



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, REGION XV

1350 EUCLID AVENUE, SUITE 325
CLEVELAND, OH 44115

REGION XV
MICHIGAN
OHIO

August 12, 2015

(b)(6),(b)(7)(A),(b)(7)
(C), Nonresponsive

Re: OCR Docket #15-15-2208

Dear (b)(6),(b)(7)

On June 1, 2015, the U.S. Department of Education (Department), Office for Civil Rights (OCR), received a complaint you filed against the Ohio State University (the University). The complaint alleges that the University has discriminated against you on the basis of sex. Specifically, the complaint alleges that the University failed to appropriately respond to your (b)(6),(b)(7)(A), complaint of sexual assault.

OCR is responsible for enforcing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 *et seq.*, and its implementing regulation, 34 C.F.R. Part 106, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities operated by recipients of Federal financial assistance from the Department. As a recipient of such financial assistance, the University is subject to these laws.

Because OCR has determined that we have jurisdiction over the allegation and that this complaint was filed timely, we are opening this allegation for investigation. Based on the complaint allegation, we will investigate the following:

- whether the University, on the basis of sex, subjected a student to a sexually hostile environment, i.e., sexual harassment that was sufficiently severe, pervasive, or persistent so as to interfere with or limit a student from participation in, deny a student the benefit of, or otherwise subject a student to discrimination under any program or service of the University in violation of the Title IX implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. §§ 106.8 and 106.31; and
- whether the University provided a prompt and equitable response to a sexual violence complaint, report, and/or other incident of which it had notice (knew about or should have known about), as required by the Title IX implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. §§ 106.8 and 106.31.

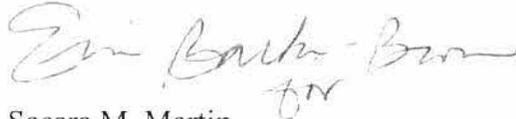
Please note that opening an allegation for investigation in no way implies that OCR has made a determination with regard to its merits. During the investigation, OCR is a neutral fact-finder, collecting and analyzing relevant evidence from the complainant, the recipient, and other sources as appropriate. OCR will ensure that the investigation is legally sufficient and is dispositive of the allegation in accordance with the provisions of Article III of OCR's Case Processing Manual.

OCR works to resolve allegations of discrimination promptly and appropriately. We will communicate with you periodically during our investigation. When contacting our office about your case, please refer to OCR Docket Number 15-15-2208.

Please note that your complaint may be appropriate for Early Complaint Resolution (ECR), a voluntary process similar to mediation during which an OCR staff person facilitates communication between the parties in an attempt to resolve complaint allegations. Additional information regarding the ECR process was sent with our letter acknowledging your complaint. If we believe that your complaint is appropriate for ECR, we will contact you to discuss this option.

If you have any questions, you may contact Ms. Allison Beach, the OCR staff person assigned to investigate this complaint, by telephone at (216) 522-2666 or by e-mail at Allison.Beach@ed.gov.

Sincerely,



Sacara M. Martin
Supervisory Attorney/Team Leader