



RECLAIM CIVIL RIGHTS-MAKE FAIR HOUSING A REALITY A NATIONAL POLICY CONFERENCE

Sponsored by:

The National Fair Housing Alliance and The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights



June 8-11, 2008

Pre-Conference Activities: June 7-8, 2008

Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill

*It is the policy of the United States to provide, within constitutional limitations, for fair housing throughout the United States.
42 U.S.C. 3601*

This year, we commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the Fair Housing Act and twentieth anniversary of the Fair Housing Amendments Act. We commemorate, not celebrate, because we are still so far from achieving the balanced and integrated living patterns envisioned by the original Act's authors. While we have made some progress in reducing levels of residential segregation, most Americans live in communities largely segregated by race and ethnicity. There are at least *four million* acts of housing discrimination every year. And we are on the brink of an economic crisis fueled by a failed subprime lending market, a market built primarily on borrowers and neighborhoods of color.

The NFHA/LCCR Policy Conference is designed to reposition the fair housing community to more effectively address discrimination and segregation in the United States. We will examine the Fair Housing Act as a federal policy—its history and effectiveness. We will look at the nature and extent of discrimination and explore a fair housing enforcement system that has failed despite having an exceptional and well-formulated fair housing law. We will learn more about the costs of discrimination and segregation that we pay as individuals, neighborhoods, and a nation. We will unite ourselves in a common framework of understanding and *action*. Along the way, we will pay tribute to leaders who have influenced fair housing policy and hear words of inspiration from those who see a diverse, yet united, nation unimagined by too many Americans. Please join us for what promises to be an extraordinary and uplifting experience.



National Policy Conference Agenda

[Pre-Conference Sessions Listed on Page 4]

June 8, **Opening Reception and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Photo Exhibit**
2008 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

June 9, **Welcome and Keynote Address: Rep. John Lewis (GA-5th) (invited)**
2008 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Congressman Lewis is a leader of the American civil rights movement, participating in the Freedom Rides and Sit-Ins of the 1960s and leading the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

Forty Years of Fair Housing: The Good, the Bad, and the Downright Ugly Highlights of the past forty years showcasing key steps forward, precedent-setting cases, and obstacles to the attainment of equal housing opportunity. *Featuring Professor Okianer Christian Dark of the Howard University School of Law and Professor George Lipsitz of the Department of Black Studies at UC Santa Barbara.*
10:30 AM - Noon

Awards Luncheon and NFHA 20th Anniversary Celebration
President's Award to Relman & Dane, PLLC
Keynote Address by John Relman
Recognition of NFHA's Founding Board Members and Past Chairpersons
Noon - 2:00 PM

Forty Years in the Wilderness? The Nature and Extent of Housing Discrimination Forty years after passage of the federal Fair Housing Act which was intended to create "truly integrated and balanced living patterns," discrimination in housing markets occurs more than four million times a year and continues to perpetuate segregated neighborhoods. Learn more about the incidence and forms of discrimination. *Featuring Professor Frank Wu of Wayne State University Law School.*
2:15 - 3:15 PM

Justice Delayed is Justice Denied: The Broken Fair Housing Enforcement System and Public Policy Steps that Must be Taken to Repair It Only one percent of the four million annual cases of housing discrimination is ever reported, and few of those cases end up with justice for victims of housing discrimination. The system designed to enforce fair housing laws has failed our families, our communities, our cities, and our nation. Justice cannot wait another forty years. *Speakers include John Relman of Relman & Dane, Shanna Smith of the National Fair Housing Alliance, James Perry of the Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center, and James McCarthy of the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center in Dayton, Ohio.*
3:30 PM - 5:15 PM

June 10, **Keynote Address: James H. Carr, Chief Operating Officer, NCRC**
2008 *Hope and Denial: The Need for a National Dialogue on Race in America*
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Jim Carr is co-editor of the recently released, and NFHA-sponsored, book **Segregation: The Rising Costs for America**. Jim will provide an inspirational speech about the importance to our neighborhoods and nation of eliminating discrimination and segregation.



Bank

MEMBER
FDIC



 **FannieMae.**

June 10, 2008 **Hate Crimes in Disguise: Acts of Discrimination Against Families and Individuals** The day after the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday in January, 2008, workers for an electrical company at the Washington Nationals' new baseball stadium left a noose in a breakroom. That was an obvious act of intimidation and denial of civil rights and part of a recent increase in similar events. But housing discrimination is no different, even though it sometimes takes on a more subtle guise. Victims of housing discrimination remind us why enforcement of the Fair Housing Act must be a national priority.
9:45 AM - 10:45 AM

"Discrimination is an Act of Violence Against the Dignity of the Individual"*: Assessing Psychological and Emotional Distress Discrimination takes a toll and in this session we will learn more about assessing the costs of discrimination for individuals and families. *Featuring Professor Jules Harrell of Howard University*
11:00 AM - Noon (*Quote from Okianer Christian Dark)

THE WALTER F. MONDALE AND EDWARD W. BROOKE FAIR HOUSING AWARDS LUNCHEON
(Awards presented by Senator Brooke)
Recipients: Senator Richard Durbin (IL), Majority Whip (invited), and Representative Al Green (TX-9th),
Co-Sponsors of the Housing Fairness Act of 2007
Conference Co-Chair and Sponsor Recognition
Noon - 2:00 PM

The Costs of Discrimination and Segregation Related to Educational, Health, Employment, and Wealth Disparities in the United States The recently published and NFHA-sponsored book, **Segregation: the Rising Costs for America**, provides information to assist us in documenting the costs of continued segregation in our neighborhoods. Our entire society pays the burden of these costs. Understanding these relationships and costs will enable us to more effectively articulate the need for fair housing in this nation. *Featuring the book's co-editors, James Carr and Dr. Nandinee Kutty, as well as three of the book's contributing authors: Margery Austin Turner from the Urban Institute, Deborah McKoy of the UC Berkeley Center for Cities & Schools, and Gregory Squires from The George Washington University.*
2:15 PM - 5:00 PM

FAIR HOUSING ACT 40TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE RECEPTION AND AWARDS PRESENTATION (Awards presented by Senator Brooke)
Award Recipients: Senator Edward Kennedy (MA) (invited) and Senator Arlen Specter (PA) (invited),
Co-Sponsors of the Fair Housing Amendments Act (1988)
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

June 11, 2008 **Keynote Address: Michelle Singletary, Nationally Syndicated Columnist of the Washington Post**
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Michelle Singletary's award-winning column, "The Color of Money," is carried in more than 120 newspapers. She is the author of several books, appears regularly on National Public Radio, and hosts a television show entitled "Singletary Says."

Them That's Got Shall Get; Them That's Not Shall Lose: How Housing Discrimination and Segregation Paved the Way for Predatory Lending and the Foreclosure Crisis Predatory lending did not happen in a vacuum; it was enabled by absence of quality credit in underserved neighborhoods and a failure of enforcement of fair housing and consumer laws. The failure to provide for equal housing opportunity created the climate for predatory lending practices and, ultimately, the foreclosure crisis. *Featuring Jesus Hernandez of UC Davis, Eric Halperin of the Center for Responsible Lending, Janis Bowdler of National Council of LaRaza, and Lisa Rice of the National Fair Housing Alliance.*
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Visits to Capitol Hill
(11:30 AM - 5:00 PM)



Post Conference Session for Operating Members

June 11, **Test Coordinator Hot Topics and Investigation Strategies**
2008 (This session is open only to NFHA operating members)
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Pre-Conference Activities

June 7, **NFHA Quarterly Board Meeting**
2008 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

NFHA Annual Meeting
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

June 8, **Cooperating Fair Housing Attorney Roundtable**
2008 (This session is open only to NFHA operating members and cooperating attorneys)
8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Executive Director Roundtable
(This session is open only to NFHA operating members)
10:00 AM - Noon

Test Coordinator Roundtable
(This session is open only to NFHA operating members)
10:00 AM - Noon

KEY FAIR HOUSING CASES (open session). Featuring Bob Schwemm and John Relman This annual favorite features a talk-show format for discussion of important fair housing cases of the past year.
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

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

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

Room Rates:
Single: \$201 + tax
Double: \$226 + tax
CUT OFF DATE IS MAY 5, 2008

For reservations, call (202) 737-1234 and request "National Fair Housing Alliance Block."

Registration Fee (includes materials, two luncheons, two receptions, and breaks):

Early bird, paid registration by May 5:	\$195 Member	\$225 Non-Member
After May 5, 2008	\$225 Member	\$255 Non-Member

For more information, call the NFHA office at (202) 898-1661 or send an email to:
ctaylor@nationalfairhousing.org.



Making Risk Rewarding

MetLife Auto & Home®