

This material is part of a collection that documents the harassment, discrimination, and retaliation perpetrated against Alaska's women research scientists by their supervisor, with full knowledge (and arguably, "tacit approval") of their federal employer, the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS)

Contract EEO Investigator

----- Forwarded Message: -----

From: mmtsutsui@comcast.net

To: moralesandassoc@earthlink.net (Frank Morales)

Cc: loti.winton@uaf.edu

Subject: FW: Winton reply to acceptance of ARS-2008-00542

Date: Tue, 14 Oct 2008 19:40:30 +0000

Jack:

I spoke to complainant and she referred to the letter she sent to USDA concerning the acceptance letter. See attachment. She stated the significant parts of her complaint were not included in the acceptance letter (6 additional claims). Can you check this out with Helena Thompson and let me know the status so that I can start the investigation? Thanks.

Martha

----- Forwarded Message: -----

From: "Winton, Lori" <Lori.Winton@ARS.USDA.GOV>

To: <mmtsutsui@comcast.net>

Subject: Winton reply to acceptance of ARS-2008-00542

Date: Tue, 14 Oct 2008 19:19:45 +0000

Dear Martha Tsutsui,

Please find attached the acceptance letter I sent by certified mail to USDA the civil rights office. It was signed for on Oct. 6, 2008.

Thank you for looking into this matter.

Sincerely,
Lori

Loretta (Lori) Winton, Ph.D.
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USDA used the same tactic when dealing with the three women from Alaska who filed complaints against Alberto Pantoja in response to his unlawful activities. By "fragmenting" the original complaints, USDA was able to selectively accept for investigation only issues that would not constitute a valid legal claim of discrimination. Essential aspects of the original claims (such as Dr. Pantoja's refusal to appoint women to serve as "acting supervisor") had been removed from the list of complaints that each woman had submitted. USDA used this form of deception to severely weaken the cases of the women.