

SAMPLE NARRATIVE
Willie Mae Doe--CLAIM # 2

My parents were long-time sharecroppers, leasing 40 acres of farmland located in [REDACTED].(1) After my father passed away, in 1973 my mother made the courageous decision to continue farming with the help of her children, and to purchase own 40 acres of land along the road called [REDACTED] in Florence (County), South Carolina. (2)

In 1974, my mother went to the local USDA office in Florence and attempted to apply for an Operating Loan to purchase necessary farming equipment, seeds, and supplies.(3) Her goal was to cultivate thirty acres of soybeans and corn, and ten acres of vegetables, potatoes, greens, cucumbers, tomatoes, beans, okra, and herbs.(4) My mother was told there were no funds available and was denied the opportunity to even apply for the loan, while, at that very time, white farmers in our area were being approved for the same type of funding.(5) My mother, whose only desire was to provide for her family through honest work, was denied support solely because of the color of her skin.(6)

My mother was discriminated against by USDA and suffered an estimated financial loss of over \$85,000 due to this unfair treatment, a loss that echoed through generations of our family.(7)

I became a member BFAA in 2018, with the hope of seeking justice and compensation for the harm my family endured.(8) What happened to my mother was not just a financial loss, it was a denial of dignity, opportunity, and the right to thrive.(9)

Exhibits:

The Narrative _____
Birth Certificate _____
Death Certificate _____
Kinship (FSA Form-325) _____
Identification _____
Land Documents _____
BFAA Membership _____
Attorney's Declaration _____
Other Exhibits _____