



**SOCIAL SECURITY**  
Office of the General Counsel  
Region III

March 30, 2022

**BY CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT**  
**RECEIPT NO. 7007 3020 003 0427 2179**

Richard Mills  
315 South Broad Street  
Unit 0429  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Re: Program Discrimination Complaint, Docket No. 03-22-020

Dear Mr. Mills:

In December 2021, the Social Security Administration (SSA) Office of the General Counsel (OGC) received your Complaint Form SSA 437-BK dated December 13, 2021. In your complaint, you alleged that an SSA employee you identified as Susan Tevald retaliated against you after you reported misconduct, and that Ms. Tevald and other unidentified employees mishandled your SSA case. You also alleged that United States District Judge John Milton Younge “went MIA” or was on medical leave. You alleged that Ms. Tevald “did nothing” after you advised her that Judge Younge was “MIA.” After carefully reviewing your allegations, we are closing the complaint because we do not have jurisdiction over the matter that you raised.

OGC has the overall responsibility to coordinate SSA’s compliance with civil rights law, regulations, and policy, with regard to SSA’s programs. An individual may file a complaint of program discrimination if that individual believes that SSA, its employees, or its agents took an action in an SSA program or activity that discriminated on the basis of disability, race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), age, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), religion, or in retaliation for having participated in a proceeding under this complaint process. In addition, any member of the public who believes that SSA discriminated based on parental status in a federally conducted education or training program may file a complaint under this process.

When OGC receives a complaint alleging program discrimination, we review it to determine if we have jurisdiction over the complaint, if the complaint is timely, and whether the facts alleged if true, would constitute a civil rights violation. OGC does not have jurisdiction to review the merits of a claim for benefits under SSA’s programs, and we do not have authority to alter a benefits decision.

However, the program discrimination complaint process is not a substitute for SSA’s administrative claims review process. Therefore, if you disagree with the decision regarding your

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION  
P.O. BOX 41777  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19101

claim for benefits, you must appeal that decision according to the procedure described in the notice of appeal rights that accompanies the decision. In your complaint, you have not raised a basis for any alleged discrimination. Rather, the allegations you are raising are inextricably related to the merits of your claim for benefits. SSA's regulations describe the exclusive remedies and procedures for pursuing a claim for Social Security benefits. A disagreement with an SSA determination regarding benefits or SSA's adjudicatory process is not, by itself, a basis for a claim of discrimination.

Based on the information contained in your complaint and the documents you have submitted to us, you have not alleged that SSA, its employees, or its agents, took an action in a program or activity conducted by SSA that was based on unlawful discrimination. Specifically, although you alleged that SSA employees retaliated against you after you reported misconduct and mishandled your SSA case, you have provided no evidence or information that the alleged actions were based upon disability, race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), age, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), religion, or in retaliation for having participated in a proceeding **under this complaint** process. Therefore, there is insufficient information for us to investigate your complaint for program discrimination and we have closed your case and we are taking no further action on your complaint.

We regret that we cannot be of further assistance to you at this time.

Sincerely,

Brian C. O'Donnell  
Regional Chief Counsel, Region III

By: /s/Theresa A. Casey  
Theresa A. Casey  
Assistant Regional Counsel, Region III

SSA Baltimore

&

U.S. GAO Advised

Did Region III

Elevate Complaint?

Fed. Court Clerk?

@Justice For Mills

USPS TRACKING#



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Richard Mills - Claimant  
315 S. Broad St. U-0419  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

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1. Article Addressed to:

SSA Civil Rights Complaints  
PO Box 17788  
Baltimore, MD 21235



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2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

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