

COPY OF
COMPLAINT
FILED WITH

HOUSE
COMMITTEE
ON
RULES

(Note:

Complaint sent to House Committee on
Rules, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC, USA, by US Postal
Service certified mail.

Mail sent: July 21, 2009

Mail delivered: July 27, 2009

Complaint filed by: Robert Eichhorn)

July 21, 2009

To: House Committee on Rules
H-312 The Capitol
Washington, DC

Committee,

Based on information I found on the Internet, I was led to believe that to be able to file a complaint with your committee I am supposed to file the complaint with the US Representative who represents the congressional district of my residence. So, I filed my complaint with Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi's Washington, DC Office for delivery to your committee. I sent my complaint by certified mail so I can confirm that Nancy Pelosi's Washington, DC Office received my complaint on June 15, 2009.

It has been 3 months now and I have not received a letter of confirmation from Nancy Pelosi's Washington, DC Office for a complaint I filed with her office for the House Committee on Agriculture. I decided to call Louise Slaughter's Washington, DC Office to inquire about filing a complaint with your committee. The person I spoke to on the phone said I can mail a complaint directly to your committee. So, I have enclosed my complaint for the House Committee on Rules.

I have changed the complaint letter date from June 3, 2009, to July 21, 2009, to bring the complaint letter up to date. I have changed your address from H-312 US Capitol to H-312 The Capitol. I have deleted a note at the end of the complaint letter concerning filing the complaint with Nancy Pelosi's office, and contact information for Nancy Pelosi's office. This information is irrelevant to the complaint, so this version of the complaint is the same basic version as the original complaint. I have made these changes because I want to use this version of my complaint for my record.

I realize your committee may have already received my complaint from Nancy Pelosi's Washington, DC Office and sent a statement concerning the resolution of my complaint to me. At this point in time, I have not received a statement from your committee. I am requesting a statement from your committee concerning the resolution of this version of my complaint, so both you and I know you have considered all of the complaint material. Nancy Pelosi's office has my original complaint in a unsealed envelope and it is available for review. I have provided contact information for sending a statement to me in the complaint letter, so please refer to this contact information.

I have provided contact information for Nancy Pelosi's Washington, DC Office if you want to contact her office.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Robert Eichhorn

Contact information:

a) Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi

e-mail (as Speaker of the House): AmericanVoices@mail.house.gov

e-mail (as Congresswoman): sf.nancy@mail.house.gov

Washington, DC Office:

ph: 202-225-4965

mailing address:

235 Cannon, House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

b) Robert Eichhorn

e-mail: robertone@email.com

ph: 415-621-5107

mailing address:

16th Street Hotel Rm 508
3161 16th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

July 21, 2009

To: House Committee on Rules
H-312 The Capitol
Washington, DC

Committee,

I am writing to file a complaint concerning Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack's misconduct in office. My complaint concerns Tom Vilsack's violation of the USDA/FSA hierarchy of authority and the legal procedure of filing an appeal. Tom Vilsack is President Barack Obama's appointment as Secretary of Agriculture for 2009. I have enclosed a copy of a webpage with a USDA Biography of Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, from the website [www.usda.gov]. I have enclosed a copy of a webpage with a news article entitled 'Sources: Obama selects Vilsack for ag post', from the website [www.yahoo.com]. This information will establish the character of Tom Vilsack as Secretary of Agriculture for 2009 and it is for your reference.

I am making the following allegations concerning Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack's misconduct in office:

- 1) By choosing Candace Thompson, 2009 USDA-FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (acting), as USDA/FSA spokesperson, and as of 3/4/09 closing Robert Eichhorn's case at USDA, as a complaint filed with USDA/OGC, USDA/FSA and FSA/Administrator, 2008 Secretary of Agriculture Ed Schafer and 2009 Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, concerning USDA farm subsidies for Hutterite colonies in the USA, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack has rejected the administrative function of the FSA/Office of the Administrator by not allowing Teresa Lasseter, 2008 FSA/Administrator, to perform her administrative function of resolving Robert Eichhorn's request for a reconsideration of statements received from USDA/FSA concerning the resolution of his complaint, making a statement concerning the resolution of the complaint, and establishing her resolution of the complaint as a valid contribution to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack's decision-making process concerning his resolution of the complaint.
- 2) By choosing Candace Thompson, 2009 USDA-FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (acting), as USDA/FSA spokesperson, and as of 3/4/09 closing Robert Eichhorn's case at USDA, as a complaint filed with USDA/OGC, USDA/FSA and FSA/Administrator, 2008 Secretary of Agriculture Ed Schafer and 2009 Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, concerning USDA farm subsidies for Hutterite colonies in the USA, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack has rejected the administrative function of the FSA/Office of the Administrator by not allowing Dennis Taitano, 2009 FSA/Administrator (acting), to establish his administrative function of reviewing 2008 FSA/Administrator Teresa Lasseter's work on Robert Eichhorn's complaint, resolving the complaint, and acting as USDA/FSA spokesperson for Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack concerning his resolution of the complaint.

Note:

USDA stands for United States Department of Agriculture.

FSA stands for Farm Service Agency.
OGC stands for Office of the General Counsel.

As evidence to support my allegations, I have enclosed a copy of a e-mail I received from Candace Thompson, USDA-FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (acting), dated 3/4/09, on behalf of Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack. In the e-mail Candace Thompson says,

"Thank you for your electronic mail message of February 17, 2009, to Secretary of Agriculture Thomas J. Vilsack, concerning farm subsidies given to Hutterite colonies in the United States. The Secretary has asked that I respond to you on his behalf.

We are aware of the information provided in your letter. We understand you do not agree with our response on this matter. However, as indicated in our previous response dated September 5, 2008, we consider this matter closed."

Candace Thompson's e-mail is in response to a e-mail I sent to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, dated 2/17/09, and a complaint I sent to him in February 2009. I have enclosed a copy of the e-mail I sent to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, dated 2/17/09. In the e-mail I informed Mr. Vilsack that I was sending a updated version of my Hutterite complaint to him for review. I informed Mr. Vilsack that I had filed a original version of my Hutterite complaint with USDA in 2008. I informed Mr. Vilsack that I had filed a updated version of my Hutterite complaint, with new IRS tax filing information about Hutterite colonies, with Teresa Lasseter, FSA/Administrator, in 2008. I informed Mr. Vilsack that he could contact Teresa Lasseter for information concerning the status of the resolution of my complaint at USDA/FSA. I provided Mr. Vilsack with contact information for Teresa Lasseter.

In the cover letter I included with the complaint I sent to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, I informed Mr. Vilsack that I had received 2 letters, as statements concerning the resolution of my complaint, from John Johnson, USDA-FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs, and I had requested a reconsideration of Mr. Johnson's letters and a statement concerning the resolution of my complaint from Teresa Lasseter. I have enclosed a copy of the cover letter I sent to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, dated 2/11/09.

My step of requesting a reconsideration of Mr. Johnson's letters is the step of filing a appeal. I wanted to appeal the decisions made by Mr. Johnson concerning his resolution of my complaint. I established the appeal process by filing a request for reconsideration with Teresa Lasseter, 2008 FSA/Administrator, and filing a appeal is a recognized legal procedure. Teresa Lasseter can confirm that I filed a request for a reconsideration of Mr. Johnson's letters, and a request for a statement concerning the resolution of my complaint, with her in 2008. I have included contact information for Teresa Lasseter.

By closing my case at USDA, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack has rejected the administrative function of the FSA/Office of the Administrator of resolving my appeal, as a request for reconsideration. To simplify the matter, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack has rejected the administrative function of the FSA/Office of the Administrator and he has failed to consider the FSA/Office of the Administrator's resolution of my complaint. If Mr. Vilsack has overruled the FSA/Office of the Administrator concerning

their resolution of my complaint then he should have made a statement directly to me.

As background information, I filed a complaint concerning USDA farm subsidies given to Hutterite colonies in the USA with USDA in 2008. I filed a original version of the complaint with the following individuals at USDA in Washington, DC, in 2008:

- a) Ed Schafer - Secretary of Agriculture
My complaint is available for Mr. Schafer to review.
- b) Chuck Conner - Deputy Secretary of Agriculture
My complaint is available for Mr. Conner to review.
- c) Glen Keppy - FSA/Associate Administrator for Programs
Mr. Keppy is acting as a coordinator for my complaint.
- d) John Johnson - FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs
Mr. Johnson is acting as a investigator for my complaint.
- e) Terry Jackson - OGC/Deputy Assistant General Counsel
Mr. Jackson is acting as a legal counsel for my complaint.

I filed a updated version of the complaint, with new IRS tax filing information about Hutterite colonies, with the following individuals at USDA in Washington, DC, in 2008:

- a) Glen Keppy - FSA/Associate Administrator for Programs
- b) John Johnson - FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs
- c) Terry Jackson - OGC/Deputy Assistant General Counsel

I received 2 letters from John Johnson, FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs, as statements concerning the resolution of my complaint. The letters are dated 9/5/08 and 10/14/08. I have enclosed a copy of John Johnson's letters.

I filed a updated version of my complaint with Teresa Lasseter, FSA/Administrator, in October 2008. By November 2008, I had requested a reconsideration of Mr. Johnson's letters and a statement concerning the resolution of my complaint from Teresa Lasseter. I have enclosed a copy of a e-mail I received from Teresa Lasseter discussing the correct mailing address for sending a complaint to her, dated 10/1/08. The e-mail includes e-mail addresses for her staff members she copied with the e-mail. At this point in time, I have not received a statement from Teresa Lasseter. I can confirm that her office received my complaint by the US Postal Service certified mail receipt for the delivery. I have enclosed a copy of the US Postal Service certified mail receipt, dated 10/6/08, and a copy of the track and confirm information from the website [www.usps.com].

I have enclosed a copy of webpages with the USDA Farm Service Agency Organizational Chart for 2008 and 2009, from the website [www.fsa.usda.gov]. The chart establishes the USDA/FSA heirarchy of authority and the position of FSA/Administrator (Office of the Administrator) as the head of the USDA Farm Service Agency. The chart establishes the position of FSA/Administrator in a position of authority over the FSA positions of FSA/Associate Administrator of Programs and FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs. I have enclosed a copy of a webpage with a overview of the FSA/ Office of the Administrator, from the website [www.fsa.usda.gov]. I have enclosed a copy of a webpage with a description of the delegation of authority at FSA headquarters, from the website [www.fsa.usda.gov]. These webpages will establish the FSA/Office of the Administrator in a position of authority over the Farm Service Agency (FSA) at USDA.

From the chart, it is clear that Teresa Lasseter, as FSA/Administrator, is in a position

of authority over Candace Thompson, FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (acting). The chart will make it clear that Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack has committed a violation of the USDA/FSA hierarchy of authority by establishing Candace Thompson, FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (acting), as his spokesperson for resolving my complaint and rejecting Teresa Lasseter, FSA/Administrator, as his spokesperson for resolving my complaint.

The chart will make it clear that Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack has rejected the administrative function of Teresa Lasseter, FSA/Administrator, of responding to my request for a reconsideration of John Johnson's letters, making a statement concerning the resolution of my complaint, and establishing her resolution of my complaint as a valid contribution to his decision-making process for resolving my complaint.

The chart will make it clear that Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack has rejected the administrative function of the FSA/Office of the Administrator by rejecting Dennis Taitano, 2009 FSA/Administrator (acting), as his spokesperson for resolving my complaint. The chart will make it clear that even if Teresa Lasseter had left office and was not available for consultation with Mr. Vilsack concerning her resolution of my complaint, Dennis Taitano was available for consultation. As a result of the steps I made filing my complaint at USDA/FSA, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack should have reviewed the FSA/Office of the Administrator's progress resolving my complaint, made a determination about his agreement or disagreement with the resolution of the complaint, and made a statement directly to me if he disagreed with the FSA/Office of the Administrator's resolution of the complaint.

At this point, I have established my allegations concerning Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack's misconduct in office and evidence to support my allegations. I am requesting that the House Committee on Rules investigate my allegations concerning Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack's misconduct in office, to establish his reason for closing my case at USDA and to confirm that he has closed my case at USDA.

I am requesting a statement from the House Committee on Rules concerning your investigation and your resolution of my allegations concerning Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack's misconduct in office. If your findings establish the fact that Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack has rejected the administrative function of the USDA-FSA/Office of the Administrator, then I believe Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack should resign from office because he has violated the USDA/FSA hierarchy of authority by establishing a ruling from the office of the FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs as taking precedence and authority over a ruling from the FSA/Office of the Administrator.

I am requesting that you send your statement to me, in care of my father, at his residence. My father will forward your statement to me. Please send your statement to me at my father's mailing address as follows:

Robert Eichhorn
c/o Erwin Eichhorn
1509 Del Dayo Drive
Carmichael, CA 95608

Sincerely,
Robert Eichhorn

> Materials list

- a) A copy of a webpage with a USDA Biography of Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, from the website [www.usda.gov].
- b) A copy of a webpage with a news article entitled 'Sources: Obama selects Vilsack for ag post', from the website [www.yahoo.com].
- c) A copy of a e-mail from Candace Thompson, FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (acting), dated 3/4/09.
- d) A copy of a e-mail to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, dated 2/17/09.
- e) A copy of a cover letter to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, dated 2/11/09.
- f) A copy of 2 letters from John Johnson, FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs, dated 9/5/08 and 10/14/08.
- g) A copy of a e-mail from Teresa Lasseter, dated 10/1/08.
- h) A copy of a US Postal Service certified mail receipt, dated 10/6/08, and a copy of the track and confirm information from the website [www.usps.com], for mail delivery to Teresa Lasseter, FSA/Administrator.
- i) A copy of webpages with the USDA Farm Service Agency Organizational Chart for 2008 and 2009, from the website [www.fsa.usda.gov].
- j) A copy of a webpage with a overview of the FSA/Office of the Administrator, from the website [www.fsa.usda.gov].
- k) A copy of a webpage with a description of the delegation of authority at FSA headquarters, from the website [www.fsa.usda.gov].

> Contact information

a) USDA contacts

- 1) Tom Vilsack - Secretary of Agriculture (2009)
e-mail: agsec@usda.gov
ph (Secretary of Agriculture Office): 202-720-3631
mailing address (Secretary of Agriculture Office):
USDA
Whitten Bldg
STOP 0101 Rm 200-A
1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20250
- 2) Ed Schafer - Secretary of Agriculture (2008)
e-mail: agsec@usda.gov
ph (Secretary of Agriculture Office): 202-720-3631
mailing address (Secretary of Agriculture Office):
USDA
Whitten Bldg
STOP 0101 Rm 200-A
1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20250
- 3) Chuck Conner - Deputy Secretary of Agriculture
e-mail: chuck.conner@usda.gov

ph (Secretary of Agriculture Office): 202-720-3631
mailing address (Secretary of Agriculture Office):
USDA
Whitten Bldg
STOP 0101 Rm 200-A
1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20250

4) Teresa Lasseter - FSA/Administrator

e-mail: teresa.lasseter@usda.gov

ph: 202-720-3467

mailing address:

USDA
SOAGRIBG Bldg
STOP 0501 Rm 3086-S
1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20250

5) Glen Keppy - FSA/Associate Administrator for Programs

e-mail: glen.keppy@usda.gov

ph: 202-720-6215

mailing address:

USDA
SOAGRIBG Bldg
STOP 0501 Rm 3086-S
1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20250

6) John Johnson - FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs

e-mail: john.johnson@usda.gov

ph: 202-720-3175

mailing address:

USDA
SOAGRIBG Bldg
STOP 0510 Rm 3612-S
1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20250

7) Terry Jackson - OGC/Deputy Assistant General Counsel

e-mail: terry.jackson@ogc.usda.gov

mailing address:

Terrence G. Jackson
Office of the General Counsel, USDA
Room 4311 South Building
14th St. and Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250

b) Robert Eichhorn
e-mail: robertone@email.com
ph: 415-621-5107
mailing address:
16th Street Hotel Rm 508
3161 16th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

The mailing address for sending a statement to me is as follows:
Robert Eichhorn
c/o Erwin Eichhorn
1509 Del Dayo Drive
Carmichael, CA 95608



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About USDA

USDA Biographies

Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack

Tom Vilsack was sworn in as the 30th Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on January 21, 2009. Appointed by President Barack Obama, Vilsack received unanimous support for his confirmation by the U.S. Senate.



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Secretary Vilsack has served in the public sector at nearly every level of government, beginning as mayor of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa in 1987, and then as state senator in 1992. In 1998, he was the first Democrat elected Governor of Iowa in more than 30 years, an office he held for two terms.

Throughout his campaign for Governor, Vilsack articulated a vision for making Iowa the Food Capital of the World and focusing on creating economic opportunity in rural communities and small towns through value-added agriculture. As Governor, he created the Iowa Food Policy Council to advance local food systems, enhance family farm profitability, and combat hunger and malnutrition. He led trade missions to foreign countries to market agricultural products and attended the Seattle meeting of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to push for expanded agricultural trade negotiations. In addition, he worked to support independent farmers and ranchers by enacting livestock market reform and mandatory price reporting legislation in 1999.

Vilsack was a leader among his colleagues. In addition to serving on the National Governors Association Executive Committee, he also served as chair of the Governors Ethanol Coalition, chair of the Democratic Governors Association, and founding member and chair of the Governors Biotechnology Partnership. As chair of the National Governors Association Committee on Natural Resources, Vilsack promoted private lands conservation and advanced the concept of tying farm payments to conservation commodities. Vilsack's national Private Lands, Public Benefits conference focused attention on the need to

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address conservation challenges by providing incentives to private landowners to implement conservation practices resulting in clean air, clean water, and enhanced wildlife habitat. He also created a comprehensive conservation program in Iowa to encourage and assist landowners in installing buffer strips, restoring wetlands, and rewarding good conservation practices.


During his tenure as Governor, Tom Vilsack initiated a comprehensive effort to increase economic opportunity and create good-paying jobs. He started Vision Iowa, a program to invest in cultural and recreational infrastructure throughout the state. A combination of venture capital initiatives created an entrepreneurial environment for innovation and new ideas to get started; and the Iowa Values Fund provided an economic growth strategy focused on creating and retaining jobs in targeted sectors including life sciences, financial services, and advanced manufacturing. Each of these initiatives created under Vilsack's administration contributed to the rebuilding of local economies in small towns and rural communities across the state.

In addition to state economic investment, Vilsack's leadership and vision were instrumental in transforming Iowa to an energy state. His policies led to the construction of Iowa's first power facility in two decades and made Iowa a leader in alternative energy and renewable fuels. Vilsack created a regulatory and financial environment in Iowa for wind energy to develop to the point that it now makes up 5.5 percent of the state's generation, the largest percentage of any state. Iowa also emerged as a leader in the production of ethanol and biodiesel during his tenure.

Throughout his public service, Tom Vilsack has pursued an agenda dedicated to the principles of opportunity, responsibility, and security. He is recognized as an innovator on children's issues and education, economic and healthcare policy, and efforts to make government more efficient and accessible. Iowa is known for its strong K-12 education system in part due to Vilsack's initiatives. He developed aggressive early childhood programs, reduced class sizes, created a first-in-the-nation salary initiative to improve teacher quality and student achievement, and enacted a more rigorous high school curriculum. His leadership also led to Iowa becoming a national leader in health insurance coverage, with more than 90 percent of children covered.

A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Vilsack was born into an orphanage and adopted in 1951. He received a bachelor's degree from Hamilton College in Clinton, New York, in 1972 and earned his law degree from Albany Law School in 1975. He moved to Mt. Pleasant - his wife, Christie's, hometown - where he practiced law. The Vilsacks have two adult sons, Jess and Doug, who both grew up in Mt. Pleasant, and a daughter-in-law, Kate, who's married to Jess.

Last Modified: 02/02/2009

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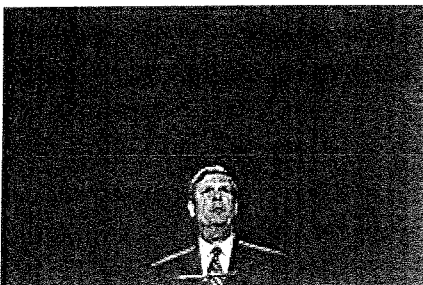
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Sources: Obama selects Vilsack for ag post

By MIKE GLOVER, Associated Press Writer – 56 mins ago

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AFP/Getty Images/File – President-elect Barack Obama will pick former Iowa governor Tom Vilsack, pictured in 2007, as his secretary ...

DES MOINES, Iowa – President-elect Barack Obama has selected former Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack as agriculture secretary, according to Democratic sources familiar with the selection process.

Obama will announce the appointment of Vilsack on Wednesday, according to the sources, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the selection before the announcement.

Vilsack will be the fourth former opponent of Obama in the 2008 Democratic primaries to join his new administration. Others include Vice President-elect Joe Biden, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, who has been tapped for secretary of state, and New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, selected to head the Commerce Department.

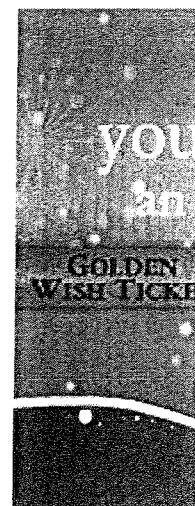
Vilsack positioned himself in the presidential campaign as a Washington outsider with heartland appeal, but he dropped out after poor showings in early primaries. He endorsed Clinton and campaigned actively for her in the long primary campaign against Obama. After Obama defeated Clinton, Vilsack endorsed him.

First elected governor in 1998, Vilsack, 56, carved out a reputation as a political centrist. He balanced Iowa's budget and resisted raising taxes, but he was willing to spend money on such priorities as education and health. He argued that pushing alternative energy sources is key to bolstering rural sections of the nation that are struggling economically and with vanishing populations.



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From: "RA.DCWASHING2.RD-FSA-ECMM" <ECMM@wdc.usda.gov>
To: <robertone@email.com>
CC:
Subject: E-MAIL REPLY (Please do not respond to this e-mail)
Date: Wed, 4 Mar 2009 15:57:27 -0500

March 3, 2009

Mr. Robert Eichhorn
robertone@email.com

Dear Mr. Eichhorn:

Thank you for your electronic mail message of February 17, 2009, to Secretary of Agriculture Thomas J. Vilsak, concerning farm subsidies given to Hutterite colonies in the United States. The Secretary has asked that I respond to you on his behalf.

We are aware of the information provided in your letter. We understand you do not agree with our response on this matter. However, as indicated in our previous response dated September 5, 2008, we consider this matter closed.

Again, thank you for your mail message.

Sincerely,

/s/Candace Thompson

Candace Thompson
Acting Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs

Print

From: "Robert Eichhorn" <robertone@email.com>
To: agsec@usda.gov
CC:
Subject: Updated version of Hutterite complaint concerning USDA farm subsidies
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 2009 16:03:27 -0500

2/17/09

To: Tom Vilsack - Secretary of Agriculture (2009)
 Ed Schafer - Secretary of Agriculture (2008)
 USDA
 Washington, DC

Secretary of Agriculture,

I need to inform you that I am sending a updated version of my Hutterite complaint to the USDA Secretary of Agriculture office for you to review. I believe you may want to make a decision concerning the resolution of my complaint. My complaint concerns the USDA farm subsidies given to over 100 Hutterite colonies in the USA. I am making the case to terminate their farm subsidies. I believe I can establish a legal foundation, based on evidence, to make the case.

The updated version of my complaint includes new IRS tax filing information for Hutterite colonies. The information shows that Hutterite colonies are filing with the IRS as a 501(d) religious and apostolic association and are tax-exempt.

I can establish a profile of a Hutterite colony as a nonprofit religious organization that cannot offer the same standard full-time permanent public employment position as a business can offer because of their tax-exempt status. Based on this fact, I believe a determination to terminate the Hutterite's farm subsidies can be made.

I filed my original Hutterite complaint with USDA in 2008. I filed a updated version of my complaint, including the new IRS tax filing information, with Teresa Lasseter, FSA/Administrator, in 2008. For information concerning the status of the resolution of my complaint at USDA/FSA you can contact her.

As a result of my complaint, I believe it may be necessary to revise the USDA farm subsidy program eligibility requirements and the USA Farm Bill to accomplish the termination of the Hutterite's farm subsidies. I will be filing my complaint with the House Committee on Agriculture, US Congress, Washington, DC, in 2009. I will notify the committee that my complaint is available for the USDA Secretary of Agriculture to review.

Robert Eichhorn
robertone@email.com

Contact information:
 Teresa Lasseter - FSA/Administrator
 e-mail: teresa.lasseter@usda.gov
 ph: 202-720-3467

--
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Print

2/11/09

To: Tom Vilsack
Secretary of Agriculture
USDA
Washington, DC

Mr. Vilsack,

I am writing to inform you that I am sending you a updated version of my Hutterite complaint. I filed a earlier version of my Hutterite complaint, as the original version, with USDA in 2008. My complaint concerns the USDA farm subsidies given to over 100 Hutterite colonies in the USA. I believe the Hutterite colonies are making a fraudulent claim for USDA farm subsidies under the false pretense of operating as a business when in fact they are operating as a nonprofit religious organization with a tax-exempt status. I am making the case to terminate the Hutterite's USDA farm subsidies. I believe I can establish a legal foundation, based on evidence, to make the case.

The updated version of my complaint includes new IRS tax filing information for Hutterite colonies which establishes the fact that Hutterite colonies are filing with the IRS as a 501(d) religious and apostolic association and are tax-exempt.

I believe a determination to terminate the Hutterite's USDA farm subsidies can be made based on the fact that a Hutterite colony is a nonprofit religious organization that cannot offer to the public the same standard full-time permanent employment position as a business can offer to the public because of their tax-exempt status.

I sent my original Hutterite complaint to the following individuals at USDA in Washington, DC, in 2008:

- a) Ed Schafer - Secretary of Agriculture
My complaint is available for Mr. Schafer to review.
- b) Chuck Conner - Deputy Secretary of Agriculture
My complaint is available for Mr. Conner to review.
- c) Glen Keppy - FSA/Associate Administrator for Programs
Mr. Keppy is acting as a coordinator for my complaint.
- d) John Johnson - FSA/Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs
Mr. Johnson is acting as a investigator for my complaint.
- e) Terry Jackson - OGC/Deputy Assistant General Counsel
Mr. Jackson is acting as a legal counsel for my complaint.

I sent the new IRS tax filing information to the following individuals at USDA in Washington, DC, in 2008:

- a) Glen Keppy, John Johnson, and Terry Jackson

I received 2 letters from John Johnson as statements concerning the resolution of my complaint. I filed a updated version of my Hutterite complaint including the new IRS tax filing information, and Mr. Johnson's 2 letters, with Teresa Lasseter, FSA-Administrator, in 2008. I requested a reconsideration of Mr. Johnson's letters and a statement concerning the resolution of my complaint from Teresa Lasseter. At this point in time, I have not received a statement from Teresa Lasseter. I can confirm by my US

Postal Service certified mail receipt that her office received my complaint and I have e-mail records of my correspondence with her concerning my complaint. I have enclosed a copy of the US Postal Service certified mail receipt for confirmation.

I am filing a updated version of my Hutterite complaint with the House Committee on Agriculture, US Congress, Washington, DC. I will send the committee a copy of the US Postal Service return receipts I receive from the USDA Secretary of Agriculture office to confirm that the office received the complaints I am sending to you, Ed Schafer, and Chuck Conner.

I have enclosed a updated version of my Hutterite complaint so it is available for you to review. I believe you may want to make a decision concerning the resolution of my complaint. This version is the same basic version the House Committee on Agriculture will receive. All of the individuals I have filed my Hutterite complaint with at USDA in Washington, DC, will now have the same basic updated information.

Sincerely,
Robert Eichhorn

Contact information:

a) Robert Eichhorn
e-mail: robertone@email.com
ph: 415-621-5107
mailing address:
16th Street Hotel Rm 508
3161 16th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Farm and Foreign
Agricultural
Services

Farm Service
Agency

1400 Independence
Ave, SW
Stop 0501
Washington, DC
20250-0501

September 5, 2008

Mr. Robert Eichhorn
16th Street, Hotel Room 508
3161 16th Street
San Francisco, California 94103

Dear Mr. Eichhorn:

Thank you for your letter of July 11, 2008, and your electronic mail message of July 14, 2008, to Secretary of Agriculture Edward T. Schafer, concerning your complaint about Hutterite colonies receiving payments under USDA programs.

You contend that what you term a "closed admission policy" should be a basis for determining Hutterite colonies ineligible for payments and benefits under USDA programs.

An "open admission policy" is not an eligibility requirement for participation in USDA programs. We consider this matter closed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Johnson".

John A. Johnson
Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Farm and Foreign
Agricultural
Services

Farm Service
Agency

1400 Independence
Ave, SW
Stop-0517
Washington, DC
20250-0517

Mr. Robert Eichorn
16th Street Hotel, Room 508
3161 16th Street
San Francisco, California 94103

OCT 14 2008

Dear Mr. Eichorn:

This is in further response to your complaint about Hutterite colonies receiving payments under USDA programs. It is your contention that what you term "new evidence" should be a basis for denying payment to a Hutterite colony. You also object to this matter being considered closed.

Again, an "open admissions policy" is not an eligibility requirement for participation in USDA programs. A nonprofit religious organization can, in fact, be eligible for the payments you seek to deny. There is no applicable statutory or regulatory requirement for an entity to offer employment positions to the public. Likewise, your characterization of USDA payments to an eligible program participant as an "investment" requiring the public to receive a return of equal value has no support in statute or regulation.

We fully understand that you have your opinions and believe there is a "problem" that needs to be fixed. You are entitled to your opinions. However, there is neither a statutory nor a regulatory basis for denying the payments for the reasons you suggest. As indicated in our prior response, we consider this matter closed. We will provide no further response.

Sincerely,

John A. Johnson
Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs

From: "Lasseter, Teresa - Washington, DC" <Teresa.Lasseter@wdc.usda.gov>
To: <robertone@email.com>
CC: "Vaughan, Becky - Washington, DC" <Becky.Vaughan@wdc.usda.gov>, "Meidinger, James - Washington, DC" <James.Meidinger@wdc.usda.gov>
Subject: Re: Hutterite USDA farm subsidy complaint
Date: Wed, 1 Oct 2008 08:19:04 -0400

Robert,
 This is the correct address to send mail. My staff that I cc'd on this reply will watch for it and make me aware when it arrives.

From: robertone@email.com
To: Lasseter, Teresa - Washington, DC
Sent: Tue Sep 30 21:47:30 2008
Subject: Hutterite USDA farm subsidy complaint
 9/30

*To: Teresa Lasseter
 FSA Administrator
 USDA
 Washington, DC*

Teresa,

I need to file a complaint with you concerning the USDA farm subsidies given to over 100 Hutterite colonies in the USA. My complaint requires attention at the national level because it is national in scope. The Hutterite colonies are located in Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Washington. I will be making the case to terminate the Hutterite's farm subsidies. I believe I can establish a legal foundation, based on evidence, to make the case.

I believe a USDA determination of the Hutterite's eligibility for USDA farm subsidies is a case of mistaken identity. USDA probably believed Hutterite colonies are operating as a business but Hutterite colonies are really operating as a nonprofit religious organization with a tax-exempt status.

As a result of my complaint, I believe it may be necessary to revise the USDA farm subsidy program eligibility requirements. I believe your review of my complaint will be needed to accomplish this step.

If you are available to receive my complaint I will mail my complaint to you at the following address:

*Teresa Lasseter
 FSA Administrator
 USDA
 SOAGRIBG Bldg
 STOP 0501 Rm 3086-S
 1400 Independence Ave SW
 Washington, DC 20250*

Are you available to receive my complaint?

*Robert Eichhorn
 robertone@email.com*

--

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Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)		\$0.00	
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Total Postage & Fees	\$	\$5.06	

Sent To

TERESA LASSETER-USDA

Street, Apt. No.,
or PO Box No.

1400 INDEPENDENCE AVE SW

City, State, ZIP+4

WASHINGTON, DC 20250

PS Form 3800, August 2006

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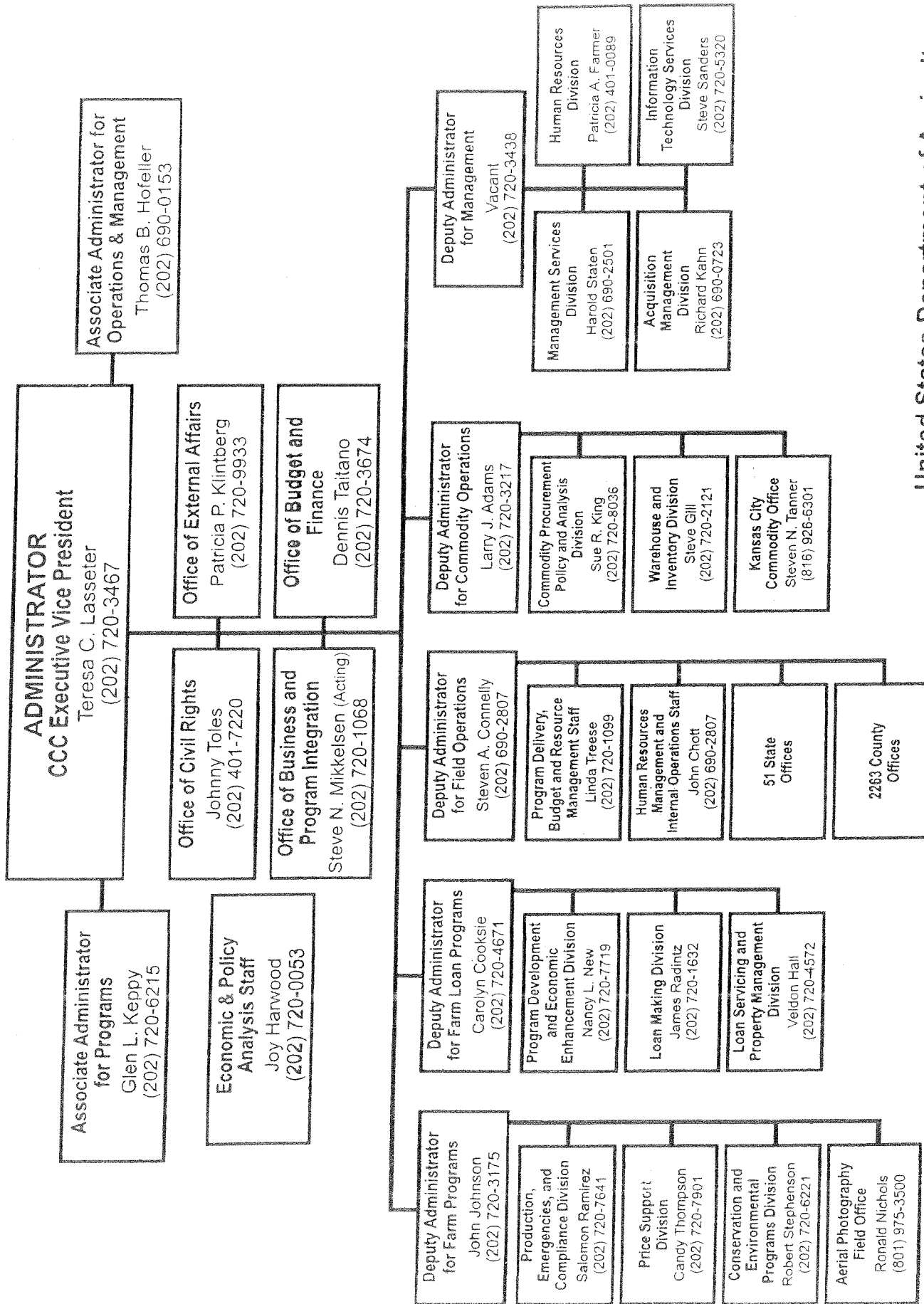
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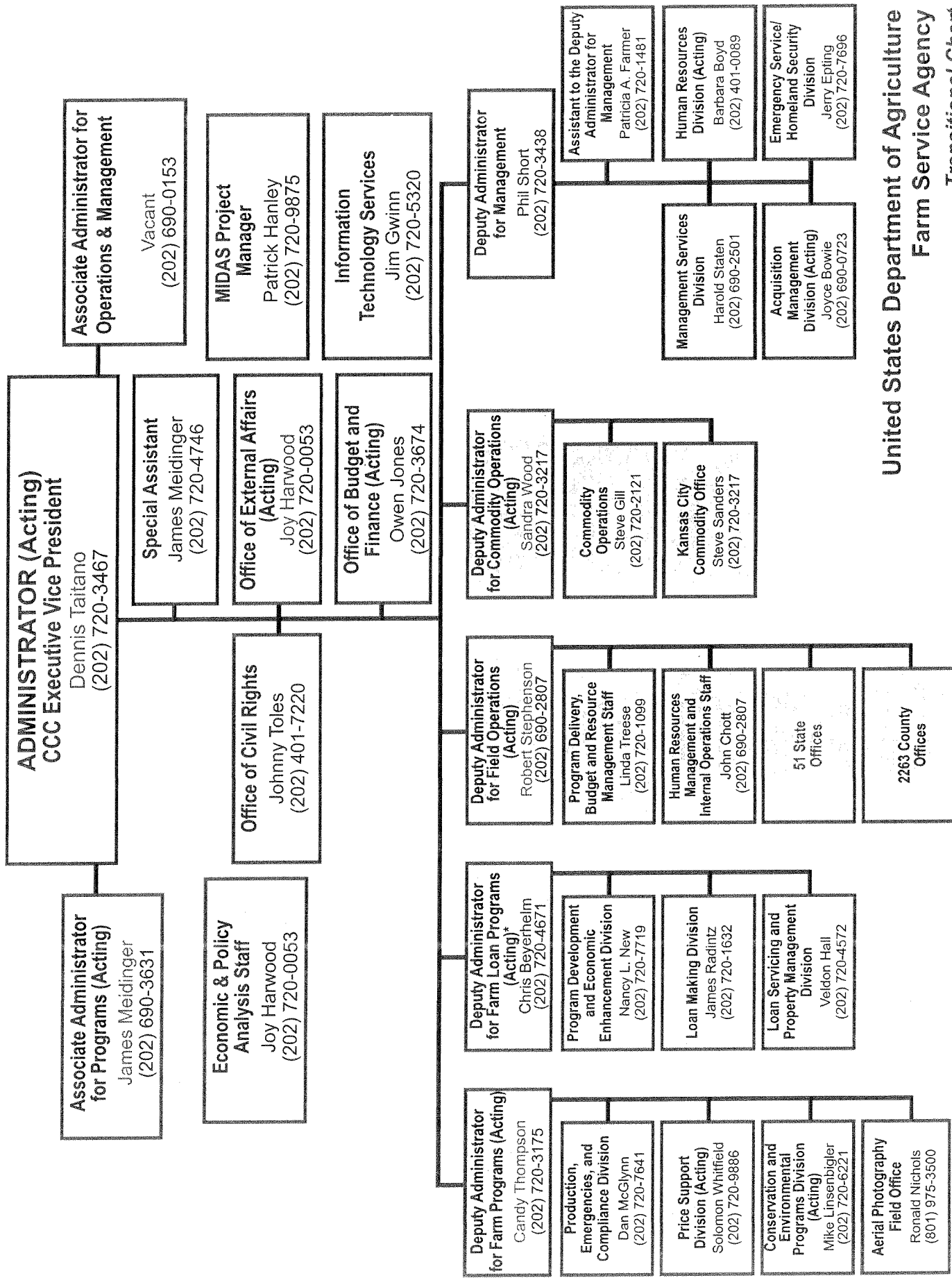


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**United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency**
*Transitional Chart
Updated January 23, 2009*

Political Appointments to be made

*Carolyn Cooksie is acting Deputy Under Secretary, FFAS



United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency



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About FSA

Office of the Administrator

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers and manages farm commodity, credit, conservation, disaster and loan programs as laid out by Congress through a network of federal, state and county offices.

These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of the agricultural industry and to help farmers adjust production to meet demand. Economically, the desired result of these programs is a steady price range for agricultural commodities for both farmers and consumers.

In the Eisenhower administration, the Congress split the functions of the Triple A committees, creating the state and county office system to take care of administrative functions and kept the farmer county committee to oversee implementation of federal programs in their county.

State and county offices directly administer FSA programs. These offices certify farmers for farm programs and pay out farm subsidies and disaster payments. Currently, there are 2,346 FSA county offices in the continental states. FSA also has offices in Hawaii, and a few American territories.

More than 8,000 farmer county committee members serve in FSA county offices nationwide. Committee members are the local authorities responsible for fairly and equitably resolving local issues while remaining dually and directly accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture and local producers through the elective process. They operate within official regulations designed to carry out Federal laws and provide a necessary and important voice in Federal decisions affecting their counties and communities.

Committee members make decisions affecting which FSA programs are implemented county-wide, the establishment of allotment and yields, commodity price support loans and payments, conservation programs, incentive, indemnity, and disaster payments for commodities, and other farm disaster assistance.

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Structure & Organization

Provides contact information as well as a listing of the programs and offices that make up the Farm Service Agency.

FSA Biographies

Includes biographies of the Farm Service Agency leadership.

History & Mission

Provides a history of the agency and describes its vision and mission.

Budget & Performance

Includes information about the budget, the strategic plan, and efforts to ensure that activities are managed efficiently.

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About FSA

Structure & Organization

The Farm Service Agency's national administrative functions are managed in Washington, D.C. Computational and statistical work is done in Kansas City. Implementation of farm policy through FSA programs is the responsibility of field offices based in states, counties and territories.

The organizational structure of FSA is laid out by Congress and overseen by the secretary of agriculture. The FSA administrator reports to an undersecretary of agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services (FFAS).

Headquarters Delegation of Authority:

- Administrator
- Associate Administrators for Programs and Operations
- Deputy Administrators (five), Programs and Operations
- Division Directors within different Programs and Operations
- Branch Chiefs
- Section Chiefs
- Managers

Field Delegation of Authority:

- State Executive Director (SED)
- State Committee
- County Executive Director (CED)
- Farmer County Committee (FCC)

Field Structure

More than 2,346 state and county offices are the primary distributors of FSA programs in the 48 continental states. FSA is also represented in Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

Farmer county committees replaced the New Deal AAA committees in the 1950s. By 2005, more than 8,000 farmers were elected by their peers to be county committee members.

Committee members are the local authorities responsible for fairly and equitably resolving local issues while remaining dually and directly accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture and local producers through the elective process. They operate within official regulations designed to carry out Federal laws and provide a necessary and important voice in Federal decisions affecting their counties and communities.

Committee members make decisions affecting which FSA programs are implemented county-wide, the establishment of allotment and yields, commodity price support loans and payments, conservation programs, incentive, indemnity, and disaster payments for commodities, and other farm disaster assistance.

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