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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re: )  
 )  
Lawrence Mathis ) Docket No. **17-0221**  
 )  
Petitioner ) **Dismissal (With Prejudice)**

AND

In re: )  
 )  
Antionette Douglas ) Docket No. **17-0222**  
 )  
Petitioner ) **Dismissal (With Prejudice)**

AND

In re: )  
 )  
Odessa Douglas ) Docket No. **17-0223**  
 )  
Petitioner ) **Dismissal (With Prejudice)**

Appearances:

Mr. Corey Lea, representative for Lawrence Mathis, Antionette Douglas, and Odessa Douglas, 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.

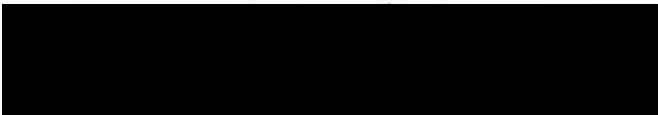
1. The "Petitioners Request for a Formal Hearing before the Administrative Law Judge", filed February 22, 2017, is before me. The Petition is filed on behalf of Lawrence Mathis, Antionette Douglas, and Odessa Douglas.

2. I have carefully reviewed the Petitioners' Request and the Agency Responses filed March 7, 2017, a separate Response for each docket number ( **17-0221** and **17-0222** and **17-0223** ).

3. I conclude that Administrative Law Judges have no authority to grant the relief requested, as stated in the Agency Responses. Consequently, the case of Lawrence Mathis, Antionette Douglas, and Odessa Douglas, 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 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2017



Jill S. Clifton  
Administrative Law Judge

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