

FAIR HOUSING BASICS



NOTIFICATION OF FAIR HOUSING ACT

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing because of:

- Race of color
- National origin
- Religion
- Sex
- 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)
- Handicap/disability
- Military status
- Ancestry

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, ancestry or handicap:

- Refuse to rent, sell, or insure housing accommodations or residential property
- Refuse to lend money for the purchase, construction, repair, rehabilitation, or maintenance of housing accommodations or residential property
- Make housing unavailable
- Set different terms, conditions, or privileges for sale or rental of a dwelling
- Print, publish, or circulate any statement or advertisement which would indicate a preference or limitation
- Represent to any person that housing is not available for inspection, sale, rental or lease
- For profit, persuade owners to sell or rent (blockbusting)
- Deny any person membership in any multiple listing service or real estate broker's organization

What to do if you suspect housing discrimination?

- Make immediate detailed notes of your experience: date, time, place, names of agents or landlords, what you saw, and what you were told.
- Contact your local fair housing coordinator for assistance.

In Putnam County, call or write:

Ms. Ashley Siefker, Grants/Wage Coordinator
Putnam County Board of Commissioners Office
245 East Main Street, Suite 101, Ottawa, OH 45875-1968
Telephone: 419-523-3656

- Or, call the nearest Regional Office of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission in Toledo at 419-245-2900. An investigator will speak with you and schedule an appointment to discuss your complaint and help you file a charge.
- Or, call or write directly to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD):
Chicago Regional Office-Region V, Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, 626 West Jackson Blvd.,
Chicago, Illinois 60606-5601
Telephone 312-353-7776
- Or, call the Fair Housing Complaints "Hotline" at 1-800-669-9777. Hearing impaired person may call 1-

Although you may not want to submit a complaint, you should report any information about violations of the Federal Fair Housing Law to HUD. If you want to file a complaint, you must do so within one (1) year of the violation.

