# The Fullington Auto Bus Company

# Title VI Program

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#### The Fullington Auto Bus Company Title VI Policy and Complaint Process

The Fullington Auto Bus Company (Fullington) grants equal access to its programs and services to all citizens. This document serves to make citizens aware of their rights to such access, and serves to educate citizens so that they may understand the civil rights laws that protect their receipt and benefit of such services as defined by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

#### WHAT ISTITLE VI?

Title VI is a section of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requiring that "No person in the United States shall on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance" Note that Title VI does not address gender discrimination. It only covers race, color and national origin. Other Civil Rights laws prohibit gender discrimination.

#### TITLE VI COMPLAINT AND INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

These procedures cover all complaints filed under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 for alleged discrimination in any program or activity administered by Fullington.

These procedures do not deny the right of the complainant to file formal complaints with other State or Federal agencies or to seek private counsel for complaints alleging discrimination. Every effort will be made to obtain early resolution of complaints at the lowest level possible. The option of informal mediation meeting(s) between the affected parties and Fullington may be utilized for resolution. Any individual, group of individuals or entity that believes they have been subjected to discrimination prohibited under Title VI and related statutes may file separate complaints.

1.) A formal complaint must be filed within 180 days of the alleged occurrence. Complaints shall be in writing and signed by the individual or his/her representative, and will include the complainant's name, address and telephone number; name of alleged discriminating official, basis of complaint (race, color, national origin), and the date of alleged act(s). A statement detailing the facts and circumstances of the alleged discrimination must accompany all complaints. The Fullington Title VI Complaint Form can be found at the end of this document. Fullington encourages individuals to submit Title VI complaints in writing using this form and mailing it to:

Chris Springer, Title VI Coordinator The Fullington Auto Bus Company 316 East Cherry Street, / P.O. Box 211, Clearfield, Pa. 16830

- 2.) In the case where a complainant is unable or incapable of providing a written statement, a verbal complaint of discrimination may be made to the Fullington Title VI Coordinator. Under these circumstances, the complainant will be interviewed, and the Fullington Title VI Coordinator will assist the complainant in completing a written statement.
- 3.) When a complaint is received, the Title VI Coordinator will provide written acknowledgment to the Complainant, within ten (10) business days by registered mail or hand delivery.
- 4.) If a complaint is deemed incomplete, additional information will be requested, and the Complainant will be provided 60 business days to submit the required information. Failure to do so may be considered good cause for a determination of no investigative merit.
- 5.) Within 15 business days from receipt of a complete complaint, The Fullington Auto Bus Company will determine its jurisdiction in pursuing the matter and whether the complaint has sufficient merit to warrant investigation. Within five (5) days of this decision, the Executive Director or his/her authorized designee will notify the Complainant and Respondent, by registered mail or hand delivery informing them of the disposition.
  - a. If the decision is not to investigate the complaint, the notification shall specifically state the reason for the decision.
  - b. If the complaint is to be investigated, the notification shall state the grounds of The Fullington Auto Bus Company's jurisdiction, while informing the parties that their full cooperation will be required in gathering additional information and assisting the investigator.
- 6.) When Fullington does not have sufficient jurisdiction, the Title VI Coordinator or his/her authorized designee will refer the complaint to the appropriate State or Federal agency holding such jurisdiction.
- 7.) If the complaint has investigative merit, the Title VI Coordinator or their authorized designee will fully investigate the complaint. A complete investigation will be conducted, and an investigative report will be submitted within sixty (60) days from receipt of the complaint. The report will include a description of the incident, summaries of all persons interviewed, and a finding with recommendations and proposed resolution where appropriate. If the investigation is delayed for any reason, the Title VI Coordinator will notify the appropriate authorities, and an extension will be requested
- 8.) The Title VI Coordinator or their authorized designee will issue letters of finding to the complainant and respondent within 90 days from receipt of the complaint.

9.) If the Complainant is dissatisfied with The Fullington Auto Bus Company's resolution of the complaint, he/she has the right to file a complaint in the time allotted by law with:

Federal Transit
Administration; Region 3
1760 Market Street
Suite 500
Philadelphia, PA 19103-4124
(215) 656-7100 (telephone)
(215) 656-7260 (fax)

### Title VI Discrimination Complaint Form

	Phone	Name of Person(s) That	at Discriminated Against You		
Address (Street No., P.O. Box, Et	c.)	Location and Position of	of Person (If Known)		
City, State, Zip		City, State, Zip			
Discrimination Because Of:  Age	or Sex Disabi	lity Retaliation	Date of Alleged Incident		
Explain As Briefly And Clearly As Possible What Happened And How You Were Discriminated Against. Indicate Who Was Involved. Be Sure To Include How Other Persons Were Treated Differently Than You. Also, Attach Any Written Material Pertaining To Your Case.					
Signature		Date			
_					
F	lease submit this form to o	ne of the following age			
_	lease submit this form to o				

## The Fullington Auto Bus Company Limited English Proficiency Policy Plan

**Note**: The purpose of this limited English proficiency policy guidance is to clarify the responsibilities of recipients of federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and assist them in fulfilling their responsibilities to limited English proficient (LEP) persons, pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and implementing regulations. It was prepared in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000d, et seq., and its implementing regulations provide that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin under any program or activity that receives federal financial assistance.

#### **Executive Order 13166**

Executive Order 13166 "Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency," reprinted at 65 FR 50121 (August 16, 2000), directs each Federal agency that is subject to the requirements of Title VI to publish guidance for its respective recipients clarifying that obligation. Executive Order 13166 further directs that all such guidance documents be consistent with the compliance standards and framework detailed in the Department of Justice's (DOJ's) Policy Guidance entitled "Enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964-National Origin Discrimination against Persons with Limited English Proficiency." (See 65 FR 50123, August 16, 2000 DOJ's General LEP Guidance). Different treatment based upon a person's inability to speak, read, write, or understand English may be a type of national origin discrimination. Executive Order 13166 applies to all federal agencies and all programs and operations of entities that receive funding from the federal government, including state agencies, local agencies and governments, private and non-profit entities, and sub recipients.

#### **Plan Summary**

The Fullington Auto Bus Company has developed this Limited English Proficiency Plan (LEP) to help identify reasonable steps to provide language assistance for LEP persons seeking meaningful access to Fullington services as required by Executive Order 13166. A Limited English Proficiency person is one who does not speak English as their primary language and who has a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English. This plan details procedures on how to identify a person who may need language assistance, the ways in which assistance may be provided, training staff, how to notify LEP persons assistance is available, and information for future plan updates. In developing the plan while determining Fullington's extent of obligation to provide LEP services, Fullington conducted a U.S. Department of Transportation Four Factor LEP analysis which considers the following: 1) The number or proportion of LEP persons eligible in Fullington service area who may be served or likely to encounter Fullington provided service; 2) the frequency with which LEP individuals come in contact with Fullington services; 3) the nature and importance of the program, activity or service provided by Fullington to the LEP population; and 4) the resources available to Fullington and overall costs to provide LEP assistance. A brief description of these considerations is provided in the following section.

#### **Four Factor Analyses**

 The number or proportion of LEP persons eligible in The Fullington Auto Bus Company service area who may be served or likely to encounter The Fullington Auto Bus Company service.

Example: Fullington examined the US Census report from 2010, and, using data from Census tracts in The Fullington Auto Bus Company service area was able to determine that approximately 96.1% of people within Fullington's service area age 5 and older spoke English as the primary or only language. Approximately 3.9% or 517 speak a language other than English.

2. The frequency with which LEP individuals come in contact with a CATA program, activity, or service.

Fullington assesses the frequency at which staff and drivers have or could possibly have contact with LEP persons. This includes documenting phone inquiries and surveying drivers and customer service personnel. Fullington has had no requests for interpreters and zero requests for translated Fullington documents. The Fullington staff and drivers have had very little to no contact with LEP individuals.

3. The nature and importance of the program, activity, or service provided by The Fullington Auto Bus Company to LEP community.

Example: There is no large geographic concentration of any one type of LEP individuals in the Fullington service area. The overwhelming majority of the populations, 96.1% of residents speak English. Therefore, for the most part, LEP individuals do not use Fullington's services. However, international students from The Pennsylvania University do use Fullington's fixed-route system. While none of these students have ever required language assistance, and do speak English very well, Fullington's services are very important to these individuals in order to provide access to shopping and leisure activities outside of The Pennsylvania University Campus.

4. Resources available to The Fullington Auto Bus Company and overall costs.

Fullington assessed its available resources that could be used for providing LEP assistance. This included identifying costs associated with subscription to the Language Line service, the costs of additional translation services such as a professional interpreter on an as needed basis, which documents would be the most valuable to be translated if and when the populations supports, taking an inventory of available organizations Fullington could partner with for outreach and translation efforts, and what level of staff training is needed. After analyzing the four factors, Fullington developed the plan outlined in the following section for assisting persons of limited English proficiency at a low cost.

#### LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PLAN OUTLINE

How to Identify a LEP Person who Needs Language Assistance Below are tools to help identify persons who may need language assistance:

- Examine records requests for language assistance from past meetings and events to anticipate the possible need for assistance at upcoming meetings;
- When Fullington sponsored meetings are held, set up a sign-in sheet table, have a staff member greet and briefly speak to each attendee.
   To informally gauge the attendee's ability to speak and understand English, ask a question that requires a full sentence reply;
- Survey drivers and other first line staff on an annual basis at the beginning of each fiscal year regarding their experience on having any direct or indirect contact with LEP individuals.

#### **Language Assistance Measures**

Fullington has or will implement the following LEP procedures. The creation of these steps are based on the very low percentage of persons speaking other languages or not speaking English at least "well," and the lack of resources available in the Fullington service area:

- Fullington's website has been redesigned to include a translator software program which is able to be used at the bottom of the webpage.
- When an interpreter is needed, in person or on the telephone, staff will utilize the Language Line Service.

#### **Fullington Staff Training**

All Fullington staff will be made available a copy of the LEP Plan and will be educated on procedures to follow. This information will also be part of the Fullington staff orientation process for new hires. Training topics are listed below:

- Understanding the Title VI policy and LEP responsibilities;
- Documentation of language assistance requests;
- How to handle a Title VI and/or LEP complaint

#### **Outreach Techniques**

Fullington does not have a formal practice of outreach techniques due to the lack of LEP population and resources available in the serve area. However, the following are options Fullington will incorporate when and/or if the need arises for LEP outreach:

- If staff knows that they will be presenting a topic that could be of potential importance to an LEP person or if staff will be hosting a meeting or a workshop in a geographic location with a known concentration of LEP persons, meeting notices, fliers, advertisements, and agendas will be printed in an alternative language, based on known LEP population in the area.
- Key print materials will be translated and made available at The Fullington Auto Bus Company Administration Facility and in communities when a specific and concentrated LEP population is identified

#### Monitoring and Updating the LEP Plan

This plan is designed to be flexible and is one that can be easily updated. At a minimum, Fullington will follow the Title VI Program update schedule for the LEP Plan.

Each update should examine all plan components such as:

- How many LEP persons were encountered?
- Were their needs met?
- What is the current LEP population in The Fullington Auto Bus Company service area?
- Has there been a change in the types of languages where translation services are needed?
- Is there still a need for continued language assistance for previously identified Fullington routes? Are there other programs that should be included?
- Has Fullington's available resources, such as technology, staff, and financial costschanged?
- Has Fullington fulfilled the goals of the LEP Plan?
- Were any complaints received?

As part of the monitoring and update plan, Fullington will track the activity of usage of its services by LEP persons and requests for assistance from Customer Service and Operator staff, and record information from passenger surveys which will identify the language spoken by passengers and their need for assistance. Fullington will also maintain communication with municipalities in its service area to identify LEP individuals who may have moved into a part of The Fullington Auto Bus Company's service area and may require assistance. These municipalities will also be instructed to contact Fullington with any requests that they may receive for language assistance.

#### Dissemination of The Fullington Auto Bus Company Limited English Proficiency Plan

Fullington includes the LEP plan on Fullington's website (www.fullingtontours.com) together with its Title VI Policy and Complaint Procedures. Fullington's Notice of Rights under Title VI to the public is available in Fullington's Administration facility lobby area.

Any person, including social service, non-profit, and law enforcement agencies, along with other community partners with Internet access will be able to access the plan.

Copies of the LEP Plan will be provided upon request. LEP persons may obtain copies/translations of the plan upon request.

Any questions or comments regarding this plan should be directed to Fullington's Title VI Coordinator.

Chris Springer, Title VI Coordinator The FullingtoAuto Bus Company 316 E Cherry St,/ P.O. Box 211 Clearfield, PA., 16830 Phone: (814) 765-9709

Phone: (814) 765-9709 Fax: (814) 765-9572

Email: sales@fullingtontours.com

#### Non-elected committees and councils:

Fullington has a Board of Directors consisting of the President/CEO, Vice-President/COO/Owner, and CFO.

#### **Equity Analysis Statement:**

Fullington not performed a major construction project since the last Title VI update so no equity analysis has been performed. Fullington will perform an equity analysis for all future qualifying construction projects.

#### List of Title VI Investigations/Complaints/Lawsuits:

FY2015	None
FY2016	None
FY2017	None
FY2018	None

#### Title VI Service Policy

It is the intent of Fullington to ensure full compliance with Title VI Regulations. The information below has been reviewed and adopted as policy by the Fullington Board of Directors; at board meeting of December 5, 2014.

#### **Fixed Route Service Policy**

#### Distribution of transit amenities:

Fullington will establish a minimum standard on all fixed route vehicles to include priority seating for senior citizens and persons with disabilities. All fixed route vehicles purchased after 2008 will include a minimum of one surveillance camera per vehicle. All fixed route vehicles will maintain an area inside the vehicle for bus schedules. Fullington will ensure all of Fullington owned bus shelters maintain an area for printed materials such as bus schedules and include covered passenger waiting areas. At the current time, Fullington does not own any bus shelters within our service area. Bus shelters are currently placed by private business to encourage transit ridership at their locations. Currently there are no locations with bus shelters at locations of private businesses. Currently there are no locations of bus shelters at locations of public or low-income housing. If Fullington purchases bus shelter locations in the future, locations for shelters will be identified by reviewing areas of high concentrations of transitdependent riders for shelters in residential areas and Fullington will review areas of high employment/retail concentrations for bus shelters in commercial areas. All bus shelters owned by Fullington would include covered waiting areas with seating and covered areas for wheelchair access. Trash receptacles will be maintained at all of the Fullington-owned bus shelters.







CHARTERS | TOURS | CRUISES | DAILY DEPARTURES | SCHOOL BUS | VIP LIMOUSINE

#### Appendix A

#### Title VI Notice to the Public

Fullington Trailways LLC. (Fullington) is committed to providing nondiscriminatory transportation services to all of its passengers and potential passengers. Fullington prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and services on the basis of race, color, or national origin.

Any person who is or seeks to be a patron of any Fullington public vehicle shall be given the same access, seating and other treatment with regard to the use of such vehicle as other persons without regard to their race, color, or national origin.

No person or group of people shall be discriminated against with regard to the routing, scheduling or quality of transportation services provided by Fullington based on race, color, or national origin.

Any person who believes that they have, individually or as a member of any specific class of persons, been subjected to discrimination based on race, color, or national origin may file a complaint with Fullington. A written complaint must be filed with 180 days after the date of the alleged discrimination. All complaints should be signed and include contact information. Complaints can be made by contacting Chris Springer, 316 E Cherry St., P.O. Box 211, Clearfield, PA 16830. You may also file a complaint by calling 814-765-9709 ext. 213 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Complaints may also be filed with the Federal Transit Administrations Office of Civil Rights no later than 180 days after the date of the alleged discrimination. You may send your written complaint to 1760 Market Street, Suite 510, Philadelphia, PA 19103-4124. You may also file a complaint by calling (215) 656-7070.

Any person who would like additional information on nondiscrimination requirements should call the Fullington Trailways' office at (814) 765-9709 Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. to make a request. Information will be mailed by Fullington to the person making the request after the person provides Fullington with a mailing address.

**Corporate Offices** 

316 East Cherry Street Clearfield, PA 16830 814-765-9709 Charters/Tours/Cruises/Limos

2101 Alexander Drive State College, PA 16803 814-355-4900

#### **Appendix B: System-Wide Service Standards**

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires that all fixed route public transit providers develop *quantitative* standards for the following indicators that are applicable specifically to the transit provider's system. They apply agency-wide rather than industry-wide.

#### 1. Vehicle load for each mode

Vehicle load can be expressed as a ratio of passengers to the number of seats on a vehicle, relative to the vehicle's maximum load point.

Fullington Trailways, LLC. (Fullington) will strive to have vehicle loads not exceed the vehicles' achievable capacities, which can range from 28-58 seats per standard coach allowing us to meet all mandated requirements. Fullington does not allow passengers to stand for safety reasons.

#### 2. Vehicle headway for each mode

Vehicle headway is the amount of time between two vehicles traveling in the same direction on a given line or combination of lines. Vehicle headways are measured in minutes; service frequency is measured in vehicles per hour. Headways and frequency of service are general indications of service provided along a route.

Fullington's fixed route vehicle headways vary according to number of passengers who purchase tickets for a particular schedule, which dictates the number of coaches required to service the passengers. This applies to both peak and off-peak service.

Fullington rarely if ever has more than one motor coach on a single route on a daily basis therefore vehicle headway/service frequency measures are not applicable.

#### 3. On-time performance for each mode

On-time performance is a measure of runs completed as scheduled.

Below are Fullington's performance standards for all fixed routes:

*On-Time Departures:* 

Fullington's goal is that all buses on fixed route service shall depart no more than 10 minutes late from any scheduled and published departure time. Fullington shall strive to meet a minimum of 90% of bus departures within zero to 5 minutes after published or scheduled times.

Operating Ahead of Schedule:

No bus shall depart a designated time point prior to its scheduled departure time.

Missed Trips:

Fullington shall complete 100% of all scheduled trips to the extent reasonably possible.

Failure to Pick up Passenger:

Fullington shall not fail to pick up any properly ticketed passenger waiting at the designated location.

#### 4. Service availability for each mode

Service availability is a general measure of the distribution of routes within a transit provider's service area.

Fullington operates 11 separate fixed routes servicing destinations throughout Pennsylvania and New York while also maintaining interline relationships with numerous other intercity bus carriers which service communities Fullington does not service. Fullington works closely with the Pennsylvania department of transportation (PennDOT) to determine service availability and stop locations using such factors as safety, existing terminal locations, distance between established stops, ridership from specific locations along the fixed route, as well as total population density along the fixed route.

#### **Appendix C: Vehicle Assignment Policy**

Vehicle assignment refers to the process by which transit vehicles are placed into service in depots and on routes throughout the transit provider's system.

Transit vehicles will be assigned to routes based on ridership, type of route, and operating characteristics of buses, including bus length and turning radius.

Fullington will maintain its fleet and replace vehicles as required by FTA's minimum service life policy. Distribution of vehicles throughout the fixed route system will not be based on age/condition but rather the needs for that particular route.

All buses are equipped with wheelchair lifts. In addition, all buses have air conditioning.

#### **Appendix D: Employee Education Form**

#### **Title VI Policy**

No person shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

All employees of Fullington are expected to consider, respect, and observe this policy. Customer questions or complaints shall be directed to Fullington's Title VI Coordinator.

#### Appendix E: Acknowledgement of Receipt of Title VI Plan

I hereby acknowledge receipt of Fullington Trailways, LLC.'s Title VI Plan. I have read the				
and am committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits or services delivered by Fullington Trailways, LLC. on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI.				
Employee signature				
Employee name (print)				

Date

#### **Appendix F: Letter Acknowledging Receipt of Title VI Complaint**

Today's Date  Ms. Jane Doe  1234 Main St.  State College, PA 16801  Dear Ms. Doe:  This letter is to acknowledge receipt of your complaint against Fullington Trailways, LLC. alleging  ——  An investigation will begin shortly. If you have additional information you wish to convey or questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office by telephoning 814-765-9709 or write to us at:  Fullington Trailways, LLC.  Attn: Title VI Coordinator  316 E. Cherry Street  P.O. Box 211  Clearfield, PA 16830  Sincerely,  Fullington Trailways, LLC. Title VI Coordinator	
1234 Main St.  State College, PA 16801  Dear Ms. Doe: This letter is to acknowledge receipt of your complaint against Fullington Trailways, LLC. alleging  —- An investigation will begin shortly. If you have additional information you wish to convey or questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office by telephoning 814-765-9709 or write to us at:  Fullington Trailways, LLC.  Attn: Title VI Coordinator 316 E. Cherry Street P.O. Box 211  Clearfield, PA 16830  Sincerely,	Today's Date
Dear Ms. Doe: This letter is to acknowledge receipt of your complaint against Fullington Trailways, LLC. alleging  —— An investigation will begin shortly. If you have additional information you wish to convey or questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office by telephoning 814-765-9709 or write to us at:  Fullington Trailways, LLC. Attn: Title VI Coordinator 316 E. Cherry Street P.O. Box 211 Clearfield, PA 16830  Sincerely,	Ms. Jane Doe
Dear Ms. Doe: This letter is to acknowledge receipt of your complaint against Fullington Trailways, LLC. alleging  ——. An investigation will begin shortly. If you have additional information you wish to convey or questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office by telephoning 814-765-9709 or write to us at:  Fullington Trailways, LLC. Attn: Title VI Coordinator 316 E. Cherry Street P.O. Box 211 Clearfield, PA 16830  Sincerely,	1234 Main St.
This letter is to acknowledge receipt of your complaint against Fullington Trailways, LLC. alleging  —.  An investigation will begin shortly. If you have additional information you wish to convey or questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office by telephoning 814-765-9709 or write to us at:  Fullington Trailways, LLC.  Attn: Title VI Coordinator  316 E. Cherry Street  P.O. Box 211  Clearfield, PA 16830  Sincerely,	State College, PA 16801
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316 E. Cherry Street P.O. Box 211 Clearfield, PA 16830 Sincerely,	Fullington Trailways, LLC.
P.O. Box 211 Clearfield, PA 16830 Sincerely,	Attn: Title VI Coordinator
Clearfield, PA 16830 Sincerely,	316 E. Cherry Street
Sincerely,	P.O. Box 211
	Clearfield, PA 16830
Fullington Trailways, LLC. Title VI Coordinator	Sincerely,
Fullington Trailways, LLC. Title VI Coordinator	
	Fullington Trailways, LLC. Title VI Coordinator

#### Appendix G: Letter of Finding (Notifying Complainant that Complaint Is Substantiated)

# Appendix H: Closure Letter (Notifying Complainant that the Complaint Is Not Substantiated)

Today's Date
Mr. John Doe
234 Main St.
State College, PA 16801
Dear Mr. Doe:
The matter referenced in your complaint of (date) against Fullington railways, LLC. alleging has been investigated.
The results of the investigation did not indicate that the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 have in fact been violated. As you know, Title VI prohibits discrimination based on ace, color, or national origin in any program receiving Federal financial assistance.
Fullington has analyzed the materials and facts pertaining to your case for evidence of Fullington's failure to comply with any of the civil rights laws. There was no evidence found that any of these laws have been violated.
therefore advise you that your complaint has not been substantiated, and that I am closing this natter in our files.
You have the right to appeal this decision within 30 calendar days of receipt of this final written decision from Fullington.
Thank you for taking the time to contact us. If I can be of assistance to you in the future, do not resitate to contact me.
Sincerely,
Fullington Trailways, LLC.
Title VI Coordinator