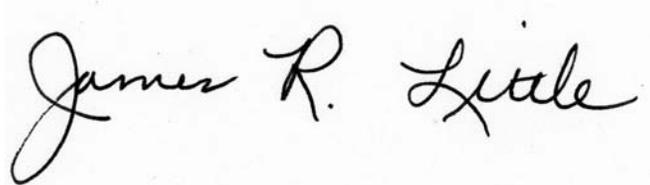


For: FSA Employees

Prevailing *Pigford v. Veneman* Claimants in the National Appeals Division (NAD) Appeal Process

Approved by: Administrator



1 Overview

A Background

Many prevailing claimants under the civil action *Pigford v. Veneman* have submitted applications for loan assistance under the Farm Loan Program (FLP). When FSA makes an adverse program determination, program participants may have the right to:

- appeal the decision to NAD
- request a review by the NAD Director of a NAD hearing officer’s decision.

Prevailing claimants can be verified through the Automated Discrepancy Processing System (ADPS) Civil Rights database.

B Purpose

This notice provides procedure for all FSA employees to follow when a prevailing claimant under *Pigford v. Veneman*:

- appeals a decision to NAD
- requests a NAD Director’s review of a hearing officer’s decision.

Disposal Date July 1, 2006	Distribution All FSA employees; State Offices; State Offices relay to Service Centers
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2 Action, Contact, and Policy Timeframe

A FSA Employee Action

When an FSA employee receives notification that an appellant has filed an appeal with NAD or has filed a request for NAD Director review, employees shall verify whether an appellant is a prevailing *Pigford v. Veneman* claimant.

If an appellant is a prevailing claimant contact the Appeals and Litigation Staff (ALS) **immediately**.

B Contact

The following table provides points of contact.

IF...	AND...	THEN contact...
a Service Center employee	appellant is a prevailing claimant	ALS immediately through the State Office.
other FSA employee	appellant is a prevailing claimant or there are questions about this notice	Robin McCann, ALS, at 202-690-2814.

C Policy Timeframe

This policy shall remain in effect until further notice.