



Meena Morey Chandra
Office for Civil Rights
Cleveland Office
U.S. Department of Education
1350 Euclid Avenue, Suite 325
Cleveland, OH 44115

April 15, 2015

**Re: The Ohio State University Resolution Agreement
Eighth Progress Report**

Dear Ms. Morey Chandra,

Pursuant to the Resolution Agreement entered into by the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) and The Ohio State University (Ohio State), Ohio State committed to report on progress towards meeting the various requirements outlined in the Agreement. This letter serves as our eighth such report.

ITEMS IN PROGRESS

Section VII: University's Investigation of Marching Band (Agreement pp. 13-16)

Requirement: This section codifies the corrective actions identified by Ohio State in its report pursuant to the comprehensive Marching Band investigation and requires that the university meet its stated objectives to evaluate and strengthen marching band leadership, review and revise band policies, offer counseling and training to band members and staff, conduct climate checks of the band, and offer individual remedies to band members subjected to the sexually hostile environment. OCR requires that the university provide quarterly updates on the progress of implementation of corrective actions.

Response: This report serves as our third quarterly update on the implementation of corrective actions related to the Marching Band.

Ohio State continues to implement corrective actions pursuant to the timeframe previously communicated to OCR. President Drake, in consultation with the Board of Trustees and other senior administrators, finalized a review of the findings and recommendations of former Ohio Attorney General Betty Montgomery's Marching Band Culture Task Force. A copy of the report outlining the Task Force's findings and recommendations was previously submitted to OCR with the January 15, 2015 status report.

President Drake asked the Executive Vice President and Provost, Joseph Steinmetz, to convene a Band Coordinating Committee charged with oversight of the performance needs and administrative accountability for the Band, as well as responsibility for overseeing the consideration and resolution of each of the Task Force's thirty-seven recommendations, with the expectation of implementation.

In addition, along with all Ohio State students, Marching Band members have been asked to take an anonymous online climate survey about sexual assault and sexual misconduct. The results of this survey, sponsored by the Association of American Universities, will be used to guide policies to encourage a healthy, safe and nondiscriminatory environment at Ohio State.

Ohio State will continue to demonstrate its long-standing commitment to vigorously addressing sexual assault and sexual harassment on its campuses, including by taking effective steps to stop sexual misconduct, prevent its recurrence, eliminate any hostile environment, and remedy its discriminatory effects on the complainant and any others as appropriate. We will continue to meet our requirements under the Resolution Agreement, and report progress to you.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Gates Garrity-Rokous
Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer

cc: President Michael V. Drake, M.D.
Christopher Culley, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Senior Advisor to the President
Kellie Brennan, Title IX Coordinator
Kelly Marie Johnson, OCR Team Leader (via email)
Erin Barker Brown, OCR Attorney (via email)
OCRCLMonitoringReports@ed.gov