Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation Survey

Thank you for taking the time to answer the questions in this important survey. We believe your answers will shed light on the fairness of the Settlement offered/received under the Pigford Litigation and prevent bias in lending and funding practices in the future. Unless otherwise stated the questions seek to determine your current impressions and circumstances relative to the Settlement process. All responses are strictly confidential.

## Section 1

Demographic and personal information:

- 1. Are you of African American descent?
  - O Yes O No
- 2. Are you O Male O Female
- 3. Your current age is
  - O 20-30
  - 0 31-40
  - 0 41-50
  - 0 51-60
  - O over 60

4. In what state(s) is/was your farming operation located \_\_\_\_\_?

- 5. In what county(s) is/was your farming operation located\_\_\_\_\_\_?
- 6. What is the name of the Bank/Branch in which you conduct your farming business\_\_\_\_\_?
- 7. Which of the following best describes your farming operation (mark all that apply)

O Citrus

- O Grain crops O Fruit or berries
- O Vegetables
- O Cotton
- O Peanuts
- O Livestock
- Are you a first generation farmer?
  O Yes
  O No

- 9. What percentage of your annual Adjusted Gross Income comes from farming?
- O 10 percent or less
- 0 11 to 50 percent
- O 51 to 75 percent
- O 76 to 90 percent
- O 100 percent

10. Which best describes the size of your farming operation

- O less than 50 acres
- 0 51 to 100 acres
- 0 101 to 300 acres
- O 301 to 500 acres
- O 501 to 1000 acres
- O more than 1000 acres

## Section 2

Specifics on Pigford 1 and 2 proposed settlement:

- 11. Did you apply to participate in the Black Farmers Discrimination settlement provided for by the Pigford case?
- O Yes O No
- 12. Were you applying for a direct loan from or a guarantee by the USDA?
- O Direct Loan O Guarantee of a third party loan
- 13. In what year(s) were you subjected to discrimination by the USDA while applying for a loan/guarantee?
- 14. Did you apply under Pigford 1 or Pigford 2?
- O Pigford 1 O Pigford 2
- 15. When you were subject to discriminatory lending practices while attempting to obtain credit for your farm operation, how much money were you attempting to borrow?
- O less than \$10,000
- 0 11 to \$35,000
- O 36 to \$100,000
- O 101 to \$200,000
- O 201 to \$300,000

16. What was your intended use/uses for the proceeds of the loan? (Check all that apply)

- O Restructure Farm Debt
- O Provide working capital (purchase seed, fertilizer and other operating expenses)
- O Purchase additional land
- O Purchase Farm equipment
- O Purchase Non-Farm items

17. If your answer to question 11 was yes, did you receive benefits from the application?O YesO No

18. If you answered yes to question 17 did you select Track A (\$50,000 lump sum and loan forgiveness) or Track B (awards up to \$250,000)

O Track A O Track B

- 19. Were you provided financial counseling by anyone connected with the Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation at any time?
- O Yes O No

20. If you answered yes to question 19 who provided the financial counseling?

- O U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
- O An attorney associated with the litigation
- O A Banker
- O Family member
- O Other

21. Did you consider the settlement, under the Pigford Track you selected, to be fair? O Yes O No

- 22. If debt was forgiving as a part of the settlement process for your farm, approximately how much indebtedness was forgiven? \$
- 23. If you received a financial settlement under either Track A or B did you use the proceeds to: (Check all that apply)
- O Reduce Farm Debt
- O Provide working capital (purchase seed, fertilizer and other operating expenses)
- O Purchase additional land
- O Purchase Farm equipment
- O Purchase Non-Farm items

24. Do you have any of the settlement funds remaining that are uncommitted at this time? O Yes O No

## Section 3

General land acquisition and use questions

25. Is any portion of the land in your farming operation leased?

O Yes O No

## 26. If you answered yes to question 25, what percentage of acres farmed are leased?

- O less than 10 percent
- O 11 to 50 percent
- O 51 to 75 percent
- O 76 to 90 percent
- O 100 percent

27. Is any portion of your farm on heir Property?

O Yes O No

- 28. If you answered yes to question 27 what percentage is on heir property?
- O less than 10 percent
- 0 11 to 50 percent
- O 51 to 75 percent
- O 76 to 90 percent
- 0 100 percent
- 29. If any portion of your farm is "heir property", have you taken any action to resolve the title or declare the lawful heirs?

O Yes O No

- 30. If you answered yes to question 29 what action(s) have you taken?
- O Consulted an Attorney
- O Filed a lawsuit to resolve the issues
- O Resolved the issues out of court
- 31. Which of the following best describes your plans for farming in the future?
- O Continue farming
- O Retain the farm but lease the land to other farmers
- O Sell the farm and get out of farming