



United States Department of Agriculture

Research, Education, and Economics  
Agricultural Research Service

April 30, 2018

SUBJECT: Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement

TO: All Northeast Area Employees

FROM: Dariusz Swietlik, Director  
Northeast Area

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dariusz Swietlik", written over the printed name in the "FROM" field.

The Northeast Area is fully committed to equal opportunity for all employees and applicants without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation. ARS' Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Policy mandates equal opportunity for all persons and prohibits discrimination in all aspects of the Agency's personnel policies, practices, and operations. All non-merit barriers that impede the employment, hiring, promotion, and retention of any employee must be eradicated from the workplace. There is zero tolerance for any form of discrimination and each member of the Northeast Area (NEA) must ensure that this standard and law is maintained.

Each Director, Manager, and Supervisor has personal obligations and accountability to ensure that the workplace is free from harassment and discrimination. Discrimination of any form will not be tolerated and every member of this organization must be held accountable.

As the NEA Director, I am personally committed to developing and maintaining a diverse workforce by recognizing and embracing employee diversity and by encouraging everyone's perspective and ideas. Communication regarding the early awareness and resolution of complaints must be addressed and handled appropriately.

EEO is the right of every ARS employee and is an important part of our overall success and achievements. It is imperative that ARS' work environment is supportive and committed to the rights of all employees. If an employee believes that he/she has been discriminated against and wishes to file an EEO complaint, contact the Office of Outreach, Diversity and Equal Opportunity at 202-720-3410 or 800-340-4289.

This Policy is my personal commitment to ensure that equal opportunity in the Northeast Area is assured to all employees as we embrace a diverse workforce and appreciate the differences that each of us brings to the workplace. This Policy statement must be posted in all work areas to ensure that the Northeast Area workforce is aware of and promotes its civil rights responsibilities.

Northeast Area Director's Office  
10300 Baltimore Avenue  
Building 003, Room 223  
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2350

*USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer*