

FOIA MARKER

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Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Americorps

Series/Staff Member: General Files

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 24238

FolderID:

Folder Title:

[Americorps Member Rosters - 1995 Program Year - By State] [Folder 2]: [2]

Stack:

S

Row:

66

Section:

1

Shelf:

1

Position:

1

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. memo	[Personally Identifiable Information] [partial] (5 pages)	08/15/1995	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
AmeriCorps
General Files
OA/Box Number: 24238

FOLDER TITLE:

[AmeriCorps Member Rosters-1995 Program Year-By State [Folder 2]:[2]

2013-0661-F
rs3875

RESTRICTION CODES**Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]**

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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Maine

Divider Title: _____

<u>ST</u>	<u>LNAME</u>	<u>FNAME</u>	<u>TRUST</u> <u>STAT</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>HRS</u>	<u>REASON</u>
ME	BERT	KAREN	R	L24I	NRCS	1559 HRS,	SEE ATTACHED
ME	MUSRALL	KAREN		L24G	NRCS	1,116 HRS	SEE ATTACHED

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. memo	[Personally Identifiable Information] [partial] (5 pages)	08/15/1995	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
 AmeriCorps
 General Files
 OA/Box Number: 24238

FOLDER TITLE:

[AmeriCorps Member Rosters-1995 Program Year-By State [Folder 2]:[2]

2013-0661-F
rs3875

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Soil
Conservation
Service

Natural Resources
Conservation Service
5 Godfrey Drive
Orono, ME 04473-1100

Subject: MGT - AmeriCorps Program -
Early Terminations

Date: August 15, 1995


To: Paula Cole Jones
AmeriCorps Program Coordinator
USDA-NRCS
Washington, DC

File Code: 330-0

In response to your request dated August 9, 1995, we are forwarding to you the following information:

- Iver McLeod, SSN# [redacted] (b)(6) left the AmeriCorps program on January 18, 1995 because he found a permanent position and his financial situation required that he be working fulltime for more pay. 498.1W
- Karen Bert, SSN# [redacted] left the AmeriCorps program on June 23, 1995, because her husband took another job in Washington State that started July 1, 1995. Karen was seven months pregnant at the time and in order to finish her hours she would have had to stay until the end of July. This would have put her too close to her due date and she would be all alone in Maine. We contacted Washington State to see if they had any vacant AmeriCorps positions for Karen to fill. Unfortunately they didn't. 1161W
- Karen Mushrall, SSN# [redacted] terminated her participation in the AmeriCorps program August 4, 1995 due to family problems. Karen's young husband died unexpectedly in his sleep in late January 1995. Karen and her young children were in shock for quite some time. Karen finally came back to the program in late February/early March but has struggled to complete the hours required for the program. Karen's children continue to have problems and this is why she has terminated her participation. Also, she would have been unable to complete the 1700 hours by September 11, 1995. 1161W

This should be sufficient information, but if it isn't, please contact our office immediately.


Richard B. Baird
Maine Program Director



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Maryland

Divider Title: _____

ST	LNAME	FNAME	TRUST		ID	AGENCY	HRS	REASON
			STAT					
MD	HARRIS	ADRIAN			K130	NRCS	1133, RESIGNED FOR EMPLOYMENT	
MD	HOPE	CHARLES			K130	NRCS	1099, RESIGNED FOR EMPLOYMENT	
MD	THOMPSON	ELONDA	N		A020			

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Massachusetts

Divider Title: _____

<u>ST</u>	<u>LNAME</u>	<u>FNAME</u>	<u>TRUST</u> <u>STAT</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>HRS</u>	<u>REASON</u>
MA	WOODHOUSE	LISA	N	0000			

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Michigan

Divider Title: _____

<u>ST</u>	<u>LNAME</u>	<u>FNAME</u>	<u>TRUST</u> <u>STAT</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>HRS</u>	<u>REASON</u>
MI	RODOCK	PAUL	N	L28H	NRCS	1092 HRS,	LEFT FOR EMPLOYMENT

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Minnesota

Divider Title: _____

<u>ST</u>	<u>LNAME</u>	<u>FNAME</u>	<u>TRUST</u> <u>STAT</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>HRS</u>	<u>REASON</u>
MN	BELCHER	GRAEME	N	K29B	NRCS	1088.25	HRS, RESIGNED FOR EMPLOYMENT
MN	ENGEN	KELLY		K	NRCS	963	HRS, RESIGNED, EMPLOYMENT

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Mississippi

Divider Title: _____

TRUST

<u>ST</u>	<u>LNAME</u>	<u>FNAME</u>	<u>STAT</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>HRS</u>	<u>REASON</u>
MS	CLARK	GAIL			NRCS		SEE ATTACHED
MS	LEBRUNSKI	RICHARD	N	H27J	FS		
MS	LIDDELL	ELBERT	N	0000			



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

Suite 1321 Federal Building
100 West Capitol Street
Jackson, MS 39269

Subject: Non-Completion of Service Hours -
Gail Clark

Date: August 11, 1995

To: Paula Cole Jones
AmeriCorps Program Manager

File Code:

After a review of the service hours for AmeriCorp member, Gail Clark, we found that Ms. Clark will be unable to complete the required 1,700 service hours at the end of the 12 month program because of compelling personal circumstances. At the end of her service year, the member will have completed only 1,619 hours or 95 percent of the required service hours.

The compelling personal circumstances that resulted in non-completion of the required service hours as follows:

- a. The Member was involved in divorce proceedings that required her to be absent on two separate occasions on November 22-29, 1994, and January 17-20, 1995.
- b. There was a death in the immediate family of the Member that caused her to be absent from July 21-26, 1995.
- c. Because the Member had to care for three children and had elected not to participate in the child care program, she had to take several days off during the year to care for sick children and other activities related to the children and family.

I am requesting that the Member, Gail Clark, be approved to receive a prorated education award for the service hours satisfactorily completed during the service year.

On September 11, 1995, I will forward to you a Change of Status/Term form and an End of Term of Service form indicating: "Compelling Personal Circumstances."

If you have additional questions, please let me know.

Reginald M. Spears
AmeriCorp Program

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

747 Industrial Park Rd. NE
Brookhaven, MS 39601-2148

SUBJECT: AmeriCorps-Request for Approval of Release
for "Compelling Personal Circumstances"

DATE: August 8, 1995

TO: Reginald Spears
AmeriCorps State Program Director
USDA-NRCS
Jackson, MS

This is to request approval AmeriCorps member Gail Clark to receive a prorated post-service educational benefit upon completion of her service on 9-11-95. The prorated amount would be approximately 95% of \$4,725. This estimate is based on the number of hours of service she is projected to have completed by the effective date. This request is for "compelling personal circumstances," as allowed for under the program regulations, that prevented her from putting in 1700 hours of service.

As site manager, I am making this request due to the "compelling personal circumstances" of a death in her family that required her absence for four (4) days (July 21-26, 1995). This complicated a tight work schedule that was already in jeopardy due to divorce proceedings that occurred earlier during her service year that required her absence for two 1-week periods in order to travel to Chicago.

As site manager I have been unable to revise her work schedule over the last 6 months of her service year in order to accumulate 1700 service hours and still maintain the required efficiency in her assigned project. This is no fault of Ms. Clark.

Your timely consideration of this request will be greatly appreciated. If you need additional information, let me know.

Bennie F. Hutchins

Bennie F. Hutchins
RC&D Coordinator

cc:
Gail Clark, Brookhaven, MS AmeriCorps member

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New Hampshire

Divider Title: _____

<u>ST</u>	<u>LNAME</u>	<u>FNAME</u>	<u>TRUST</u> <u>STAT</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>HRS</u>	<u>REASON</u>
NH	BUFFINGTON	JENNIFER		FS	SEE ATTACHED		
NH	SCOTT	ANDREW		FS	SEE ATTACHED		

Rebecca Oreskes, USFS
Saco District
33 Kancamagus Highway
Conway, NH 03818

August 24, 1995

White Mountain AmeriCorps
Bog Brook Training Area
Route 2 Box 1140
Bethel, ME 04217

Dear Rebecca;

I am writing to you in reference to Jennifer Buffington, Juniper, an AmeriCorps member in the White Mountain National Forest AmeriCorps program. As we are looking upon the ten remaining weeks of the program, I wanted to bring to your attention the fact that Juniper is behind in hours compared with the rest of the corps members in the program. Please understand that I am speaking for all of the crew leaders when I say that we believe Juniper has extenuating circumstances which should allow her educational grant to be pro-rated.

(b)(6)

At this point, if Juniper were to fill her 1700 hours of service, she would have to work sixty one hours a week for the next ten weeks. Those are exceptionally long hours, especially given the fact that the work we do is hard physical labor. We feel that Juniper's health and personal safety would be jeopardized if she attempted to fill those hours at this point in the program.

I trust that you will give this your full attention. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely;

Kate Mazuy
Kate Mazuy crew leader

Rebecca Oreskes, USFS
Saco District
33 Kancamagus Highway
Conway, NH 03818

August 25, 1995

White Mountain AmeriCorps
Bog Brook Training Area
Route 2 Box 1140
Bethel, ME 04217

Dear Rebecca;

I am writing you in reference to Andrew Szott, an AmeriCorps member in the White Mountain National Forest AmeriCorps program. As we are looking upon the ten remaining weeks of the program, I wanted to bring to your attention the fact that Andy is behind in hours compared with the rest of the corps members in the program. We believe that his circumstances are extenuating and that therefore his educational grant should be pro-rated. Please understand that I am writing on behalf of all of the White Mountain AmeriCorps crew leaders.

Andy joined us on March 10, eight weeks after our January 14 start date. The program should not have accepted Andy as a full-time participant at that late a date, because it required that he consistently work long hours each week. We don't believe that he should have to bear the consequences of our oversight. Andy is a hard worker who brings a wonderfully optimistic attitude with him wherever he is working.

Unlike the twenty eight other corps members, Andy has not had any time off since he joined the program. If he were to fill his full 1700 hours Andy would have to work a seventy one hour week for the next ten weeks of the program. Those are exceptionally long hours, especially given the fact that the work we do is hard physical labor. We feel that Andy's health and personal safety would be jeopardized if he attempted to fill those hours at this point in the program.

I trust that you will give this your full attention. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely;



Kate Mazuy crew leader

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New Jersey

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NJ	KALMAN	JEFFREY	N	0000			

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Oklahoma

Divider Title: _____

ST	LNAME	FNAME	TRUST		ID	AGENCY	HRS	REASON
			STAT					
OK	FREEMAN	RICKY			K09C	NRCS		1221, LEFT FOR EMPLOYMENT
OK	MARSHAL	CHARL			K09C	NRCS		1086 HRS, QUIT, SUPERVISOR DOES NOT RECOMMEND AWARD, COULD HAVE FINISHED, HAD ADVERSE IMPACT ON PROJECT.
OK	SQUIRES	AMANDA			K09C	NRCS		1319 HRS, QUIT, SUPERVISOR DOES NOT RECOMMEND AWARD, COULD HAVE FINISHED, HAD ADVERSE IMPACT ON PROJECT.

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Oregon

Divider Title: _____

ST	LNAME	FNAME	TRUST		ID	AGENCY	HRS	REASON
			STAT					
OR	ALCAIRE	OLIVIA	N		K15A	NRCS		EMPLOYMENT
OR	ALEXANIAN	LAUREL	P		F190	FS		1019, MEDICAL PROBLEMS
OR	BELLI	NICOLE	N		F190	FS		
OR	FINE	CHESEA	N		F190	FS		
OR	HASHIDA	GRAYSON			K15A	NRCS		SEE ATTACHED
OR	HARRIS	JESSIE	R		G32G	RECD		
OR	JOHNSTON	THOMAS	N		F190	FS		
OR	LAWSON	SETH	N		F190	FS		
OR	KATELEY	DAVID	P		F190	FS		1580 hrs, medical problems
OR	PULIDO	VANESS	N		F190	FS		
OR	RUTHERFORD	CASSONDRA	N		K15A	NRCS		EMPLOYMENT
OR	WHEELER	DUSTIN	N		F190	FS		
OR	WHITLOCK	EVELYN	N		F190	FS		
OR	WILLS	JUSTIN			F190	FS		1613, SEE ATTACHED

ENVIROCORPS MEMORANDUM

To: Paula Cole Jones, Program Coordinator
National Service and Volunteer Programs

From: Jennifer Thompson, Project Coordinator *JT*
EnviroCorps in Portland, Oregon

Date: August 16, 1995

Subject: Response to "AmeriCorps Member Education Award Eligibility" memo dated August 9, 1995

The following list includes the members who have left our AmeriCorps program early, their reason for leaving, and whether or not they were recommended for the pro-rated educational award:

Marilyn Ceaser, SSN: (b)(6) - Mutual decision to terminate the program early due to lack of attendance and participation. She was not determined eligible for a pro-rated educational award.

Olivia Alcaire, SSN: [REDACTED] - Left due to an opportunity to fill an archaeological position in Mexico and advance her career. She was not determined eligible for a pro-rated educational award.

Cassandra Rutherford, SSN: [REDACTED] - Left to pursue her opera career, which required travelling, attendance at conferences, and opera performances. Her commitments required complete concentration and extensive use of her time. She was not determined eligible for a pro-rated educational award.

Grayson Hashida, SSN: [REDACTED] - His mother in Hawaii became extremely ill and required daily care. He quit school and EnviroCorps and moved to Hawaii to care for her. He was determined eligible for the pro-rated educational award.

EnviroCorps is concerned about ensuring that all of our members, and in the broader sense as well that all AmeriCorps members, are being treated fairly and equally. Any further guidance you can provide as a result of this survey would be helpful for us with the following situation:

One of our current members, Avis Dunas, SSN: [REDACTED] will be unable to complete the 900 service hours required by part time members this year. Several reasons account for her lack of hours, including illness and inability to work long hours due to her age (she is 66). She has also lost hours due to a variety of other reasons, some of which are not clearly excusable. Existing policies regarding eligibility for pro-rated awards have been explained to her. I have asked her to write a letter to the EnviroCorps Management Team explaining why she feels her situation would fall under the "compelling personal circumstances" clause for receiving a pro-rated award. At this time, we are awaiting the letter.

4047F190

To: Corporation for National Service
Re: Early termination
From: Mindy Martin, Director, Rogue River AmeriCorps

Rogue River AmeriCorps has 3 Members that are requesting a pro-rated education award based on compelling personal circumstances. Please review and advise of your decision.

DAVE KATELEY

(b)(6)

Dave completed 1580 hours of service. He hurt his back on the job. He performed light duty for 2 weeks. He attempted to return to work several times. His condition did not improve and his doctor recommended that he not finish the program. Dave is an exceptional Member and a hard worker.

RECOMMENDATION: Grant a pro-rated award for the full 1580 hours of service.

JUSTIN WILLS

Justin has completed 1613 hours of service. He has had a difficult time with poison oak this season. He missed several days of work in addition to his 40 hours of excused leave. This case is a difficult one. Rogue River AmeriCorps has provided numerous opportunities for Justin to make up his hours. We have provided work on the weekends. We have given him the opportunity to volunteer for the local city and county parks. He would sign up for the projects and then he would not show up. He has made no real effort to make up the hours that he has missed. On numerous occasions, I personally reminded him of the hours that he needed in order to successfully complete the program. He was aware that I could not justify a partial award if he did not make an effort to complete the hours. Two days before graduation, he provided me with the attached letter. He had made no previous efforts to advise me of his reasons for missing work or his intentions to make up the work. I feel that he has counted on the fact that his award would be pro-rated, even though I have told him on numerous occasions that a pro-rated award was not possible in his case. On the job site, Justin is a very hard worker. He is respected by his peers for his abilities and persistence.

RECOMMENDATION: Grant a part-time award of \$2362.50. I would not be comfortable with giving him a pro-rated award because I do not feel that he attempted to make up the hours. Other Members had more hours than he did to make up, and they ALL have successfully completed the program requirements.

LAUREL ALEXANIAN

(b)(6)

Laurel has completed 899 hours of service. By the end of this fiscal year, she will have completed 1019 hours of service. She was in a very serious automobile accident. She suffered multiple injuries. She has had 3 surgeries on her leg. Laurel is currently recovering, and is expected to have full use of her leg in 6-12 months. 8 weeks ago, she asked if she could return to the program. She volunteered to perform light duty in whatever capacity possible. She is currently working with the public and assisting in interpretive services on the forest. Laurel is an outstanding individual and is highly respected by all who have had the opportunity to work with her.

RECOMMENDATION: Grant a pro-rated award for the total number of hours completed. (Laurel has not yet completed her End of Service form.)

August 28, 1995

Americorps
Northwest Youth Corps

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to request 70 - 72 hours of my makeup hours be waived. Since my absence for this number of hours, or more, was due to severe poison oak reaction. During this reaction it was necessary for me to treat seeping poison oak rash which covered and which spread out of control. I was affected to the extent that I had to stay home on various days, three or so at a time to treat it so I could continue to work.

I feel that this is a compelling personal circumstance and justifies waiving these hours that I would not have otherwise missed, and at all other times I was on the job and giving 100% of my effort and cooperation. This can be confirmed by all Americorps staff whom I have had the opportunity to work with this year.

Sincerely,



Justin Wills

Copy furnished:
Mindy Martin
Alice Pierce

Mindy I had planned on coming in and seeing you today but I forgot about a previous appointment. But I still wanted to get this to you today. I will come in to talk to you tomorrow after work. Thank you!
Justin Wills

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South Carolina

Divider Title: _____

<u>ST</u>	<u>LNAME</u>	<u>FNAME</u>	<u>TRUST</u> <u>STAT</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>HRS</u>	<u>REASON</u>
SC	BRINKLEY	ANGELA	N	L26B	NRCS	1061 HRS,	EXCESSIVE ABSENCES, resigned
SC	ROE	MARY		L26B	NRCS	1384 HRS,	RESIGNED



South Carolina

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

1835 Assembly Street, Room 950
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Date: 9-3-95

Pages (including transmittal sheet): 1

To: Dee Difino

Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: 202-690-0639

From: Wally Turner

Telephone Number: 803-253-3314 Fax Number: (803) 253-3670

Comments: ① Angela Brinkley resigned ~~from~~ from the program. We have her letter of resignation.

② Mary Roe resigned because of her inability to perform physical aspect of service. We have her letter of resignation and Doctor's recommendation. Please Call Doris Stevenson at 803-253-3920

SC



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Soil
Conservation
Service

1835 Assembly Street, Room 950
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

February 8, 1995

Ms. Angela Brinkley
7502 Hunt Club Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29223

Dear Angela:

Ref: Official Letter for Record

I am writing you to summarize our discussion on February 6, 1995 held at the office of NRCS. Attending the meeting with us were Walley Turner, Dory Stevenson, and James Holland. After reviewing the status of your excessive absences and our several counseling sessions, you were given several alternatives in order to continue on as an AmeriCorps member. You elected to remain in your present position with the Newberry AmeriCorps Team with certain provisions which will be outlined in a separate document. You have agreed to provide background documentation on your recent absences due to your mother's illness. We also discussed, due to your excessive absences, you may lose your educational award unless a waiver is granted under a hardship provision. You also agreed to be present for work everyday or provide medical documentation to support your absence. It is also understood that violation of these special provisions or any other disciplinary action would result in immediate termination from the AmeriCorps program.

If you have any questions, please call me at 765-5419.

Sincerely,

JIM WILSON
AmeriCorps Project Coordinator

cc:

Walley Turner, Asst. State Conservationist(P), NRCS,
Columbia SC
James Holland, AmeriCorps Team Leader, NRCS, Newberry SC
Dory Stevenson, Human Resources Manager, NRCS, Columbia SC



May 12, 1995

USDA - Natural Resources
CONVERSATION SERVICES
c/o MR. WALLEY TURNER
920 Assembly Street
Columbia, S. Carolina 29204

LETTER OF RESIGNATION

I, ANGELA BRINKLEY by letter is official
resigning from AmeriCorp - USDA. I'm voluntarily
resigning from AmeriCorp program of last 2 months
of the 11-month term.

I would like to thank everyone who help
me during my hard-times and personal resigning
due to a personal problem in my life.

Sincerely
Angela Brinkley
Angela Brinkley

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a tabbed divider. Given our digitization capabilities, we are sometimes unable to adequately scan such dividers. The title from the original document is indicated below.

South Dakota

Divider Title: _____

ST	LNAME	FNAME	TRUST		ID	AGENCY	HRS	REASON
			STAT					
SD	KLEINSASSER	JASON	N		K34H	NRCS	1144 HRS,	SEE ATTACHED
SD	QUINN	JEFFREY	N		K34I	NRCS	1369 HRS,	SEE ATTACHED



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

Federal Building
200 Fourth Street, SW
Huron, SD 57350-2475

Subject: PERS - AmeriCorps
Education Award Eligibility

Date: August 11, 1995

To: Paula Cole Jones
Program Coordinator
National Service and Volunteer Programs
Natural Resources Conservation Service
P.O. Box 2890
Washington, DC 20013

File Code: 360

In response to your request for the USDA AmeriCorps Education Award Review Panel, the following persons terminated their AmeriCorps membership during 1994/95:

Name	Start	Terminated for Cause	Hours	Percent of Required Hours
Robyn Garreau	9/12/94	10/17/94 Personal reasons; father ill	21	1.2%
Thaddeus Johnson	9/12/94	12/14/94; Job	480	28.2% - got job
James Hansen	9/12/94	2/24/95; Job	848	49.8% - got job
Jason Kleinsasser (see attachment)	9/12/94	4/13/95; Job	1,144	67.2%
Jeff Quinn (see attachments)	10/21/94	7/5/95; School	1,369	80.5%

It is our understanding that, in January, Robyn Garreau joined the YMCA AmeriCorps program in Dupree, close to her home on the reservation. Her AmeriCorps hours with USDA were all training hours.

Leroy Hottelaw
DEAN FISHER *acting for*
State Conservationist

Attachments

cc: Joyce Watkins, AmeriCorps Program Director, NRCS, Huron
Linda Baum, Human Resources Officer, NRCS, Huron

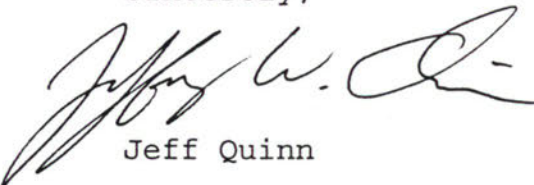
6/29/95

Joyce Watkins
AmeriCorps Project Director
Federal Building
200 Fourth Street SW
Huron, South Dakota 57350-2475

Dear Joyce,

I regretfully inform you that as of 1 July 1995 I resign my position with AmeriCorps. Compelling circumstances will force me to leave the AmeriCorps program early. Therefore, I wish to be considered for a pro-rated educational award. Flooding on the White River, Arkansas, necessitates that I begin graduate research early on 1 July, 1995. To choose not to do so at this time would jeopardize the integrity of my research, and thus obtaining a master's degree. To complicate matters, I began the Americorps program 6-7 weeks late. Originally, I was not to start graduate school until August 15, 1995. In order to do so with my late start, I worked most of my days off and numerous Saturdays. In other words, I have already put forth extraordinary effort to complete my tour of duty. For these three compelling personal reasons: my inability to control flooding, my beginning the program late, and the extraordinary measures I have already taken to complete the program, I believe I should be considered for such an adjusted educational award.

Sincerely,



Jeff Quinn

6/27/95

Joyce Watkins
Americorps Project Director
Federal Building
200 Fourth Street SW
Huron, South Dakota 57250-2475

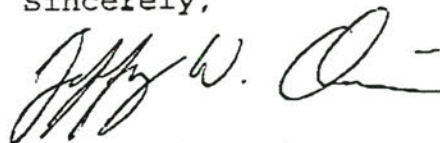
Dear Joyce,

In our past discussions, you stated that the "new" Americorps manual lists that "returning to school" is not a compelling circumstance to allow me to obtain a stipend. I wish to state that I am not leaving for schooling, but due to a change in schedule of my graduate research. School does not start until late August, so there is a definite difference. It is the schedule of my research which is causing me to resign early. There is a distinct difference between leaving for schooling and graduate research. I hope you will bring up that aspect to other Americorps authorities.

I question whether the authors of the manuals have taken into account the details of graduate school admittance when making their "returning to school" rule. In fact, I believe the rule was made because most individuals may return to school at any time. Undergraduates, once admitted may return anytime to complete schooling, whereas funded graduate students terms are fixed. In other words, to obtain admittance to a graduate program in Biology a student must be funded, and funding is invariably fixed in term according to research. What that means is that if I refused my present graduate research opportunity that I probably will not be readmitted to school at a later date because of funding circumstances. In fact, I was not funded for graduate school this past school year, thus I joined Americorps. Please make higher Americorps officials aware that if I declined my present offer that I would be unable to attend graduate school unless I secured funding at another institution, and that is not very probable.

It is important to point out that I am aware the rules of admittance into graduate school are different between various departments. Many graduate programs, like education, are flexible, and often allow students to exit a program and later gain reentry. Biology programs are not flexible, they do not allow individuals to exit a program and gain reentry later, unless funding is available.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey W. Quinn

6/23/95

Joyce Watkins
Americorps Project Director
Federal Building
200 Fourth Street SW
Huron, South Dakota 57250-2475

Dear Joyce,

The purpose of this letter is to fully explain the circumstances which will force me to leave the Americorps program early, and to express that I be considered for a pro-rated stipend.

I began the Americorps program Tuesday, November 4, 1995. I began the program 6-7 weeks later than the rest of the individuals at my project site. At the time of my hiring, I told my supervisors, Merle Kost and Tom Schumacher, that I planned on attending graduate school in the fall. I informed them that because of variable times of entry into differing graduate programs that complications may arise in finishing my tour of duty, but I would do everything in my power to finish.

Immediately after beginning the program, I read the Americorps manual given to my supervisors and it read that members may still be awarded a stipend if forced to resign under compelling personal circumstances. No further explanation was given in the manual of what constituted a compelling personal circumstance, so I understood that to be subjective. If at that time it would have listed that graduate school was not a compelling personal reason, I would not have continued in the program. However, I accepted the Americorps position because I wanted to be able to serve my country, and I thought I could work hard to ensure I would finish my tour of duty. In the worst case scenario, my thoughts were that the Americorps program was about advancing opportunity. Thus, I would most likely still be given a pro-rated educational stipend.

After applying to graduate school, I was offered two positions: a research assistantship at Michigan Technological University, and a teaching assistantship at the University of Arkansas. Research assistantships are generally regarded as better; however, I still choose to attend the University of Arkansas. I choose Arkansas, in part, because I would most likely not have to begin until 15 August, 1995, whereas at Michigan I would start June 1, 1995.

I accepted the position at Arkansas May 15, 1995. On May 20, 1995, I computed that I would be unable to finish my tour of duty by 15 August 1995 without working Saturdays. I was approximately 54 hours short in time worked, and I needed to take off a minimum of 2 week days to find housing at Arkansas. I discussed my situation with my supervisors and we came to the conclusion that I would be at a minimum 9

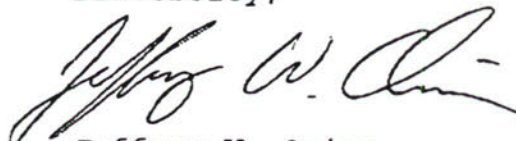
hours short, and most likely near 30 hours short. Knowing I would not be able to finish Americorps really was a topic of anxiety for myself. I still progressed on and did not give up in the hopes that the person in charge of making such decisions would be reasonable to my circumstances. My supervisors said that my work was excellent and they were positive about the chances I would still receive an educational award. At that time I did not give up, I instead worked every hour possible, including Saturdays.

Approximately the second week of June, I received a phone call from Dr. Kwak my advisor. He informed me that the study site I was to be working on the White River was flooding, and he wanted me to begin research there early on 1 July 1995. He explained to me the extreme importance of my starting research at Arkansas early, and to choose not to do so would jeopardize the integrity of my research. In addition, he explained how the quality of my research will influence how my graduate committee, which he is a part of, will judge my qualifications when I am to be considered for my master's degree. I explained to him my involvement in the Americorps program, and he understood. Dr. Kwak informed me that technically I cannot force you to be here until August; however, to not do so would be taking a extreme risk. Since my graduate education will influence my future significantly, whereas Americorps will not. I have to place the importance of my graduate studies above Americorps. The opportunity of graduate school is a privilege I cannot ignore. Therefore, I informed my supervisors that I will be forced to resign my position as of 1 July 1995.

My supervisors at work have praised my performance. I believe I have completely fulfilled the Americorps oath to serve America well, and to get things done. I am involved in a map compilation project. The process is very tedious. My supervisor told me that he doubts any other person involved in such a project has been more productive than I have been. The objective of our project site was to map a single county. That goal was achieved long ago, and it may be possible for us to finish a second. To put it bluntly, I've gotten things done.

For these compelling circumstances: my inability to control flooding and thus the start date of my beginning graduate research, my beginning the program late, the high quality and quantity of work I have completed, and the extraordinary measures I have already taken to complete the program, I believe I have earned to right to an adjusted educational award.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey W. Quinn

April 13, 1995

National Service Trust
Corporation for National Service
1201 N.Y. Ave. NW
Mail Stop 7200
Washington, DC 20525

My name is Jason Kleinsasser and I'm resigning from AmeriCorps in Huron, South Dakota. The reason I'm resigning is my living expenses are getting higher.

When I first heard about AmeriCorps, I was told that I would work 1700 hours and get enough money to pay for my living expenses and also get over \$4000 towards my education. I thought \$4000 would help me out greatly towards my Vo-tech. In the next couple of years I was hoping that I would get to go to Vo-tech for a construction supervisor. I've already got three years experience in construction. I was working construction and a part-time job while living in Fargo, North Dakota. I grew up in Huron, so I knew it was not as expensive to live there. After I found out what we were going to get for a monthly pay, I estimated my living expenses and other bills, and I came up short. So I got another job to help pay the bills. I was doing alright until my car quit and I had to get a loan to pay for another one. Then child support hit me. The house that I rent, which seemed like a cheap deal, ends up having large utility bills.

So I went as far as I could go in AmeriCorps, and now I'm starting to go in debt. I would like to go back to Fargo, ND before I get too far in debt. I would really like to get to Fargo as soon as I can. I've got jobs waiting for me, and my son is there. I haven't seen him for three months. Alex is his name and he's only 15 months old, and I would love to be with him. I came to AmeriCorps because of the education benefit or cash so I could start a decent life with my son. If I would have known about what we would actually get paid, I would have never come to Huron for it. I'm getting behind in child support because I can't come up with the money. I'm still trying to pay as much as I can even though I only get to see my son once every three months. It's kind of hard to see him when we're four hours apart and it's winter. I promised him I would spend this summer with him, no matter what. Well, money or no money, I'm going to spend time with him because I'm not going to break my promise.

I guess if you think I don't deserve the money that I actually worked for and need, then I guess I'm wrong. I know the program manager is suppose to make the decision, but she says my reason for leaving is not a compelling personal reason.

I look at it this way. I've worked as long as I could and did the job I was told to do and learned a lot. You can ask my immediate supervisor about the quality of my work, if you want. I took a step in life and tried something new and look what happened. I look like a person that is unable to fulfill a duty. Well, I don't feel like getting kicked out of my house and end up with bad credit. Then I won't be able to get a loan to buy a house or car or even go to school. I like to keep my bills paid and look for a brighter future for me and my son. I am hoping one day to have a family, but if I keep going the way I am, I don't see a family.

So I decided to make another step in life and hope it's a good one. If I get the education award I'll use it in a couple of years. If I get cash, I can get caught up on child support and loans paid off and also get back to Fargo so I can go to the Vo-tech.

Jason Kleinsasser

Jason Kleinsasser