

High Plains Fair Housing Center presents:  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fair Housing in North Dakota Conference**

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*Thursday, April 2nd, 2020*  
*North Dakota Heritage Center and State Museum*  
*612 E Boulevard Ave, Bismarck, ND 58505*

<b>8:15 – 9:00</b>	<b>Registration</b>
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome and Introduction to Fair Housing in ND
9:40-10:40	<u>Breakout sessions</u> -Housing Discrimination Claims: Types, Process, and the Prima Facie Case -Fair Housing Disability Protections
10:45- 11:45	Service Animal and Emotional Support Animals: Rights and Responsibilities
<b>11:45 - 12:45</b>	<b>Lunch: provided</b>
12:45 – 1:50	<u>Breakout Sessions</u> -The Fair Housing Act in Sales and Lending -Criminal Backgrounds and Housing in ND
<b>1:50-2:00</b>	<b>Break</b>
2:00 – 3:00	<u>Breakout Sessions</u> -Bias and Fair Housing: We all have biases- Do They Impact Fair Housing? -HUD Guidance Review and Scenarios
3:00-3:30	ND Dept. of Labor and Human Rights Commissioner Thunder
3:30 pm- 4:00	Closing remarks: The Future of Fair Housing in North Dakota



## ***Session Descriptions***

### **Welcome and the State of Fair Housing in ND**

What is Fair Housing? What does it look like in North Dakota and who does it protect? We will begin the day with this plenary session to kick off the conference with basic fair housing information highlighting fair housing laws in North Dakota and our initiative to end sexual harassment in housing.

### **Housing Discrimination Claims: Types, Process, and the Prima Facie Case**

Professor Margaret Jackson, will explain different types of housing discrimination claims, what housing discrimination looks like in ND, establishing the Prima Facie case, and the different avenues a fair housing complaint can be resolved or challenged. Topics covered will include disparate treatment and disparate impact claims in fair housing, the interactive request process, administrative complaint process, alternative legal procedures, legal remedies, and a case review.

### **The Fair Housing Act in Sales and Lending**

Michelle Rydz, High Plains FHC Executive Director, looks at fair housing in sales and lending. Topics covered include state and federal fair housing laws relating to the sale and financing of homes, liability under the FHA, non-discriminatory advertising, accessibility, and more. Michelle will cover case examples and current trends in fair lending and sales.

### **Fair Housing Disability Protections**

The 1988 Fair Housing Amendments Act was signed into law in 1988 prohibiting discrimination in housing on the basis of disability in housing sales, rentals, or financing. Please join HPFHC's Board of Directors President, Corey Birkholz, as he discusses why disability protections were added to the fair housing act, what housing discrimination against persons with a disability looks like, and how to request reasonable accommodations or reasonable modifications in housing to allow persons with disabilities to have equal access in the use and enjoyment of their housing.

### **Service Animal and Emotional Support Animals: Rights and Responsibilities**

Just this year, HUD released a new guidance on service and emotional support animals in housing. Join co-founder of High Plains Fair Housing Center and Professor of Law at the University of North Dakota, Dr. Margaret Jackson, as she presents on the new HUD guidance. Dr. Jackson will discuss what the guidance means to property owners, managers, and tenants when it comes to reasonable accommodations in pet policies when service and emotional support animals are involved.

### **Criminal Backgrounds and Housing in ND**

Many rental properties in North Dakota do not accept tenants with a criminal history. Please join founder of F5 Project, Adam Martin, as he discusses barriers to finding and securing housing in North Dakota for the formerly incarcerated. High Plains Fair Housing Center's Executive Director, Michelle Rydz, will briefly discuss HUD's guidance on use of criminal records in housing related transactions.

### **Bias and Fair Housing: We all have biases- do they impact fair Housing?**

We all have bias- do they impact fair housing? Grand Forks City Councilperson, Katherine Dachtler, will lead this session to raise awareness of and understand these biases and discuss how they may impact fair housing.

### **HUD Guidance Review and Scenarios**

Join High Plains Fair Housing Staff as we look at the importance and meaning of HUD guidance and joint statements with the DOJ. We will take a look at guidance and joint statements pertaining to the topics of criminal background checks, nuisance orders, sexual harassment in housing, and design and construction standards.

### **North Dakota Department of Labor and Human Rights**

Commissioner Erica Thunder will present on the ND Department of Labor and Human Right's role for fair housing in North Dakota.

### **Closing remarks: The future of Fair Housing in North Dakota**

We will end the conference with closing remarks from High Plains Fair Housing Center and you will be able to collect your continuing education credits before you leave.