

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: James Perry
jperry@gnofairhousing.org
Office: 877-445-2100

FAIR HOUSING CENTER PRESENTS HOUSING ACCESSIBILITY TRAINING

The Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center (GNOFHAC), in partnership with the LSU Human Development Center (LSU-HDC), presents a **free one-day Fair Housing Accessibility FIRST training program**. The event, slated for **November 18, 2005** will take place at the **Louisiana Municipal Building (700 North 10th St.) in Baton Rouge** from **8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** The goal is to make sure that architects, homebuilders, designers, developers and housing advocates are up to speed with laws affecting people with disabilities. The information is essential as Louisianans rebuild in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Those interested in attending should register at www.fairhousingfirst.org.

The Baton Rouge training program will focus on three modules: Disability Rights Laws, Common Violations, and the Fair Housing Act Accessibility Requirements Overview. Additionally, presenters will discuss the application of accessibility law to renovations of historic buildings.

Fair Housing Accessibility FIRST is an initiative of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that provides training and technical guidance to homebuilders, developers, architects and designers on compliance with the accessible design and construction requirements of the Fair Housing Act (FHA). The campaign includes training for the housing industry, a Web site, www.fairhousingfirst.org, a hotline telephone number (1-888-FH1RST1 or TTY/V 1-888-341-7781), and a technical guidance resource center.

James Perry, GNOFHAC Executive Director remarks, "As we rebuild in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, we are presented with an incredible opportunity to provide more housing opportunities than ever for people with mobility impairments. This training is an integral step in providing fair housing choice for all citizens of Louisiana."

For more information and to register for the training, visit www.fairhousingfirst.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 and Baton Rouge areas. GNOFHAC received great notoriety recently for its investigation into discriminatory practices by Bourbon Street nightclubs and bars.

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