United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service P.O. Box 2890 Washington, D.C. 20013

APR 1 5 2009

SUBJECT: EOP – Civil Rights Policy Statement

TO: All NRCS Employees

As Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), I am dedicated to ensuring that all persons associated with NRCS comply with every aspect of our Nation's Civil Rights laws and policies. NRCS employees are charged with, and held accountable for, treating each other and customers with respect, dignity, and equality while providing a professional work environment that delivers services in a fair, equitable, and respectful manner.

NRCS is committed to ensuring the Civil Rights of every individual who requests access to the programs administered by the Agency. Furthermore, employees and applicants for employment will be provided employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disabilities, marital and familial status, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, or retaliation for prior Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) activity.

Recognizing that our employees are our greatest asset, it is imperative that we embrace diversity within the Agency. NRCS must continue to strive to create and maintain an inclusive work environment wherein every employee and customer is respected and valued regardless of differences. I am committed to creating and supporting a growing diverse workforce within NRCS that reflects the diversity of the Nation we serve.

NRCS shares the responsibility for enforcing Civil Rights by exercising a zero tolerance of unlawful discrimination, harassment, or reprisal. I expect all NRCS employees to adhere to this policy and demonstrate their support and commitment of Civil Rights, EEO, and diversity. This must be our vision, mission, goal, and commitment.

Dave White

ave White

Chief