Date: August 18, 2006  
Reference: # FDP 2006-4  
To: Food Distribution Program (FDP) Contractors  
Subject: Revision to FDP Handbook Civil Rights Requirements  
Effective Date: Immediately

Purpose
This Policy Alert REVISES Chapter 3, Civil Rights Compliance Section of your FDP Handbook as the result of changes in the civil rights protected classes, nondiscrimination statement and public notification.

Implementation
Immediately

Procedure
Protected Classes
Political belief and religion have been removed from the list of protected classes. The protected classes for Special Nutrition Programs (SNP) are: race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

Nondiscrimination Statement
The address for filing a civil rights complaint has changed. The revised nondiscrimination statement now states:

“In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

Public Notification
SNP has removed the requirement to post the English and Spanish SNP “Liberty Bell” posters as part of your public notification responsibilities. You must remove and destroy the English and Spanish SNP “Liberty Bell” posters and any existing supplies. It is still required that the official USDA nondiscrimination poster (“…And Justice For All”) be displayed in a prominent place.

Authority
FNS Instructions 113-1, Civil Rights Compliance and Enforcement – Nutrition Programs and Activities.

Contact
If you have any questions please contact your Contract Manager.

This Policy Remains in Effect Until Further Notice