

Fair Housing in a
Changing Marketplace

National Fair Housing Alliance

2011 Conference Agenda



**Twentieth National
Fair Housing Conference**

“Fair Housing in a Changing Marketplace”

June 4-7, 2011

Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill
400 New Jersey Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

National Fair Housing Alliance June 4 – June 7, 2011

Pre-Conference Activities

June 4

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM **NFHA Quarterly Board Meeting**

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM **NFHA Annual Meeting**

June 5

Cooperating Fair Housing Attorney Roundtable

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM This session is open only to NFHA operating members and cooperating attorneys.

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM **Executive Director Roundtable**

This session is open only to NFHA operating members.

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM **Test Coordinator Roundtable**

This session is open only to NFHA operating members.

National Conference

June 5

Key Fair Housing Cases

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

- **Bob Schwemm, Ashland Professor of Law, University of Kentucky**
- **John Relman, Founder & Director, Relman, Dane & Colfax PLLC**

June 6

Welcome and Keynote Address

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

- **The Honorable Shaun Donovan, Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (invited)**

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM **Plenary – Leadership Forum on Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing**

The Forum will feature key Assistant Secretaries (invited) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in a presentation about and discussion of the responsibilities of each office for affirmatively furthering fair housing and how the offices work interdependently and with partners and grantees to promote fair housing.

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM **Workshop - The New Consumer Financial Protection Bureau: What Does It Mean for Fair Housing Enforcement and Oversight?**

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010, signed into law last summer, created the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), our country's first federal regulator devoted solely to protecting America's consumers from predatory financial products. This panel, featuring representatives from the CFPB, the Department of Justice, and federal financial regulatory agencies, will discuss what impact the changes to the regulatory landscape will have on federal enforcement of fair lending laws and what implications this will have on the fair housing movement.

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM **Workshop – NFHA Operating Members Only: Problem Solving & Relationship Building in the Administrative Process**

Because NFHA members frequently file administrative enforcement actions, this session is designed to provide members with a framework for solving problems in the administrative process while maintaining key relationships with partners. This is an interactive session which will feature perspectives from advocates and administrative agency representatives, including the HUD FHAP Director, representatives from Fair Housing Assistance Program agencies and private fair housing enforcement organizations. The session will focus on effective solutions to the most common problems encountered in the HUD/FHAP administrative complaint intake, investigation, enforcement and conciliation process. It will also provide a variety of perspectives and tools for effective advocacy for administrative complaints.

12:30 PM – 2:30 PM **Awards Luncheon and Keynote Address**

- **Rinku Sen, President and Executive Director, Applied Research Center, and Publisher of *Colorlines.com*** (invited)

2:30 PM– 5:00 PM **Workshop - Where Has All the Credit Gone? The Changing Mortgage Market and the Future of Housing Finance**

After a decade of rampant subprime and discriminatory credit and the ensuing financial crisis, home lending has tightened. Today, many borrowers are having a difficult time obtaining mortgages. As Congress and the Obama Administration discuss ways to reform the secondary mortgage market, the issue of access to credit remains a pertinent civil rights issue. If not configured correctly, a new housing finance system could limit the ability of people of color, women, and those in other protected classes to become homeowners, regardless of their credit qualifications. This panel will explore the ways in which access to good credit has changed over the last decade, review proposed plans to reform the secondary mortgage market, and assess the plans based on their ability to deliver sustainable credit to people and communities of color.

2:30 PM – 5:00 PM **Workshop - NFHA Operating Members Only: Complex Issues in Fair Housing Enforcement**

Fair housing enforcement issues are constantly evolving, along with creative and strategic investigations to help effectively combat them. This session will focus on complex fair housing issues, outlining the *prima facie* case requirements for each type of investigation. The discussion will then focus on testing, investigation and case development to meet *prima facie* case requirements for reasonable accommodation and disability testing, housing discrimination against victims of domestic violence, and mortgage lending discrimination against pregnant women. We will also discuss making connections in the community to develop and build these cases.

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM **Evening Reception**

June 7 **Keynote Address:**

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

- **Richard Cordray, Assistant Director for Enforcement, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (invited)**

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM **Plenary – Highlights of Fair Housing Enforcement by the Departments of Justice and Housing and Urban Development**

- Sara Pratt, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Programs, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Steven Rosenbaum, Chief, Housing and Civil Enforcement Section, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice

11:00 AM– 12:30 PM **Workshop - The National Implications of Foreclosure Prevention Efforts: An Assessment of Federal Programs, Loan Servicer Abuses, and Enforcement by the State Attorneys General**

A rich body of studies has demonstrated that lenders steered borrowers of color who qualified for prime loans into subprime loans at an astonishing rate, and that both the rates of subprime lending and foreclosure heavily correlate with the degree of racial segregation present in a census tract. The post-origination policies and practices of mortgage loan servicers also dramatically affect the likelihood of whether a homeowner will end up in foreclosure or receive a loan modification. This panel will review the federal government's foreclosure prevention programs (including HAMP, EHLP, the Hardest Hit Fund, and the FHA short refi program), discuss the servicer abuses that have given rise to an investigation undertaken by all fifty state attorneys general, identify key implications of those settlement discussions, and review important regulatory issues, including the need for national servicing standards.

11:00 AM– 12:30 PM **Workshop – NFHA Operating Members Only: Fair Housing and the LGBT Community**

An increasing number of state and local jurisdictions are offering protections in housing based on sexual orientation, gender identity and/or gender expression. In addition, HUD has recently issued guidance related to its LGBT protections in fair housing enforcement and housing programs. This panel will discuss housing discrimination impacting the LGBT community and proposed LGBT-inclusive fair housing legislation. The discussion will also include recommendations on investigation strategies from groups who have conducted LGBT and gender investigations and audits.

Hotel Accommodations:

Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill
400 New Jersey Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

To make hotel reservations at the special conference rate, call the Hyatt Regency Washington by May 2, 2011, at (202) 737-1234 and request "National Fair Housing Alliance Block."

Message to Attendees: The NATIONAL FAIR HOUSING ALLIANCE has made every effort to secure the best possible group nightly room rate for you at this event. That rate results from a negotiated overall package of event needs such as sleeping rooms, meeting room space and other requirements. NFHA will incur costs if it falls short of its minimum room block guarantee. Please help NFHA keep the costs of this event as low as possible by booking your housing needs at the designated hotel and in the NFHA room block. Reserving outside the contracted room block may jeopardize NFHA's ability to meet its contracted obligations and to keep registration fees at a minimum. NFHA appreciates your support and understanding of this important issue. Thank you.

Special Service Requirements and Meal Requests:

The National Fair Housing Alliance is committed to providing the greatest accessibility within its means in all its projects, programs, meetings, and conferences.

Please identify special service or meal requirements on the registration form and confirm with the NFHA office at (202) 898-1661.

Cancellation Policy:

Cancellations must be received by May 20, 2011, to be eligible for a refund.

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