

### FAIR HOUSING PROJECT

# TOLL-FREE STATEWIDE FAIR HOUSING HOTLINE 855-679-FAIR (3247)

INTERPRETER & TTY RELAY SERVICES AVAILABLE

All fair housing services are provided free of charge.

There are no income eligibility requirements.



## TOLL-FREE STATEWIDE FAIR HOUSING HOTLINE 855-679-FAIR

www.FAIRHOUSINGALASKA.org

Alaska Legal Services Corporation was established in 1967 as a private, nonprofit law firm. Our mission is to provide high quality civil legal services to low income and disadvantaged people and communities to protect their safety, their health, and promote family stability.

We are dedicated to bridging the statewide gap between those who need civil legal help and those who are able to get it. We have an unwavering and longstanding commitment to assuring that Alaska's rural communities have access to the justice system.

Through advocacy, education, collaboration, and litigation we empower individuals, protect fundamental rights, strengthen communities, create opportunities, and achieve justice.

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#### HOUSING DISCRIMINATION

### **FAIR HOUSING**



# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS



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#### WHO IS PROTECTED?

The Federal Fair Housing Act makes it illegal to discriminate in the rental, sale, financing, or insurance of housing based on these "Protected Classes":

- ♦ RACE/COLOR
- **♦** RELIGION
- ♦ NATIONAL ORIGIN
- ♦ Sex
- ◆ FAMILIAL STATUS (presence of children under 18)
- ♦ PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISABILITY

Some local laws also prohibit housing discrimination based on marital status, age, sexual orientation, and gender identity.



#### SIGNS OF POSSIBLE DISCRIMINATION

"I know I told you over the phone that there was an opening, but I just rented the last unit."

"We only rent to people who speak English."

"I know the ad said the rent is \$900, but it is \$1,000 for tenants with an assistance animal."

"Families with children can only live on the first floor of the building."

"You may not install grab bars in the bathroom."

"We can't reserve a parking space for you just because you are disabled."

#### WHAT IS PROHIBITED?

## UNDER THE FAIR HOUSING ACT, IT IS ILLEGAL, BASED ON A PROTECTED CLASS, TO:

- ◆ Refuse to rent to you or sell you housing;
- ◆ Tell you housing is unavailable when, in fact, it is available;
- ◆ Show you apartments or homes only in certain neighborhoods;
- Set different terms, conditions, or privileges for sale or rental of a dwelling;
- ◆ Provide different housing services or facilities;
- ◆ Advertise housing to preferred groups of people only;
- ◆ Refuse to provide you with information regarding mortgage loans, deny you a mortgage loan, or impose different terms or conditions on a mortgage loan;
- ♦ Deny you property insurance;
- Conduct property appraisals in a discriminatory manner;
- Refuse to let you make reasonable modifications to your dwelling or common use areas, at your expense, if it may be necessary for you to fully use the housing;
- Refuse to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services if it may be necessary for you to use the housing on an equal basis with nondisabled persons;
- Fail to design and construct housing in an accessible manner;
- Harass, coerce, intimidate, or interfere with anyone exercising or assisting someone else with his/her fair housing right.

ILLEGAL HOUSING DISCRIMINATION
CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE

#### HOW WE CAN HELP

If you think you have been a victim of illegal housing discrimination, please contact **The Fair Housing Project**. A project staff person will discuss the situation with you and help you decide what to do next.

#### **OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:**

- Answering fair housing questions.
- ◆ Assistance with filing a formal complaint with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or other appropriate administrative or judicial bodies.
- ◆ Advice about how to assert your fair housing rights.
- Providing informational materials.
- ◆ Referrals to other organizations that can help you with your housing needs.
- ◆ Educating the community about fair housing laws.

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