

If you are denied an opportunity to rent a home or apartment—or given false information about a rental—because of your marital status, you are a victim of illegal housing discrimination.

It is also illegal for landlords or other housing providers to treat in-place residents or their guests unfavorably because of their marital status.

MARITAL STATUS



SIGNS & EXAMPLES OF RENTAL HOUSING DISCRIMINATION BASED ON MARITAL STATUS

- ❖ Rental advertising that expresses a preference for married couples.
- ❖ Refusing to rent to roommates, unmarried couples, or single parents because the housing provider prefers married couples as tenants.
- ❖ Setting curfews or overnight guest restrictions for single residents.
- ❖ Requiring unmarried couples to document that they have joint bank accounts or other evidence that they have a long-term relationship.
- ❖ Giving special incentives or discounts to married couples that are not offered to others, like “two-for-the-price-of-one” application fees, lower security deposits, etc.
- ❖ Terminating the tenancy of an individually-qualified spouse or partner because the other spouse or partner moved out of the home.

IF YOU SUSPECT ILLEGAL HOUSING DISCRIMINATION BASED ON MARITAL STATUS

Contact the *GBLA Fair Housing Law Project (FHLP)* at Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance.

Phone: 661-334-4679 or 855-746-7958 (toll free and California Relay Service)

Email: fairhousing@gbla.org

Website: www.GBLAfairhousing.org

- ❖ FHLP will interview you to find out what happened and advise you of your rights and options.
- ❖ In appropriate cases, FHLP will conduct an investigation to determine if there is evidence of illegal housing discrimination.
- ❖ If FHLP’s investigation reveals evidence of housing discrimination on the basis of marital status, we can assist you in filing a complaint with the California Department of Fair Employment & Housing (DFEH), provide you with legal representation, attempt to resolve the matter through negotiation or landlord education, or take other appropriate steps.

IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR HOUSING PROVIDERS TO DENY HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES OR TREAT PEOPLE DIFFERENTLY BECAUSE OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, RELIGION, SEX, FAMILIAL STATUS, DISABILITY, ANCESTRY, MARITAL STATUS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, SOURCE OF INCOME, AGE, OR ARBITRARY CHARACTERISTICS.