



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

50 BEALE ST., SUITE 7200  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105

REGION IX  
CALIFORNIA

MAY 28 2015

John L. Hennessy  
President  
Stanford University  
Office of the President  
Building 10  
Stanford, California 94305-2061

(In reply, please refer to case no. 09-15-2324.)

**Response required by: June 10, 2015**

Dear President Hennessy:

On (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) 2015, the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR) received a complaint against Stanford University (University). OCR currently understands the allegation to be:

- The University discriminated against (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) based on sex when it failed to provide him an equitable resolution and appeal in a sexual assault complaint that was filed against him, and that was resolved in (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

OCR enforces Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in programs and activities operated by recipients of Federal financial assistance. The Recipient receives funds from the Department and is a public education entity. Therefore, the Recipient is subject to laws and regulations enforced by OCR.

We have determined that the allegation stated above is appropriate for investigation under the laws enforced by OCR. OCR will proceed with resolution of the complaint.

Because OCR has determined that it has jurisdiction and that the complaint was filed timely or qualified for a waiver of the timeliness requirement, it is opening these allegations for investigation. Please note that opening the allegations for investigation in no way implies that OCR has made a determination with regard to their 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 its investigation is legally sufficient and is dispositive of the allegations, in accordance with the provisions of Article III of the *Case Processing Manual*.

Enclosed is a copy of the OCR Case Processing Procedures and an initial data request. Please provide the information described in the data request by the date indicated at the top of this letter. Please also provide the name and telephone number of the person you designate to respond. OCR's right of access to this information is found at 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 100.6(c). Considerations of confidentiality are not a bar to OCR obtaining requested information under section 100.6(c). Please be aware that it might be necessary for us to make additional requests for information in the future.

OCR is committed to resolving complaints as promptly as possible. OCR will contact you or your designated representative soon to discuss the allegation(s), the initial data request and the complaint resolution process. Complaint allegations may be resolved in a variety of ways, including through an OCR-facilitated resolution between the Recipient and the complainant ("Early Complaint Resolution" or ECR). Under ECR, if both parties are interested, they may voluntarily resolve the complaint allegations by signing a written agreement. Note that in such a case, OCR does not endorse and monitor the agreement reached between the parties. Please inform OCR if the Recipient is interested in resolving this complaint through ECR.

OCR routinely advises recipients of Federal funds and public education entities that Federal regulations prohibit intimidation, harassment or retaliation against those filing complaints with OCR and those participating in the complaint resolution process. Complainants and participants who feel that such actions have occurred may file a separate complaint with OCR.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, it may be necessary to release this document and related records upon request. In the event that OCR receives such a request, it will seek to protect, to the extent provided by law, personal information that, if released, could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy.

Your cooperation is appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 415-486-5555.

Sincerely,

  
for Charles R. Love  
Program Manager

Enclosures

U. S. Department of Education  
Office for Civil Rights

Initial Data Request  
Stanford University  
09-15-2324

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

