Fair Housing is YOUR Right

Fair Housing is a right protected by federal and state law. The Fair Housing Act, established in 1968, means that you may freely reside in a place without regard to your:

- **SEX**
- **RELIGION**
- **MILITARY STATUS**
- **RACE OR COLOR**
- **DISABILITY**
- **ANCESTRY**
- **NATIONAL ORIGIN**
- **FAMILIAL STATUS**

It is often difficult to be certain that you have been discriminated against, especially since most of the time it is done with a handshake and a smile.

While organizations such as the Hocking Athens Perry Fair Housing Consortium, the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, and HUD, may strive to eliminate discrimination, without your help we can do very little.

Do not wait until you are certain that the landlord’s, broker’s, or sales agent’s actions are illegal acts of discrimination. If you find yourself faced with behavior that might be discriminatory, please ask us to check it out. If you act promptly, we can investigate promptly.

You may file a complaint with the Hocking Athens Perry Fair Housing Consortium by calling 1 (800) 686-1093 or filling out the enclosed form and returning it to us. You may also contact the following State and Regional Offices:

**Ohio Civil Rights Commission**
Columbus Regional Office
1111 East Broad Street, Suite 301
Columbus, OH 43205
1 (800) 278-7101
TTY (614) 416-9353
www.state.oh.us/crc

**LOCAL FAIR HOUSING CONTACT:**
JoAnn Rockhold - Office of the Athens County Commissioners, 15 S. Court Street Athens, Ohio 45701
740-592-3219

**Reporting Housing Discrimination in Your County**

Hocking Athens Perry Fair Housing Consortium
C/o Fair Housing Consortium
PO Box 220
Gloster, OH 45732

FROM:  
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here  

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WHAT IS PROHIBITED?

In the Sale or Rental of Housing:
• No one may take the following actions based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or military status.
• Refuse to rent or sell housing
• Refuse to bargain for housing
• Make housing unavailable
• Deny housing
• Set different terms, conditions, or privileges of a dwelling
• Provide different housing services or facilities
• Falsely deny that housing is available for inspection, sale, or rental
• For profit, persuade owners to sell or rent (bluckbusting)
• Deny anyone access to membership in a facility or service related to the sale or rental of housing.

In Mortgage Lending:
• Refuse to make a mortgage loan
• Fail to provide information regarding loans
• Impose different terms or conditions on a loan
• Discriminate in appraising property
• Refuse to purchase a loan
• Set different terms or conditions for purchasing a loan

SOME WARNING SIGNS OF DISCRIMINATION

• You are told the apartment has been rented, but the “for rent” sign is still up
• The owner tells you that your children have to have separate bedrooms
• You have an assist animal and you are told “no pets allowed”
• Your condo or housing association won’t let you make necessary physical modifications
• You are told all first floor units are rented and children aren’t allowed on the upper floors

IF YOU FEEL YOU ARE BEING TREATED UNFAIRLY...

1. Keep record of all meetings & phone calls including the person’s name, title, meeting times, and dates.
2. Keep record of what happened and what was said by participants; if at all possible, have a witness to these meetings
3. Save all receipts, applications, leases, business cards, brochures, and any other documents you were given.
4. Call your local fair housing office at 1 (800) 686-1093

COMPLAINT FORM

I would like to report and discuss a DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT with the Hocking Athens Perry Fair Housing Consortium.

Name: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
Phone: ____________________________________________

How do you feel you were discriminated against? (Please check all that apply)

☐ Race/Color ☐ Physical/Mental Disability
☐ National Origin ☐ Familial Status
☐ Religion ☐ Sex
☐ Military

Briefly describe what happened (attach additional sheets if needed)

________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________
Signature of Complainant

______________________________________________________________
Date Signed