

FAIR HOUSING INFORMATION FOR ALL CONSUMERS



*Calcasieu Parish Police Jury
Human Services*

We Can Help

Have you or someone you know experienced illegal housing discrimination? Contact us today and we can help you file a complaint with the proper agency or refer you to a trained attorney to file a lawsuit.

When you call, please be prepared with:

- The address where the alleged discrimination occurred
- The date of the incident (s)
- The name of those involved
- The name of any witness (es)

Our website offers information on Fair Housing and you may also fill out a discrimination application at www.cppj.net/fairhousing

You can also call if you simply have fair housing questions.

We work to educate everyone about their rights and responsibilities under the fair housing laws and to bring communities together to strengthen the fight against discrimination. We serve the community in many ways by conducting educational workshops on fair housing issues and work closely with other agencies and housing providers on fair housing issues.



Calcasieu Parish Human Services

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Website: www.cppj.net/fairhousing



Who must comply with federal, state, and local fair housing laws?

Basically everyone must comply with fair housing laws!! The following is a small list of “housing providers”, all of whom must abide by fair housing laws:

- Property Owners
- Landlords and Property Managers
- Property Sellers
- Sales Agents and Brokerage Offices
- Builders and Developers
- Condo and Homeowners' Associations
- Mortgage Lenders and Appraisers
- Home Insurance Companies
- Long Term Care Facilities

Plus:

- Any employee or contractor who work for a housing provider

Even:

- Housing consumers!! You and your neighbors must comply with fair housing laws, as well. Your neighbors can't, for example, harass or intimidate you because of your race, religious beliefs, etc.

What are my fair housing rights?

The Fair Housing Act is a federal law that prohibits discrimination in housing and housing related services based on the protected classes which are: race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, or disability. The Fair Housing Act ensures that all persons receive equal housing opportunity.

How do I recognize housing discrimination?

When discrimination is based on a protected class and related to housing, it is illegal. It may be obvious or very subtle. It could be deliberate or unintentional. Either way, it is illegal. However, discrimination is not always illegal. For example, pets and smoking are not protected classes so “no pets” or “no smoking” rules are not illegal. The following, if based on protected class, are just a few illegal examples:

- Being turned down for a home.
- Being directed to a home in a certain area, section of a complex, or neighborhood.
- Being charged higher rates or offered less favorable terms than others.
- Being harassed or intimidated in your home because of protected class status.
- Being denied a reasonable request directly related to a disability.



House hunting should be fun. It's also a lot of work, but your home search should not be hindered by illegal housing discrimination.



FAIR HOUSING IS NOT AN OPTION

IT'S THE LAW