

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

61 FORSYTH STREET, SOUTHWEST, SUITE 19T10 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8927 ALABAMA FLORIDA GEORGIA TENNESSEE

REGION 4

January 13, 2025

By email only to: <u>ron.coleman@legalinsurrection.com</u> <u>contact@legalinsurrection.com</u>

Ronald Coleman (Director of Litigation) William A. Jacobson (President) The Equal Protection Project

Re: Jefferson State Community College – OCR Complaint Number 04-24-2315

Dear Ronald Coleman:

On July 25, 2024, the U.S. Department of Education (the Department), Office for Civil Rights (OCR) received your complaint against Jefferson State Community College (College). Your complaint alleges that the College discriminates on the basis of sex because it offers the Women in Welding Scholarship Program (Program) for females only.

OCR enforces Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), 20 U.S.C. Sections 1681 *et seq.*, and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 106, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex in any education program or activity operated by a recipient of federal financial assistance. As a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Department, the College must comply with Title IX and its implementing regulation.

OCR is dismissing your complaint under Section 110(d) of its Case Processing Manual (CPM). Section 110(d) states that OCR will close or dismiss an allegation if OCR obtains credible information indicating that the allegation has been resolved and there is no systemic allegation.

On December 17, 2024, OCR contacted the College to resolve the allegation through OCR's Rapid Resolution Process under Section 203 of the CPM. On December 18, 2024, the College informed OCR by official letter that the Program had concluded and if the College engaged in a similar program in the future, it would not limit applicants to a specific gender. OCR's review of the College's website shows no current or future offer of the Program. Based on this information, OCR has determined that the matter is resolved and that there is no systemic allegation. Accordingly, OCR is dismissing your complaint under Section 110(d) as of the date of this letter.

Please be advised that the College must not harass, coerce, intimidate, discriminate, or otherwise retaliate against any individual because that individual asserts a right or privilege under a law enforced by OCR or files a complaint, testifies, assists, or participates in a proceeding under a law enforced by OCR. If this happens, the individual may file a retaliation complaint with OCR.

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

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Kenney at <u>mary.kenney@ed.gov</u> or 202-987-0935.

Sincerely,

Michael Bennett Compliance Team Leader