

TITLE VI COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

Any person who believes she or he has been discriminated against on the bases of race, color or national origin by the Port Authority Transit Corporation (hereinafter referred to as "PATCO") may file a Title VI complaint by completing and submitting PATCO's Title VI Complaint Form. PATCO investigates complaints received no more than 180 days after the alleged incident. PATCO will process complaints that are complete.

Once the complaint is received, PATCO will review it to determine if our office has jurisdiction. The complainant will receive an acknowledgement letter informing her/him whether the complaint will be investigated by our office.

PATCO has 30 days to investigate the complaint. If more information is needed to resolve the case, PATCO may contact the complainant. The complainant has 10 business days from the date of the letter to send requested information to the investigator assigned t the case. If the investigator is not contacted by the complainant or does not receive the additional information within 15 business days, PATCO can administratively close the case. A case can be administratively closed also if the complainant no longer wishes to pursue their case.

After the investigator reviews the complaint, she/he will issue one of two letters to the complainant: a closure letter or a letter of finding (LOF). A closure letter summarizes the allegations and states that there was not a Title VI violation and that the case will be closed. An LOF summarizes the allegations and the interviews regarding the alleged incident, and explains whether any disciplinary action, additional training of the staff member or other action will occur. If the complainant wishes to appeal the decision, she/he has 30 days after the date of the letter or the LOF to do so.

A person may also file a complaint directly with the Federal Transit Administration, at FTA Office of Civil Rights, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.