IF YOU THINK YOUR RIGHTS HAVE BEEN VIOLATED

The City of Bowling Green is ready to help with any problem of housing discrimination.

If you think your rights have been violated, the Housing Discrimination Complaint Form is available for you to print at:

www.bgohio.org/fairhousing

Mail or bring this form to:

City of Bowling Green
Fair Housing Office, 2nd Floor
304 North Church Street
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

If you prefer you may write a letter to the address above or telephone the City of Bowling Green Fair Housing Officer at (419) 354-6221.

For persons with speech and/or hearing impairments, contact us through the Ohio Relay Network at: 1-800-750-0750

You have one year after an alleged violation to file a complaint with the City, but you should file it as soon as possible.

MORTGAGE LENDING

This may be the largest and most important loan you get during your lifetime. You should be aware of certain rights before you enter into any loan agreement.

- You have the RIGHT to shop for the best loan for you and compare the charges of different mortgage brokers and lenders.
- You have the RIGHT to be informed about the total cost of your loan including the interest rate, points and other fees.
- You have the RIGHT to ask for a Good Faith Estimate of all loan charges before you agree to the loan and pay any fees.
- You have the RIGHT to know what fees are not refundable if you decide to cancel the loan agreement.
- You have the RIGHT to ask your mortgage broker to explain exactly what the mortgage broker will do for you.
- You have the RIGHT to ask questions about charges and loan terms that you do not understand.
- You have the RIGHT to know the reason if your loan was turned down.
FAIR HOUSING—
It’s your right!

The Fair Housing Act

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing because of:

- Race
- National origin
- Religion
- Sex
- Handicap (Disability)
- Familial status (including children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians; pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18)

What Housing is Covered?

The Fair Housing Act covers most housing. In some circumstances, the Act exempts housing operated by organizations and private clubs that limit occupancy to members.

What is Prohibited?

**In the Sale and Rental of Housing:**

- No one may take any of the following actions based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or handicap:
  - Refuse to rent or sell housing
  - Refuse to negotiate for housing
  - Make housing unavailable
  - Deny a dwelling
  - Set different terms, conditions or privileges for sale or rental of a dwelling
  - Provide different housing services or facilities
  - Falsely deny that housing is available for inspection, sale, or rental
  - For profit, persuade owners to sell or rent (blockbusting); or
  - Deny anyone access to or membership in a facility or service (such as a multiple listing service) related to the sale or rental of housing

**In Mortgage Lending:**

No one may take any of the following actions based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or handicap (disability):

- Refuse to make a mortgage loan
- Refuse to provide information regarding loans
- Impose different terms or conditions on a loan, such as different interest rates, points, or fees
- Discriminate in appraising property
- Refuse to purchase a loan, or
- Set different terms or conditions for purchasing a loan.

**In Addition:**

It is illegal for anyone to:

- Threaten, coerce, intimidate or interfere with anyone exercising a fair housing right or assisting others who exercise that right; or
- Advertise or make any statement that indicates a limitation or preference based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, or handicap (disability).

- This prohibition against discriminatory advertising applies to single family and owner-occupied housing that is otherwise exempt from the Fair Housing Act.