

NEWS RELEASE
GREATER NEW ORLEANS FAIR HOUSING ACTION CENTER

**GREATER
NEW ORLEANS**



**FAIR
HOUSING
ACTION CENTER**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**FAIR HOUSING ACTION CENTER RELEASES RESULTS OF HOUSING
ACCESSIBILITY STUDY; NON-COMPLIANCE WITH FAIR HOUSING ACT
A PROBLEM IN NEWLY DEVELOPED HOUSING**

On Thursday, May 21, 2009, the Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center (GNOFHAC) revealed the results of its recent investigation into housing accessibility discrimination against people with disabilities in the New Orleans area, including Orleans, Jefferson, and St. Tammany Parishes. The investigation is the first to be conducted in the area since Hurricane Katrina.

The investigation showed that 100% of the twenty-two complexes investigated were inaccessible to people with disabilities. The complexes failed to comply with one or more of the Fair Housing Act design and construction standards. 81% of the complexes tested failed to comply with two or more of the requirements, and on average, the newly constructed multi-family complexes examined failed to comply with three of the seven design and construction standards.

GNOFHAC Executive Director James Perry comments, "Let this report serve as a wake up call to housing developers, government officials and people across the community. All of us must work to make New Orleans open and welcoming to all people by taking a stand against inaccessible housing."

For more details or to download **Access Denied: An Audit of Housing Accessibility for People with Physical Disabilities in the Greater New Orleans Rental Housing Market**, go to www.gnofairhousing.org.

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The Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center (GNOFHAC) is a private non-profit organization. The Center was established by a group of concerned New Orleanians in 1995 with the help of the National Fair Housing Alliance and a grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. GNOFHAC is dedicated to eliminating housing discrimination and furthering equal housing opportunities through education, outreach, advocacy, and enforcement of fair housing laws across the metro New Orleans area.

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