§ 250.20 Sanctions.

Any distributing agency which has failed to comply with the provisions of this part or any instructions or procedures issued in connection with it or any agreements entered into pursuant to it, may, at the discretion of the Department, be disqualified from further participation in any distribution program. Reinstatement may be made at the option of the Department. Disqualification shall not prevent the Department from taking other action through other available means when considered necessary, including prosecution under applicable Federal statutes.

§ 250.21 Civil rights.

Distributing agencies, subdistributing agencies and recipient agencies shall comply with the Department’s nondiscrimination regulations (7 CFR parts 15, 15a, and 15b) and the FNS civil rights instructions to ensure that in the operation of the program no person is discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap.

§ 250.22 Complaints.

Distributing agencies shall investigate promptly complaints received in connection with the distribution or use of donated foods. Irregularities which are disclosed shall be corrected immediately. Serious irregularities shall be promptly reported to the Department. Distributing agencies shall maintain or file evidence of such investigations and actions. The Department also reserves the right to make investigations and shall have the final determination as to when a complaint has been properly handled. Complaints alleged on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap shall be handled in accordance with §250.21.

§ 250.23 Buy American.

(a) Purchase requirements. When purchasing food products with Federal funds, whenever possible, recipient agencies shall purchase only food products that are produced in the United States (U.S.). Food products produced in the U.S. means: 