

G R E A T E R
N E W O R L E A N S



**FAIR
HOUSING
ACTION CENTER**

*Celebrating 10 years
of fighting housing
discrimination*

NEWS RELEASE

GREATER NEW ORLEANS FAIR HOUSING ACTION CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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www.gnofairhousing.org

CONTACT: Kate Scott
kscott@gnofairhousing.org
504.596.2100

FAIR HOUSING CENTER CELEBRATES 39th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING ACT WITH UPCOMING EVENTS

The Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center encourages members of the public and housing industry professionals to attend either of the following events to increase knowledge about housing rights:

- **Know Your Housing Rights Training:** It's difficult to obtain housing in post-Katrina New Orleans. It's a lot easier though, if you are informed of your rights. At the *Know Your Housing Rights Training*, housing experts will explain various aspects of housing law crucial to navigating the post-Katrina housing market: tenants' rights, housing discrimination law, predatory lending and disability rights. *April 21, 2007, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., 1215 Prytania Street, New Orleans, LA. Free to the public. Call 504-596-2100 to register.*
- **Baton Rouge Fair Housing Summit:** Held in partnership with the Urban Restoration Enhancement Corporation, this day long event, geared towards housing advocates and housing professionals, will cover advanced topics in fair housing. The event will feature addresses from Shanna Smith, President and CEO of the National Fair Housing Alliance, and James H. Johnson, Director of the Urban Investment Strategies Center. Log on to gnofairhousing.org for a detailed description of the event. *April 26, 2007, 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., River Center, 275 South River Road, Baton Rouge, LA.*

GNOFHAC Executive Director James Perry remarks, " We are excited about the series of events scheduled for Fair Housing Month. It provides a great opportunity for citizens across Southern Louisiana to learn about the laws that allow us to work towards equal housing opportunity for all Louisianans."

The federal Fair Housing Act was passed on April 11, 1968, seven days after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. King and other civil rights leaders advocated for passage of the law for years, but it was only after King's death and at the urging of President Lyndon B.

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Johnson that Congress enacted the law. The current version of the law provides that it is illegal to discriminate against people seeking housing based on their race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability and/or familial status.

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 and Baton Rouge areas.

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