
Possible Remedies

Victims of discrimination may be compensated in several ways. They may be able to get the housing they wanted or similar housing may be made available. In some cases, a monetary payment can be made to reimburse for expenses caused by having to find other housing and for damages such as pain and distress.

If you win a civil court lawsuit, the law may also allow you to receive punitive damages.

Those found guilty of discrimination may be assigned penalties and given direction on how to change their way of doing business.

Volunteers

The FHD needs a diverse group of dependable conscientious people 18 years and older to assist in gathering information about housing practices.

Volunteers are provided training and a stipend for their time and expenses depending on the task assigned. Contact the FHD for additional information.

Publications

The FHD has a number of publications which are available free-of-charge. Contact the FHD for a listing or visit our web site.

Fair Housing of the Dakotas

To Contact Us

Phone: 701-221-2530
Toll-free: 1-888-265-0907
Fax: 701-221-9597
ND TDD: 1-800-927-9275
SD TDD: 1-866-273-3323
ND Relay: 1-800-366-6889
SD Relay: 1-800-877-1113
E-mail: info@fhdakotas.org

Address:

909 Basin Avenue, Suite 2
Bismarck, ND 58504
Web: www.fhdakotas.org

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Fair Housing of the Dakotas

**Serving North
and
South Dakota**

**Fair Housing Laws &
Housing Rights-The Law
is on Your Side...**



Discrimination -Fair Housing Rights



We're Here to Help

The Fair Housing of the Dakotas (FHD) is a private, non-profit fair housing organization founded in 1995. The FHD serves North and South Dakota and works to eliminate housing discrimination and to ensure equal housing opportunities for all.

The FHD provides education to promote fair housing and investigates allegations of housing discrimination. Our goals are to eradicate housing discrimination through community education, encouragement of public involvement, assistance to those experiencing housing discrimination, and support of individuals and organizations seeking equal opportunity in housing.

Fair Housing is a right—not just a privilege. Fair Housing is the law—not just an idea. Fair Housing is no longer only an issue of color or race; it also includes issues such as the presence of children, receipt of public assistance, disability and other forms of arbitrary discrimination.

Fair Housing Law

Housing discrimination in the sale, financing or rental of housing based upon race; color; religion; national origin; gender; presence of children; disability; North Dakota state protections of age (40 and over) or status with respect to marriage and public assistance; and South Dakota state protections of creed and ancestry; is illegal. It is also illegal to treat an existing tenant any differently than other tenants on the basis of the above protected classes.

What are the Possible Signs?

- The rent or deposit cited is higher than advertised.
- Denial of a reasonable accommodation to a person with a disability.
- The manager says the unit has already been rented but the sign or ad is still posted.
- Rules are enforced or repairs are performed for some tenants and not others.
- Limiting the number of children in a complex or confining them to a specific location or floor.
- Refusing to rent to a person using a wheelchair for fear a unit might be damaged.

Counseling

Fair Housing Specialists are available to counsel both home seekers and housing providers on their rights and responsibilities under federal and state fair housing laws. Individuals pursuing their legal rights are provided assistance.

Education and Enforcement

The FHD provides education and outreach services to industry representatives and consumers of the industry. These activities include the facilitation of workshops and trainings, production/distribution of our quarterly newsletter, and networking with agencies and organizations across the state and nation.

The FHD also investigates allegations of discrimination in housing. When you call the FHD with an allegation of discrimination, we will interview you to gather the necessary information for our investigation. Be prepared to provide the address of the housing, the names of any persons involved, the names of any witnesses and the date of the incident. The FHD will assist you in determining the best course of action.