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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:

Abraham Carpenter, Jr. (Docket No. **17-0245**);

Danny Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0246**);

Katie Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0247**);

Albert Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0248**);

Carlos Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0249**);

Bobbie Jean Clark (Docket No. **17-0250**); and

Abraham Carpenter, Sr. (Docket No. **17-0251**),

Petitioners,

**Dismissal (With Prejudice)**

Appearances:

Mr. Corey Lea, representative for Abraham Carpenter, Jr., Danny Carpenter, Katie Carpenter, Albert Carpenter, Carlos Carpenter, Bobbie Jean Clark, and Abraham Carpenter, Sr., Petitioners; and

Mr. Juan Carlos Alarcon, Esq. with the Office of the General Counsel, Civil Rights Litigation Division, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington D.C.

1. I have carefully reviewed the Petitioners' Request for a Formal Hearing Before the Administrative Law Judge filed March 29, 2017; and the Agency Responses filed April 12, 2017, a separate Response for each docket number ( **17-0245**, **17-0246**, **17-0247**, **17-0248**,

**17-0249, 17-0250, and 17-0251).**

2. I conclude that Administrative Law Judges have no authority to grant the relief requested, as stated in the Agency Responses. Consequently, the case of Abraham Carpenter, Jr. (Docket No. **17-0245**); Danny Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0246**); Katie Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0247**); Albert Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0248**); Carlos Carpenter (Docket No. **17-0249**); Bobbie Jean Clark (Docket No. **17-0250**); and Abraham Carpenter, Sr. (Docket No. **17-0251**), Petitioners, is DISMISSED (With Prejudice).

Copies of this Dismissal (With Prejudice) order shall be served by the Hearing Clerk upon each of the parties.

Done at Washington, D.C.  
this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April 2017



Jill S. Clifton  
Administrative Law Judge

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