

FAIR HOUSING

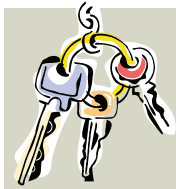
Fair Housing refers to laws and regulations that make it illegal to discriminate on the basis of a protected class in many activities which relate to the sale, lease, or rental of housing.

It is illegal to discriminate in housing based on the following:

- Race
- Color
- National Origin
- Sex
- Religion
- Physical or mental disability
- Familial status (the presence of children under the age of 18 or a pregnant female)

Federal and state laws protect you against housing discrimination and intimidation within the home. These laws apply to activities which include the following:

- Renting
- Buying
- Advertising
- Financing
- Purchasing property
- Insurance
- Building accessible housing



Harassment of a person enforcing fair housing rights is prohibited.

It may be housing discrimination if...

- you are told the apartment is not available to inspect, but a “for rent” sign is displayed.
- the owner tells you that your children must have separate bedrooms.
- the manager takes your application and promises to call you, but your phone never rings.
- you have a service animal (such as a guide dog) and you are told “No pets allowed.”
- the landlord explains why another place would be better for you.
- the real estate agent steers you away from the neighborhood you requested.
- your condo or homeowners association won’t let you make physical modifications to your unit to meet your disability.
- you are told that all first floor units are rented and children aren’t allowed on the upper floors.
- a lender imposes different terms and conditions on a mortgage loan (such as interest rates or application procedures).



What to do if you experience housing discrimination



- Keep a written record of all attempted and actual contacts and conversations with the manager, landlord, owner, real estate agent, loan officer, mortgage officer, insurance agent, and others involved.
- Keep all documents, including leases, receipts, applications, letters of denial, and other materials related to the discrimination.
- You may contact:
 - ♦ **Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida**
See a list of our offices on the back of this brochure
 - ♦ **Florida Commission on Human Relations**
800-342-8170
e-mail: fchrinfo@fchr.myflorida.com
web site: <http://fchr.state.fl.us>
 - ♦ **HUD Fair Housing Hotline**
1-800-669-9777
e-mail: Fheowebmanager@hud.gov
web site: www.hud.gov/offices/fheo

FAIR HOUSING PROJECT

COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES OF MID-FLORIDA, (CLSMF)

Our mission is to create equal opportunity in housing for all persons through education, investigation, and enforcement. CLSMF provides a full range of fair housing services in Citrus, Flagler, Herando, Lake, Marion, Putnam, Sumter, and Orange Counties. (Orange county is limited to out of Orlando city limits)

- Community education presentations which explain the rights and responsibilities of renters and home buyers under fair housing laws;
- Investigations of discriminatory housing practices;
- Assistance with processing fair housing complaints;
- Referrals of discrimination cases to attorneys for legal representation.

This brochure is a publication of CLSMF's FAIR HOUSING PROJECT, which is made possible by a Fair Housing Initiative Program grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. The information in this brochure is for general education only, and is not intended to be used to solve individual problems, nor should it replace the advice of an attorney. The law which supports conclusions contained herein is subject to change.

The mission of CLSMF is to provide access to justice through high quality legal assistance to low-income persons.

CLSMF FAIR HOUSING PROJECT

*BREVARD: 1-866-469-7444

CITRUS & SUMTER
106 N. Osceola Ave., Inverness, FL 34450
(352) 726-6592 — CITRUS
1-800-984-2918— SUMTER

FLAGLER: 1-800-405-1417

HERNANDO: 1-866-801-5566

LAKE— (352) 343-6351
226 West Main St., Tavares, FL 32778

MARION— (352) 629-6257
2300 SE 17th St. Suite 201
Ocala, FL 34471

*ORANGE — (407) 841-7777
122 E. Colonial Drive, Suite 200
Orlando, FL 32801

OSCEOLA — (407) 933-1791
800 North Main St., Kissimmee, FL 34744

PUTNAM: (386) 385-0928
216 S. 6th Street, Palatka, FL 32177

*SEMINOLE: (407) 322-6673

VOLUSIA — (386) 258-5600
128 Orange Ave., Suite 100,
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
Client toll-free number: 1-800-363-2357

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE: (386)506-5396

info@clsmf.org
http://www.clsmf.org

*Offices currently not offering Family Law services

FAIR HOUSING PROJECT



Community Legal
Services of
Mid-Florida

Are You a Victim



of Housing Discrimination?

