

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| _____                                    | ) |
| TIMOTHY PIGFORD, et al.,                 | ) |
|  | ) |
| Plaintiffs,                              | ) |
|  | ) |
| v.                                       | ) |
|  | ) |
| DAN GLICKMAN, Secretary                  | ) |
| United States Department of Agriculture, | ) |
|  | ) |
| Defendant.                               | ) |
| _____                                    | ) |

Civil Action No. 97-1978 (PLF)

**FILED**  
**APR 15 1999**  
Clerk, U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia

**OBJECTION TO REVISED PROPOSED CONSENT DECREE**

See letter on Page 2

Attn: Ms. Montgomery  
United States District Court Clerk

Date: March 29, 1999

To: Judge Paul Friedman

Fax #: 202-354-3525

From: Oklahoma Black Farmers & Agriculturalists Association

Let this be filed.

Number of Pages Including This Sheet: 2

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 PAUL L. FRIEDMAN  
 United States District Judge  
 DATE: 4/10/99

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**OKLAHOMA BLACK FARMERS & AGRICULTURALISTS ASSOCIATION**

Earl Davis, President  
Edward Smith, Secretary

Maurice Clark, Treasurer  
Oliver Williams, Planning Specialist  
Vernon Breckenridge, Advisor

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The Honorable Judge Paul Friedman  
US District Court Judge  
US District Court  
3<sup>rd</sup> & Constitution Avenue, N. W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Judge Friedman,

We want to thank you very much for your fairness that you have exhibited in the Pigford v Glickman Class Action Case, the Brewington v Glickman Class Action Case from the very beginning. Your recommendations to the attorneys of black farmers and the Department of Justice of the Pigford v Glickman and Brewington v Glickman certainly lets us know that you heard the objections to the Proposed Consent Decree on March 2, 1999.

Your recommendations were very appropriate and very positive and would help make this Consent Decree much, much better. It is clear that without the recommended changes, the defendant, USDA, and its counsel do not plan to process the Proposed Decree in the name of fairness and justice.

We wish to state our **objections** to class counsel and USDA for refusing to accept your suggestions and hope you will, through whatever judicial means you have at your disposal, use your power to make this Decree acceptable.

Judge, we have reviewed the fourteen points that you submitted to the Department of Justice and to the attorneys representing our class action suit. We believe that each one of those fourteen points are very necessary to making this settlement proposal fair, equitable and just for the many black farmers all over America. We, therefore, thank you for taking the time and forcing them to respond to your letter. **We do not accept** the "**Revised Proposed Consent Decree**" as submitted by the Department of Justice and by our attorneys as being fair and just.

Therefore, Judge, we suggest that their "Revised Proposed Consent Decree" be totally rejected unless they will include the fourteen points that you pointed out in the letter to them. We believe that if these fourteen points were included, we would have a much fairer and just settlement for all black farmers who have legitimate claims in this nation. And we will certainly appreciate any efforts that you can take and any support that you can have in getting us a fair and just settlement. We certainly thank you for all of your support from the beginning of this lawsuit to the present time.

This letter represents the feelings and views of all black farmers who are claimants in this lawsuit. Agreed upon by all black farmers in Oklahoma.

*Earl Davis*  
Earl Davis, Oklahoma Black Farmers & Agriculturists Association President  
Vernon Breckenridge, Advisor

*Vernon Breckenridge*