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NATIONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMPANY SETTLES HOUSING DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT

INDIANAPOLIS – Today, the Fair Housing Center of West Michigan (FHCWM), the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana (FHCCI), the Fair Housing Center of Southeast & Mid Michigan (FHCSMM), the Fair Housing Center of Southwest Michigan (FHCSWM) and the Central Ohio Fair Housing Association (COFHA) announce that they have settled a fair housing complaint against AMP Residential, an Indianapolis-based property management company that owns and operates apartment complexes throughout the United States.

In their complaint filed with the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development in July 2016, the fair housing groups alleged that AMP had engaged in systemic discrimination against families with children across 20 properties evaluated in three states by enforcing an occupancy policy of no more than two people per bedroom in each apartment, regardless of the unit’s square footage or
whether that unit has a den, office, loft, or other feature that could provide an additional bedroom or living area for a child.

The U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development did not make a determination as to the validity of the allegations and AMP denied the allegations and admitted no wrongdoing, but agreed to settle the claims by entering into a Conciliation Agreement with HUD and the private fair housing groups. In order to settle the complaint, AMP agreed to pay $207,000, change their occupancy policy to provide equal housing opportunity to families with children, and train their employees and managers across the nation on fair housing each year for the next three years, among other terms to ensure compliance with fair housing laws.

“Resolution of this complaint will enhance housing opportunities available to families with children,” said Amy Nelson, Executive Director of the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana. “We appreciate AMP’s attention to this matter and their commitment to fair housing into the future.”

The settlement represents the resolution of a systemic investigation that was conducted by the FHCWM, FHCCI, FHCSMM, FHCSWM, and COFHA into the AMP properties located in their respective states. The properties named in the complaint were: Addison Place and North Park (Evansville, IN); Edison Pointe (Mishawaka, IN); Runaway Club (Delta Township, MI); 43 North and Timberview (Grand Haven Township, MI); Aspen Lakes, Central Park Place, Ridgewood, and Wyndham Hill (Grand Rapids, MI); River Club (Holland Township, MI); Waverly Place (Kalamazoo, MI); Glen Oaks East, Woodbridge and Woodland Creek (Kentwood, MI); Country Place and Stone Crest (Mount Pleasant, MI); Spring Brook (Laketown Township, MI); The Valley (Plainfield Township, MI); and Muirwood Village (Columbus, OH).

“Families with children need access to quality housing in a variety of locations. By agreeing to do away with its strict 2-person per bedroom rule, AMP has recognized the important role they play in providing that access,” said Nancy Haynes, Executive Director of the Fair Housing Center of West Michigan.

“Where a family lives dictates the parents’ access to employment, the children’s access to good schools, and the family’s access to grocery stores, healthcare, and other vital services,” said Jim McCarthy, President and CEO of the Central Ohio Fair Housing Association. “So, we are very pleased that we were able to reach a resolution of our complaint and increase equal housing opportunities for people throughout our region.”

The Fair Housing Center of West Michigan is a private, non-profit fair housing organization founded in 1980 and located in Grand Rapids, MI. Its mission is to prevent and eliminate illegal housing discrimination and to ensure equal housing opportunity. More information on the FHCWM at www.fhcwm.org

The Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana (FHCCI) is a private, nonprofit fair housing organization founded in 2011 and based in Indianapolis, IN. Its mission is to ensure equal housing opportunities by eliminating housing discrimination through advocacy, enforcement, education and outreach. More information on the FHCCI at www.fhcci.org

The Fair Housing Center of Southeast & Mid Michigan (FHCSMM) is a private, nonprofit fair housing organization founded in 1992 and serving mid and southeastern Michigan. Its mission is to end discrimination in housing and public accommodations and to promote accessible, integrated communities. More information on the FHCSMM at www.fhcmichigan.org
The Fair Housing Center of Southwest Michigan (FHCSWM) is a private, non-profit organization established in 2001 and based on Kalamazoo, MI. Its mission is to promote integration and eliminate housing discrimination. More information on the FHCSWM at www.fhcswm.org

The Central Ohio Fair Housing Association (COFHA) is a private, non-profit fair housing organization headquartered in Columbus, OH. Its mission is to eliminate housing discrimination and ensure equal housing opportunity for all people in their region. More information on the COFHA at www.cofha.com

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