MAIL TO:

United States
Department of

**Rural Development** 

PLACE POSTAGE HERE Send this form to USDA or to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development at one of the following addresses. If you are unable to complete this form, you may call the USDA Rural Development Office of Civil Rights, in Washington, DC, at (202) 692-0097.

- **1. U.S. Secretary of Agriculture** 1400 Independence Ave. Washington, DC 20250
- 2. USDA Director
  Office of Operations
  Room 1575-S
  1400 Independence Ave.
  Washington, DC 20250
- 3. Director, Office of Civil Rights
  USDA Rural Development
  Stop 0703
  14th St. & Independence Avenue, SW
  Washington, DC 20250-0703; or

4. Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Washington, DC 20410; or

5. Any U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Regional Office.

www.rd.usda.gov 1 (800) 670-6553 (toll free)

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



Rural Development

**PA-1568** January 2016



# Are You a Victim of HOUSING DISCRIMINATION?

If you have been denied your housing rights... you may have experienced unlawful discrimination.



**Fair Housing Is Your Right!** 

#### **Are You a Victim of HOUSING DISCRIMINATION?**

"The American Dream of having a safe and decent place to call 'home' reflects our shared belief that in this nation, opportunity and success are within everyone's reach. Under our Fair Housing laws, every citizen is assured the opportunity to build a better life in the home or apartment of their choice — regardless of their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, family status or disability."

### **How Do You Recognize HOUSING DISCRIMINATION?**

Under the Fair Housing Act, It Is Against the Law to:

- Refuse to rent to you or sell you housing
- Tell you housing is unavailable when in fact it is available
- Show you apartments or homes only in certain neighborhoods
- Set different terms, conditions, or privileges for sale or rental of a dwelling
- Provide different housing services or facilities
- Advertise housing to preferred groups of people only
- Refuse to provide you with information regarding mortgage loans, deny you a mortgage loan, or impose different terms or conditions on a mortgage loan
- Deny you property insurance
- Conduct property appraisals in a discriminatory manner
- Refuse to let you make reasonable modifications to your dwelling or common use areas, at your expense, if it may be necessary for you to fully use the housing. (Where reasonable, a landlord may permit changes only if you agree to restore the property to its original condition when you move.)
- Refuse to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services if it may be necessary for you to use the housing on an equal basis with nondisabled persons
- Fail to design and construct housing in an accessible manner
- Harass, coerce, intimidate, or interfere with anyone exercising or assisting someone else with his/her fair housing rights



## It Is Unlawful to Discriminate in Housing Based on These Factors:

RaceColor

- Religion
- Sex
- National origin
   Disability
- Familial status
   (families with children under the age of 18, or who are expecting a child)

### If You Believe Your Rights Have Been Violated...

- USDA or a State or local fair housing agency is ready to help you file a complaint.
- After your information is received, USDA or a State or local fair housing agency will contact you to discuss the concerns you raise.

**Instructions:** (Please type or print) Read this form carefully. Try to answer all questions. If you do not know the answer or a question does not apply to you, leave the space blank. You have 1 year from the date of the alleged discrimination to file a complaint. Sign and date your form.



### What happened to you?

How were you discriminated against? For example: Were you refused an opportunity to rent or buy housing? Denied a loan? Told that housing was not available when in fact it was? Treated differently from others seeking housing? State briefly what happened.



# Why do you think you are a victim of housing discrimination?

Is it because of your:

□ race	$\square$ sex
□ color	<ul><li>national origin</li></ul>
☐ religion	☐ disability

familial status (families with children under age 18)

For example: Were you denied housing because of your race? Were you denied a mortgage loan because of your religion? Or turned down for an apartment because you have children? Briefly explain why you think your housing rights were denied and circle the factor(s) listed above that you believe apply.



### Who do you believe discriminated against you?

For example: Was it a landlord, owner, bank, real estate agent, broker, company, or organization? Identify who you believe discriminated against you.

Name:		
Address:		
City:	_ State:	ZIP Code:

# 4

### Where did the alleged act of discrimination occur?

For example: Was it at a rental unit? Single family home? Public or Assisted Housing? A mobile home?

oid it occur at a bank or other le	nding institutio	on? Provide the addr	ess
ddress:			
ity:	State:	ZIP Code:	
5 - When did the la	ast act of di	scrimination oc	cur?
nter the date:			
the alleged discrimination cont	inuing? 🗆 Yes	□No	
ignature:		Date:	
Housing Discrimination			
Your Address:			
City:	State:	ZIP Code:	
Best time to call:			
Your Daytime Phone No	Evenir	g Phone No	
Who else can we call if we cannot reach you	?		
Contact's Name:	Best Ti	me to call:	
Davtime Phone No.	Evenir	ng Phone No.	