



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, REGION XV

1350 EUCLID AVENUE, SUITE 325
CLEVELAND, OH 44115

SEP 11 2014

REGION XV
MICHIGAN
OHIO

Dr. Michael V. Drake
President
Ohio State University
205 Bricker Hall
190 North Oval Mall
Columbus, Ohio 43210

Dear President Drake:

The U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights conducted a proactive Title IX sexual harassment/sexual violence compliance review of The Ohio State University (the University).

In the course of this review, the University received complaints about sexual harassment within the Marching Band. We appreciate the timeliness of the University's initiation of the investigation and the University's ongoing efforts to address sexual harassment. In particular, your strong statement to the school community expressing "zero tolerance" for any behavior that creates a hostile environment for students communicates an essential message of safety for students.

As a result of its investigation, the University found there was a sexually hostile environment for students in the Marching Band and that the Band Director failed to adequately eliminate that harassment, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects. Under established OCR policy, a sexually hostile environment violates Title IX.

We have incorporated the corrective action that the University has outlined in its report into our Resolution Agreement and will closely monitor the agreement to ensure that commitments made are implemented.

We look forward to working with the University as it implements the Agreement.

Sincerely,

Meena Morey Chandra
Regional Director