



VICENTE T. XIMENES

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COMMISSIONER

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

Room 1244 1800 g Street, N.W. WASHINGTON, D. C. 20506

OFFICE: 202/343-3134

Room 1244 1800 g street, n.w. Washington, d. c. 20506

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

August 20, 1970

MEMORANDUM:

TO: State and Local Officers American G I Forum State of Kansas

If possible, please compile more specific information so that I can chair a committee as indicated in the attached letter from the Justice Department.

Sincerely,

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Vicente T. Ximenes Commissioner

Enclosure

Bepartment of Justice

Mashington

August 15, 1970

Honorable Vincente T. Ximenes Commissioner, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Washington, D. C., 20506

Dear Commissioner Ximenes:

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

Thank you for your letter of July 31, 1970, enclosing a petition presented to you by the American G.I. Forum of Kansas asking investigation of employment practices of federal, state, local and private Kansas employers in regard to Mexican-Americans.

The complaints included in the Kansas American G.I. Forum letter are very general in nature. In order to provide a basis for action, I believe it appropriate for you to ask the Forum for names of employers it believes are discriminatory and names of persons who have personal knowledge of the facts.

After that information is obtained, the complaints may well warrant further investigation by the responsible federal agencies. Since the letter concerns a range of problems for which several federal agencies have responsibility, it might be best handled on a cooperative basis. I suggest, initially, a joint meeting under your chairmanship including representatives of OFCC, the Civil Service Commission and Office of State Merit Systems of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (which operates under the supervision of Assistant Secretary Farmer) as well as the Commission and this Department.

Dave Rose will represent this Division on this matter. Please contact him by telephone when the additional information is secured.

Sincerely JERRIS LEONARD

Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE Washington, D.C. 20230

August 11, 1970

Honorable Vicente T. Ximenes Commissioner Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Washingtor, D. C. 20506

Dear Commissioner Ximenes:

The Secretary has asked me to reply to your recent letter.

The Office of Personnel has a program to review the personnel staffing of those activities which have a representation of minority group employees of three percent or less. We do know we have minimal representation of all minority groups in the State of Kansas and have asked our personnel offices concerned to make a concerted effort to improve this situation.

However, since your letter applies to the Federal-wide responsibility for employing minority groups, I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of your letter to Mr. Martin Castillo, Chairman, Cabinet Committee on Opportunity for the Spanish Speaking, for his information and followup.

We will review the current situation in the Department in the State of Kansas and report to you again in some detail.

Sincerely,

THE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE TREASURY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220



AUG 11 1970

Dear Commissioner Ximenes:

I have read your recent letter to Secretary Kennedy and the enclosed petition from the American G I Forum of Kansas and want to assure you of our concern and interest in assuring equal job opportunities for Spanish Surnamed Americans.

The requests made of the Civil Service Commission and the Kansas State agencies seem reasonable and valid and will, undoubtedly be a "starter" in the right direction.

The Treasury Department has less than 225 employees in the State of Kansas — and of these 210 are employed by the Internal Revenue Service on a statewide basis. We have alerted the Internal Revenue Service of the petition and have suggested that it take affirmative action in its limited hiring efforts.

The petition refers specifically to action and opportunities in Topeka. In that city our staffing is most limited --- there are currently only 36 Treasury employees in Topeka --- five of whom are employed in the U. S. Savings Bond Division and 31 employed by the Internal Revenue Service.

In regard to private employment and Treasury's responsibilities to assure equal employment by banks I want you to know that we will be augmenting our staff of two by about eight additional persons in the next several months and when this staffing is accomplished we will conduct a series of compliance reviews in Kansas from which, hopefully, affirmative action will result in job opportunities for Spanish Surnamed Americans.

If we can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Very sincerely Samuel R. Pierce,

Commissioner Vicente T. Ximenes Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Washington, D. C. 20506

Interstate Commerce Commission

Mashington, D.C. 20423

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

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August 11, 1970 ·

Honorable Vicente T. Ximenes Commissioner Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Washington, D. C. 20506

Dear Commissioner Ximenes:

Thank you for your letter of July 31, 1970, addressed to former Chairman Virginia Mae Brown, enclosing a petition of the American G. I. Forum of Kansas.

We have read with interest the petition and are in sympathy with its principles and intent. We have only two field offices in Kansas, one in Topeka, and one in Wichita. There are two positions in Topeka and three in Wichita, all of which are encumbered by permanent career Civil Service employees. We do not anticipate any vacancies in these offices in the fore-' seeable future. However, we will certainly give every consideration to qualified Spanish surnamed Americans who are interested when openings do occur.

Please be assured that this Commission will continue to maintain a positive program of Equal Employment Opportunity.

Sincerely yours

George M. Stafford

Chairman