



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

400 MARYLAND AVENUE, SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20202-1475

REGION XI
NORTH CAROLINA
SOUTH CAROLINA
VIRGINIA
WASHINGTON, DC

December 3, 2024

By email only to JimEllis1103@yahoo.com

Jim Ellis
2315 Berry Street
Lemon Grove, CA 91945

Re: Case No. 11-24-2351
University of South Carolina at Beaufort

Dear Mr. Ellis:

On June 13, 2024, the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR) notified you that we received a complaint filed against the University of South Carolina at Beaufort (the University). The Complainant alleged that the University discriminates on the basis sex by promoting on its website:

1. The AAUS Beaufort Branch Etta N. Mann Non-Traditional Student Scholarship (Allegation 1); and
2. The Gertrude P. Brown Working Woman's Scholarship (Allegation 2).

OCR enforces Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 *et seq.*, and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 106, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. Because the University receives federal financial assistance from the Department of Education, OCR has jurisdiction over it pursuant to Title IX.

OCR determined that this case was appropriate for the Rapid Resolution Process, as outlined in OCR's *Case Processing Manual* (CPM) at Section 203. Accordingly, OCR reached out to the University about promptly resolving this complaint, and the University agreed to take steps to resolve the complaint allegations. The University provided information on October 30, 2024, to OCR establishing that the external scholarship resources were no longer listed on the University's website. OCR reviewed the University's website and confirmed that as of December 2, 2024, neither scholarship was listed on the website. OCR has determined that these actions are sufficient to resolve the complaint allegations and require no monitoring. Thus, consistent with CPM Section 203, OCR is closing this complaint pursuant to CPM Section 110(d), which states that OCR will close or dismiss a complaint if OCR obtains credible information indicating that the complaint has been resolved.

The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

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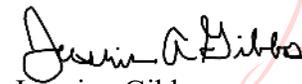
This letter sets forth OCR’s determination in an individual OCR case. This letter is not a formal statement of OCR policy and should not be relied upon, cited, or construed as such. OCR’s formal policy statements are approved by a duly authorized OCR official and made available to the public. OCR also would like to make you aware that individuals who file complaints with OCR may have the right to file a private suit in federal court whether or not OCR finds a violation.

Please be advised that the University must not harass, coerce, intimidate, discriminate, or otherwise retaliate against an individual because that individual asserts a right or privilege under a law enforced by OCR or files a complaint, testifies, assists, or participates in a proceeding under a law enforced by OCR. If this happens, the individual may file a retaliation complaint against the University with OCR.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, it may be necessary to release this document and related correspondence and records upon request. If OCR receives such a request, OCR will seek to protect, to the extent provided by law, personally identifiable information that, if released, could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

If you have any questions, please contact the OCR attorney assigned to this complaint, Arati Jain, at 202-987-1435 or arati.jain@ed.gov.

Sincerely,



Jasmine Gibbs

Team Leader, Team II

District of Columbia Office

Office for Civil Rights

Digitally signed by

JASMINE GIBBS

Date: 2024.12.03

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