

Legal Aid Society of Hawaii Fair Housing Enforcement Program

April 2014

Volume 1, Issue 1

Welcome! You are receiving the first issue of our e-newsletter because of your organization's commitment to promote fair housing and end housing discrimination.

If you wish to at any time no longer receive news from the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii's Fair Housing Enforcement Program, please follow the easy link at the bottom of this email to unsubscribe. Please feel free to forward and share this email.

April is Fair Housing Month!

April 2014 marks the 46th anniversary of the landmark 1968 Fair Housing Act. The Act makes it illegal to discriminate in the rental, sale, financing, or insurance of housing to those in "protected classes."

Join us on the Neighbor Islands for free workshops to learn about fair housing laws. Workshop dates are April 8 in Hilo, April 9 in Kona, April 11 on Maui, and April 29 on Kauai.

Go to our website for more information: www.fairhousinghawaii.org

Did You Know?

- There is no income eligibility requirement for services from Legal Aid's Fair Housing Enforcement Program. It is enough that you have experienced housing discrimination because of your membership in a protected class (race, sex, disability, etc.)
- An individual with a verified disability may request a change in the rules or policies to enable the individual to keep an assistance animal in a "no pets" housing development. An assistance animal is an animal that is needed to perform disability-related work, services or tasks for the person with a disability, or is needed to provide emotional support that alleviates one or more identified

Quick Links

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About Us

The Fair Housing Enforcement Program (FHEP) is a project of the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii. Our mission is to promote fair housing and end housing discrimination through education, advocacy, outreach, and litigation. All people in Hawaii have the right to make housing choices without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, familial status, age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, or HIV infection.

If you believe you have been denied access to housing because of discrimination, you may call the FHEP

symptoms or effects of a person's disability. The animal does not need to be trained to qualify as an assistance animal.

National Fair Housing News

A Boston-area housing provider allegedly discriminated against families with young children when it refused to show a unit to a family with young children, but showed the unit to a family with older children. The provider has agreed to pay a \$12,500 fine, attend fair housing training, and update anti-discrimination policies. (January 2014)

An Oregon family was awarded nearly \$100,000 after being wrongfully evicted for keeping a service animal that detected diabetic episodes for their 5-year-old daughter. (March 2014)

Hotline at **808-527-8024** or from the Neighbor Islands, **866-527-3247**. Leave a message and our Intake Specialist will call to schedule an interview. One of our staff attorneys will then review your case and determine whether we will be able to provide assistance.

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