

Subj: **Re: Request for Help**
Date: 7/19/2006 9:02:36 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
From: tb-petitions@ohchr.org
To: BlacgendianRCA@aol.com

Dear Sir,

After careful consideration of the contents of your complaint, we sincerely regret having to inform you that the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights is not in a position to assist you in the matter you raise. The Human Rights Committee cannot examine petitions alleging violations of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) unless the State is also a party to the Optional Protocol (OP). The United States of America is not a State party to the Optional Protocol. Further, the Committee against Torture cannot examine petitions alleging violations of the Convention against Torture (CAT) unless the State has made the declaration under article 22 recognizing the Committee's competence to receive and consider petitions. The United States of America has not made the declaration.

For information about the procedures for the examination of individual petitions on human rights violations, please consult our website: www.ohchr.org, (direct link <http://www.ohchr.org/english/about/publications/docs/fs7.htm>). If you have difficulty accessing our website, please write to the UNHCHR, Information Office PW-RS-011, 1211 Geneva 10, and ask for Human Rights Fact Sheets Nos. 7, 12, 15 and 17.

Yours sincerely,

The Petitions Unit