

DISCRIMINATION PROHIBITED BY TITLE VI

Many forms of discrimination based on race, color, or national origin limit opportunities for equal access to services and programs. Among other things, recipients of Federal financial assistance cannot, either directly or indirectly:

- Deny program services, aids, or benefits
 - Provide a different service, aid, or benefit, or provide them in a manner different than they are provided to others;
 - Segregate or separately treat individuals in any manner related to the receipt of any services, aids, or benefit;
- or
- Deny person(s) the opportunity to participate as a member of a planning, advisory, or similar body.



Programs or activities include, but are not limited to:

- Transportation
- Construction
- The distribution of benefits and services
- Tax benefits enjoyed by private agencies, fraternal and non-profit organizations (i.e. 501(c) 3) and education institutions.

** Federal-aid contracts must include language which requires compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.*

WHO MAY FILE A COMPLAINT

If you believe that you, or someone you represent has received discriminatory treatment on the basis of race, color or national origin, you may file a complaint with the South Carolina Department of Transportation.

HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT

Your complaint must be filed within 180 days of the alleged discrimination and should include:

- Your name, address, and telephone number;
- The name and address of the agency, institution, or department you believe discriminated against you;
- How, why, and when you believe you were discriminated against (include as much specific and detailed information as possible);
- The names of any persons, if known, who the SCDOT Title VI Program Coordinator could contact for clarity of your complaint.



PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR COMPLAINT TO:

Georgetown County
Attention: Title VI Program Coordinator
108 Screven Street
Georgetown, South Carolina 29440
Phone: 843-545-3325
Fax: 843-545-3648

For additional information or to obtain a complaint form, please visit our website:
<http://www.georgetowncountysc.org/>



Georgetown County South Carolina Title VI Program



"No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefit of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."
(42 U.S.C. 2000d)

WHAT IS TITLE VI?

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 is the Federal law that protects individuals and groups from discrimination on the basis of their race, color, and national origin in programs and activities that receive Federal financial assistance.



GEORGETOWN COUNTY'S TITLE VI POLICY

Pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Restoration Act of 1987 and other nondiscrimination authorities. It is the policy of Georgetown County to ensure that discrimination on the ground of race, color, or national origin, disability/handicap, sex, age, or income status shall not occur in connection with any programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance. SCDOT will also ensure compliance by all of its sub-recipients. Georgetown County is a SCDOT sub-recipient.

Efforts to prevent discrimination will address, but not be limited to, a program's impact upon access, benefits, participation, treatment, services, contracting opportunities, training opportunities, investigation of complaints, right-of-way acquisition, project development, construction, and research.



TITLE VI AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

On February 11, 1994, President Clinton signed Executive Order 12898: Federal Action to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations. This Executive Order focused attention on Title VI by requiring SCDOT to identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority and low income populations. As a SCDOT sub-recipient, Georgetown County's efforts in achieving environmental justice include, but are not limited to, data collection and analysis, evaluating right-of-way, community impact assessment, and public involvement.

ADVERSE IMPACTS MAY INCLUDE:

- Bodily impairment, infirmity, illness, or death
- Air, noise, and water pollution and soil contamination
- Destruction or disruption of man-made or natural resources
- Destruction or diminution of aesthetic values
- Destruction or disruption of community cohesion or a community's economic vitality
- Destruction or disruption of the availability of public and private facilities and services
- Adverse employment effects
- Displacement of persons, businesses, farms, or nonprofit organizations
- The denial, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of, or benefits of SCDOT programs or activities

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT is a vital part of the decision making process for transportation planning and project development.



TITLE VI AND LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (LEP)

The Federal government and those receiving Federal financial assistance must take reasonable steps to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to programs, services, and information.

WHO IS A LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT PERSON?

Persons who do not speak English as their primary language and who have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English can be limited English proficient. These individuals may be entitled to language assistance in accessing a particular type of service or benefit.

GEORGETOWN COUNTY RESPONSIBILITIES

Georgetown County has an obligation to reduce language barriers that can preclude meaningful access by LEP persons. The starting point is an individualized assessment of the following four factors:

1. The number or proportion of LEP persons served or encountered in the eligible service population
2. The frequency with which LEP individuals come in contact with the program, activity, or service
3. The nature and importance of the program, activity, or services provided by the program
4. The resources available to Georgetown County and costs

