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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 13, 2003

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**Women Farmers Subject to Discrimination by USDA:
Hotline Launched Today to Find Victims**

Washington—The lawyers representing a group of women farmers in a discrimination case against the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) have opened a toll-free hotline to encourage other victims to come forward. Women farmers who applied or attempted to apply to the USDA for a farm operating loan, farm ownership loan, or emergency farm loan anytime between 1981 to 1996 or October 19, 1998 to the present are urged to call the hotline at 1-877-208-4342 to get information about the case. Other information is available on the web at www.womenfarmers.com.

The discrimination at issue in the case (*Love v. Veneman, Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture*) arose out of the administration of USDA's farm loan programs by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and its predecessor Farmer's Home Administration (FmHA). The plaintiffs, women farmers from across the country, allege that USDA denied women farm loans, loan servicing, and even applications to apply for farm loans, because of their gender.

The women plaintiffs in *Love v. Veneman* are being represented pro bono by lawyers at the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs, the Washington, D.C. office of Arent Fox Kintner Plotkin & Kahn, PLLC, and others.