



Billing Code: 9412-88

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement; Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers; Meeting

**AGENCY:** Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of conference call meeting.

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**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Department of Agriculture and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), that a public teleconference of the Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers (ACMF) will be held to discuss USDA outreach, technical assistance, and capacity building for and with minority farmers; the implementation of the Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmer and Rancher Grant Program (2501 Program); and methods of maximizing the participation of minority farmers and ranchers in the U.S. Department of Agriculture; and to plan mechanisms for best providing advice to the Secretary on the issues outlined above.

**DATES:** The conference call will be held Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 1:00 PM – 5:30 PM Central Standard Time (CST).

*Public Call-in Information:* Conference call-in number: Dial-in 888-251-2949 or 215-861-0694 Participant Access Code: 4711144#. Please be advised that before placing them into the conference call, the operator will ask callers to provide their names, their organizational affiliations (if any), and email addresses (so that callers may be notified of future meetings). Callers can expect to incur charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, and the USDA will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge

for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free conference call-in number.

*Public Comments:* Written comments for the Committee's consideration may be submitted to email: [ACMF@usda.gov](mailto:ACMF@usda.gov). Written comments must be received by October 6, 2020.

*Availability of Materials for the Meeting:* General information about the ACMF as well as any updates concerning the meeting announced in this notice, may be found on the ACMF website at <https://www.usda.gov/partnerships/advisory-committee-on-minority-farmers>

*Accessibility:* USDA is committed to ensuring that all persons are included in our programs and events. If you are a person with a disability and require reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting Please contact Eston Williams at [Eston.Williams@usda.gov](mailto:Eston.Williams@usda.gov) or (202)596-0226.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** General information about the committee can also be found at <https://www.usda.gov/partnerships/advisory-committee-on-minority-farmers>. Any member of the public wishing to obtain information concerning this public meeting may contact Eston Williams, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), at [Eston.Williams@usda.gov](mailto:Eston.Williams@usda.gov) or at (202)596-0226.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** *Background:* The Committee was established in the U.S. Department of Agriculture pursuant to section 14008 of the Food Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, Pub. L. 110-246, 122 Stat. 1651, 2008 (7 U.S.C.

2279).

The Committee works in the interest of the public to ensure socially disadvantaged farmers have equal access to USDA programs. The Committee advises the Secretary on the implementation of section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990; methods of maximizing the participation of minority farmers and ranchers in U.S. Department of Agriculture programs; and civil rights activities within the Department, as such activities relate to participants in such programs.

Dated: September 16, 2020.

**Cikena Reid,**

*USDA Committee Management Officer.*

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