FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 21, 2012

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FINAL CLAIMS DEADLINE NEARS FOR BLACK FARMERS IN HISTORIC \$1.25 BILLION SETTLEMENT

Claims due May 11, 2012

Washington, D.C. – A landmark class action settlement for African Americans who experienced farm loan discrimination by the USDA is entering its final phase. African Americans who farmed or attempted to farm (or their heirs) may be eligible for a sizeable cash payment or loan forgiveness from this \$1.25 billion class action settlement. This final phase of the Black Farmers Discrimination Settlement (sometimes called "*Pigford II*") is only for people who tried to file a late claim in the original *Pigford* case. The absolute, final deadline for filing a claim is May 11, 2012.

This is the last chance for those eligible to get payments and loan forgiveness from the Black Farmers Discrimination Settlement.

Lawyers appointed by the court are holding meetings around the country to provide those who are included in the settlement with free help filing claims. Completing a claim may take some time, so those who think they are included should get more information now.

For more information, including about how to file a claim and meeting locations: **call toll-free 1-877-810-8110** or visit www.BlackFarmerCase.com.

For broadcast quality footage visit: http://www.thenewsmarket.com/settlement

Or via satellite:

FEED DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21st, 2012

FEED TIME: 1:00 - 1:30 PM ET (FED IN ROTATION)

COORDINATES: C-BAND: GAL 19 / TRANSPONDER 07 / Slot B

FEC: 3/4 / Symbol rate: 6.1113 / Data Rate: 8.448 / Downlink Freq: 3835.5 (V) Synaptic Digital Satellite Operations Trouble Line: 212-812-7134

FEED DATE: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd, 2012 (same coordinates as above)

FEED DATE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd, 2012 (same coordinates as above)