The Legal Aid Society of San Diego, Inc., provides free Fair Housing services and tenant/landlord referral information to the residents in the following cities of Encinitas, Escondido, San Marcos, Oceanside, and Vista in order to promote equal housing opportunities through education, counseling, investigation and enforcement efforts. These efforts include the following activities with partner organizations:

- Fair Housing counseling
- Educational Fair Housing seminars for tenants, landlords and property managers
- Educational Fair Housing seminars for homebuyers and real estate professionals
- Educational capacity building for non-profit organizations in the housing field
- Multilingual Fair Housing materials
- Participation in community events in the cities of Encinitas, Escondido, San Marcos, Oceanside, and Vista
- Participation in regional efforts throughout the County of San Diego

The collaborative cities have adopted the San Diego Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI). The AI guides the cities and the region in affirmatively furthering the goals of fair housing.
YOU ARE PROTECTED AGAINST ILLEGAL HOUSING DISCRIMINATION

Equal access to housing for all is a right protected by both federal and state law. Fair Housing laws allow you to obtain the housing of your choice, free from illegal discrimination.

FEDERAL LAW MAKES IT UNLAWFUL TO DISCRIMINATE BASED ON:

• Race
• Color
• National Origin
• Religion
• Sex
• Disability (physical/mental)
• Familial status (households with one or more children under age 18 years of age)

STATE LAW ADDS PROTECTIONS AGAINST DISCRIMINATION BASED ON:

• Marital Status
• Age
• Ancestry
• Source of Income
• Medical Condition
• Sexual Orientation
• Genetic Information
• Gender Identity
• Gender Expression
• Arbitrary Status

Denying an individual the opportunity to rent or buy housing, purchase homeowners insurance or obtain a mortgage loan based on a protected status is illegal discrimination under the law.

If you think you have experienced illegal housing discrimination or harassment, you can explore filing a complaint by taking the following steps within one year of the incident:

1. Call Fair Housing Hotline at 1.844.449.3500
2. Provide facts and details about the incident
3. If merited, an impartial investigation of your complaint will be initiated
4. If your complaint is accepted, an attempt will be made to assist both parties in resolving the issue
5. If the complaint is unresolved and there is evidence that a violation of the law occurred, the complaint may be litigated

COMMON VIOLATIONS OF FAIR HOUSING LAW

Common violations of Fair Housing law, based on protected status, include:

• Refusing to rent, lease, or sell housing
• Sexual harassment involving unwanted sexual advances or requiring sexual favors for housing rights or privileges
• Discriminatory policies, practices, terms, or conditions that result in unequal access to housing or housing-related services
• Refusal to permit reasonable modifications to a dwelling space or common use area, at the tenant’s expense, when necessary to accommodate a disability
• Refusal to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices or services, when necessary to accommodate a disability
• Denial of homeowner’s insurance or home loan

FAIR HOUSING HOTLINE
1. 844. 449. 3500
TTY 1-877-735-2929