

How we can help:

- ◆ We provide free counseling about housing discrimination
- ◆ We listen to your experience.
- ◆ We evaluate your case.
- ◆ We inform you of your rights and options.

When appropriate, we can:

- ◆ Investigate your claim of housing discrimination.
- ◆ Assist you with the filing of a HUD complaint.
- ◆ Pursue your claims of housing discrimination.

We provide free fair housing counseling and/or education to anyone who thinks that they may have suffered discrimination, including:

- ◆ renters
- ◆ home buyers
- ◆ home owners
- ◆ anyone seeking housing

The Mississippi Center for Legal Services and North Mississippi Rural Legal Services are private non-profit corporations. In cooperation with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), we are enforcing the Federal Fair Housing laws throughout the State of Mississippi.

As Legal Service Corporations, we provide education and outreach about fair housing rights; we process and file discrimination complaints, conduct investigation and referral, file complaints and provide representation in court, and we assess the barriers to fair housing in Mississippi. We are working to ensure the rights of all people to freely choose where they want and can afford to live.

Mississippi Center for Legal Services

Fair Housing Unit
520 E. Pass Road, Suite J
Gulfport, MS 39503

(877) 664-0242 or (228) 896-9151

Administrative Office
111 East Front Street
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

(800) 773-1737 or (601) 545-2950

State Initiatives Office
414 South State Street, Third Floor
Jackson, MS 39201

(800)959-6752 or (601)948-6752

North Mississippi Rural Legal Services

Administrative Office
2134 West Jackson Avenue
Oxford, MS 38655

(800) 498-1804 or (662)234-8731

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ARE YOU A VICTIM OF DISCRIMINATION IN HOUSING?

FAIR HOUSING IS YOUR RIGHT UNDER THE LAW

Call state-wide toll-free:

**Mississippi Center for Legal Services
(877) 664-0242**

**North Mississippi Rural Legal Services
(800) 498-1804**

*Advocating for equal housing opportunity
throughout Mississippi*

www.mslegalservices.org



America's Partner for Equal Justice

If you have been denied your housing rights, you may have experienced unlawful discrimination.

What housing is covered?

The Fair Housing Act covers most housing. In some circumstances, the Act exempts owner-occupied buildings with no more than four units, single-family housing sold or rented without the use of a broker and housing operated by organizations and private clubs that limit occupancy to members.

How do you recognize housing discrimination?

Under the Fair Housing Act, it is against the law to:

- ◆ Offer you apartments in certain buildings while other apartments remain available.
- ◆ Provide different terms, conditions, or privileges for sale or rental of a dwelling.
- ◆ Refuse to provide you with information regarding mortgage loans, deny you a mortgage loan, or impose different terms or conditions on a mortgage loan.
- ◆ Fail to design and construct housing in an accessible manner.
- ◆ Harass, coerce, intimidate, or interfere with anyone exercising or assisting someone else with his or her fair housing rights.
- ◆ Treat you differently because of your membership in a protected class.
- ◆ If you are a person with a disability, to deny your request for a reasonable accommodation or modification.
- ◆ Advertise in a discriminatory manner, for example, stating “no children” or showing only persons of a particular class.
- ◆ Refuse to rent to you or to sell you housing.
- ◆ Tell you housing is unavailable when in fact it is available.
- ◆ Provide different housing services or facilities.
- ◆ Show you apartments or houses only in certain neighborhoods.

It is unlawful to discriminate in housing based on any one of these factors:

- ◆ Race
- ◆ Color
- ◆ National origin
- ◆ Religion
- ◆ Sex
- ◆ Familial status (families with children under the age of 18, or who are expecting a child).
- ◆ Handicap, either mental or physical (if you or someone close to you has a disability).

