



7th Annual Fair Housing Conference

Fair Housing: The Bridge to Equitable Communities

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Marriott East – Indianapolis, Indiana

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The following agenda is tentative and subject to change.

8:00 AM: Registration Opens/Continental Breakfast

We encourage registrants to arrive by 8:30 AM to receive their registration packet, review the exhibit, and gather their breakfast – the conference will begin promptly at 9:00 AM

9:00 AM-10:00 AM: Workshop Series 1 – Attendees Choose One

Option 1: Fair Housing Disability Case Law Update: At this popular, yearly workshop, attendees will receive an update on recent Indiana and federal cases to address housing discrimination against persons with disabilities.

Moderator: Tammy Themel, Executive Director, accessABILITY

Speaker:

Tom Crishon, Managing Attorney, Indiana Disability Rights

Option 2: Housing Discrimination Due to National Origin: In this workshop, learn about fair housing cases to address uncovered housing discrimination due to national origin. Attendees will also learn about HUD’s Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Guidance, when interpretation and materials are to be provided, cases targeting “English Only” policies, and best practices to ensure housing open and welcome to all.

Moderator: Beverly Noble, Equal Opportunity Specialist, HUD Indianapolis Field Office

Speakers:

Liz Keegan, Director of Education & Outreach, Fair Housing Center of West Michigan

Nikki Quintana, Executive Director, Fort Wayne Metropolitan Human Relations Commission

Option 3: Fair Housing Hot Topics: During this workshop, attendees will learn of breaking issues in fair housing – topics will be announced as the conference date nears.

Moderator: Tamie Tatum-Dixon, Department Head, City of Anderson Human Relations Department

Speaker:

Amy Nelson, Executive Director, Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana

Option 4: Environmental Justice in Housing: At this workshop, speakers will discuss the fair housing complaint, *West Calumet Public Housing Complex v. East Chicago Housing Authority*, which alleged that for decades, the East Chicago Housing Authority built and operated the West Calumet Public Housing facility knowing that its residents were being subjected to lead and arsenic poisoning. Speakers will also share experiences in challenging, or barriers to challenging, basic habitability requirements under Indiana laws and how this impacts fair housing opportunities.

Moderator: Brandon Beeler, Housing Staff Attorney, Indiana Legal Services

Speakers:

Kate Walz, Vice President of Advocacy, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

Chase Haller, Housing Attorney, Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic

Option 5: Fair Lending – History and New Challenges: A 2018 report found that African Americans and Latinos continue to be routinely denied conventional mortgage loans at rates far higher than their white counterparts. This modern-day redlining persisted in 61 metro areas even when controlling for applicants' income, loan amount and neighborhood, according to millions of Home Mortgage Disclosure Act records analyzed by Reveal from The Center for Investigative Reporting. This workshop will provide background on the historical barriers to fair lending for persons of color as well as discuss new challenges for equality in homeownership for all.

Moderator: Maria Wildridge, Director of Latino Services & Outreach, Marion County Prosecutor's Office

Speakers:

Lisa Rice, President & CEO, National Fair Housing Alliance

Name Pending, Central Indiana Realist Association Lenders Council

10:00 AM-10:15 AM: Break

10:15 AM-11:15 AM: Workshop Series 2 – Attendees Choose One

Option 1: Update by the Indiana Civil Rights Commission. Join the Indiana Civil Rights Commission (ICRC) for a yearly update on their activities and programs. Attendees will hear about recent fair housing cases handled by the ICRC, statewide fair housing statistics, and more!

Moderator: Pending

Speaker:

Doneisha L. Posey, Esq., Deputy Director & General Counsel, Indiana Civil Rights Commission

Option 2: Fair Housing Challenges in Rural Communities: During this workshop, participants will hear from Indiana state agencies working to ensure fair housing compliance through tax credit and rural housing options. Discussion will include barriers to affirmatively furthering fair housing and the unique challenges by Hoosiers in rural areas in ensuring safe, affordable, accessible housing options free from housing discrimination.

Moderator: Deb McCarty, Executive Director, Back Home in Indiana Alliance

Speaker:

Eric Ogle, CDBG Program Director, Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA)

Devyn Smith, Director of Real Estate Compliance, Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority (IHCDA)

Option 3: Indiana General Assembly Update: This year's 2019 Indiana General Assembly is a long session that focuses on a variety of housing and fair housing related issues. At this workshop, attendees will hear of filed legislation, results, and impact of bills related to housing, lending, and addressing poverty.

Moderator: Amber O'Haver, Executive Director, Indiana Statewide Independent Living Council (INSILC)

Speaker:

Amy Nelson, Executive Director, Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana

Option 4: Mapping Prejudice: The Mapping Prejudice project is a Minneapolis based team of activists and scholars who are building the first comprehensive spatial database of racial covenants for an American city. These covenants were legal clauses that prevented people of color from owning or occupying property. American cities were not always racially segregated, and Minneapolis is no exception. But in the early 20th century, racial covenants began remaking the geography of cities across the country. And while covenants have been illegal for over a half-century, their legacy lives on today. In this workshop, Mapping Prejudice co-founder Kevin Ehrman-Solberg will show how our contemporary racial disparities are rooted in the spatial practices of the past.

Moderator: Paige Dowe, Online & Call Center Support Specialist, MIBOR

Speaker:

Kevin Ehrman-Solberg, Co-Founder, Mapping Prejudice Project

Option 5: Lending Hot Topics: In this workshop, attendees will hear about recent actions to address barriers to fair lending including redlining, reverse redlining, rent-to-own transactions, and other cases of interest. Learn how to identify these forms of unlawful discrimination.

Moderator: Renee Davis, Housing Advocate, Near East Area Renewal

Speaker:

Laura Arandes, Associate, Relman, Dane & Colfax

11:15 AM-11:30 AM: Break

11:30 AM-12:30 PM: Workshop Series 3 – Attendees Choose One

Option 1: Ensuring Fair Housing Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities: During this workshop, discussion will focus on common questions related to the achieving of fair housing for persons with disabilities with some in-depth case review of selected cases of interest. Topics will include reasonable accommodations, reasonable modifications, and accessible housing requirements.

Moderator: Kim Opsahl, Board Member, Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana

Speakers:

*Tom Crishon, Managing Attorney, Indiana Disability Rights
Laura Arandes, Associate, Relman, Dane & Colfax*

Option 2: Little Things Shouldn't Matter – Familial Status and Fair Housing: Families with children were protected under fair housing laws in 1988, yet fair housing violations continue to occur in a variety of formats including outright denials, restrictive occupancy standards, rules or policies targeting children, and bias in advertising. In this workshop, hear about cases challenging fair housing violations and best practices to ensure housing open to qualified families with children.

Moderator: Yvonne Thompson, Director, Muncie Human Rights Commission

Speakers:

*Liz Keegan, Director of Education & Outreach, Fair Housing Center of West Michigan
Aida Ramirez, Director, Columbus Human Rights Commission (pending)*

Option 3: Locked Out – Evictions & Housing Instability: Starting in 2017, the Eviction Lab Project has issued a series of reports about eviction rates nationwide. The State of Indiana had several large, mid-size, and small cities ranked as the highest evicting communities in their relevant categories. An estimated 31,767 Hoosier households are evicted from their homes each year – roughly 86 households per day. This session will explore the Indiana based data and why our state's eviction rates are concerns for all.

Moderator: Rev. Evan Bever, Senior Minister, First Baptist Church of Indianapolis

Speakers:

Breanca Merritt, Director, Center for Research on Inclusion and Social Policy (CRISP) at IUPUI

Option 4: Battling Neighborhood Racial and Economic Segregation: The Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty has challenged practices such as not-in-my-backyard (NIMBY) attitudes to affordable housing, so-called nuisance ordinances impacting women, and even a highway system project which would have divided Chicago neighborhoods of color. At this breakout, hear from a Sargent Shriver representative about their work in this area – likely to include similarities to issues raised here in Indiana.

Moderator: Mandla Moyo, Director of Community Engagement, AARP Indiana

Speaker:

Kate Walz, Vice President of Advocacy, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

Option 5: Fair Housing Challenges in Sales Transactions: Real estate agents in Indiana face unique challenges in meeting the needs of both buyer and sellers. In this workshop, hear examples of when fair housing violations may occur. Discussion will also include ways to address barriers to homeownership for persons of color, due to national origin, and for persons with disabilities and how the sales community is working to address these challenges.

Moderator: Delores Braxton-Kennedy, President, Central Indiana Realtist Association (CIRA)

Speakers:

*Lisa Rice, President & CEO, National Fair Housing Alliance
Name Pending, MIBOR*

12:30-1:15 PM: Lunch Break

1:15-3:30 PM: Afternoon Plenary Session

1:15 PM-1:25 PM: Welcome and Introduction of Achieving Fair Housing

1:25-1:30 PM: Introduction of Indiana HUD Field Office Director

1:30 PM-1:45 PM: Kimberly Wize, Field Office Director, HUD Indiana (invited)

1:45 PM-2:15 PM: Amy Nelson, Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana

2:15-2:25 PM: Lady Liberty video – Manon “The Voice” Bullock

2:25 PM-2:35 PM: Welcome by Fifth Third Bank and Introduction of Dr. George Lipsitz (name pending)

2:35 PM-3:20 PM: George Lipsitz, Author and Professor of Black Studies and Sociology at the University of California, Santa Barbara

Closing Comments/Questions

3:30 PM: Adjournment