



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

915 2ND AVE., SUITE 3310
SEATTLE, WA 98174-1099

NOV 27 2017

REGION X
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MONTANA
NEVADA
NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS
OREGON
WASHINGTON

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Re: University of Montana Missoula
OCR Reference No. 10182006

Dear (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

This is to notify you that the U.S. Department of Education (Department), Office for Civil Rights (OCR) has completed its evaluation of the complaint you filed against University of Montana Missoula (university) alleging that the university discriminated against (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) (hereafter, the student), on the basis of sex. OCR will investigate whether the university:

1. discriminated against the student on the basis of sex when it failed to respond appropriately to incidents of sexual violence reported by the student during the (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) academic year.
2. discriminated against the student on the basis of sex when it failed to respond appropriately to incidents of retaliation reported by the student during the (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) academic year.

OCR has the authority to enforce Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) and its implementing regulation. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. The university is a recipient of federal financial assistance from this Department and is, therefore, required to comply with Title IX.

OCR will proceed with an investigation of this complaint because the allegations raise possible violations of Title IX. OCR's decision to open an investigation does not reflect an opinion by OCR regarding the merits of the allegations or the university's compliance status with respect to federal civil rights laws.

Complaint allegations may be resolved in a variety of ways, including:

- an OCR-facilitated resolution between the university and the complainant ("Early Complaint Resolution"), where appropriate;
- a voluntary written agreement in which the university agrees to take remedial actions that OCR determines fully resolve the allegation consistent with applicable legal standards; or

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- an investigation by OCR, resulting in findings and a determination as to whether the university is in compliance with the applicable legal standards and, in the event non-compliance is found, a written agreement between OCR and the university in which the university commits to take specific steps to comply with applicable laws and regulations.

It is OCR's responsibility to address the allegations in a fair and impartial manner consistent with the regulatory requirements and OCR's *Case Processing Manual*.

OCR is committed to resolving complaints as promptly as possible. We will be contacting the university to discuss the allegations. If you have any questions, please contact me by telephone at (206) 607-1607 or by e-mail at mark.farr@ed.gov; or you may contact Tina Sohaili, Attorney, by telephone at (206) 607-1634, or by e-mail at tina.sohaili@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)

Mark A. Farr
Senior Equal Opportunity Specialist