



It is the intent of the City of Battle Creek that no person be denied the equal protection of the laws; nor shall any person be denied the enjoyment of his or her civil rights or be discriminated against because of his or her actual or perceived **race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, height, weight, marital status, physical or mental disability, family status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.**

Additional Resources

City of Battle Creek
Community Development Division
10 N. Division St., Room 117
Battle Creek, MI 49014
(269) 966-3318
www.battlecreekmi.gov

For Code Compliance issues:

City of Battle Creek
Code Compliance Division
City Hall: 10 N. Division St.
(269) 966-3387

For landlord & other legal issues:

Legal Services of South Central Michigan
123 Territorial Road W
Battle Creek, MI 49015
(269) 965-3951
Toll-free: (800) 688-3951
www.lsscm.org

To also make a Fair Housing Law complaint:

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)
(800) 927-9275 (English & Español)
www.hud.gov

Fair Housing: Know your Rights and Resources

City of Battle Creek, Michigan



Fair Housing: It's your right!





Fair Housing Laws

The Federal Fair Housing Act (1968, 1974 and 1988), Michigan Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1976, & Michigan Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act of 1976 make it illegal to discriminate in the sale or rental of housing when the discrimination is based on any of the following:

- Race
- Color
- National origin
- Religion
- Sex
- Age
- Disability
- Marital status
- Familial status

In addition, **Battle Creek City Ordinances** make it illegal to discriminate on the basis of:

- Sexual orientation/gender identity

What is prohibited?

Fair housing laws protect everyone from discrimination in the sale or rental of housing.

The following are examples of discriminatory actions when based on **race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, age, marital status, disability, or gender identity/sexual orientation**:

- Refusing to sell or rent housing
- Refusing to negotiate for housing
- Harassment or intimidation
- Quoting a different monthly rent
- Limiting where you live if you have children
- Charging a higher security deposit
- Falsely informing you that housing is unavailable
- Setting different terms or conditions for rental or sale of a dwelling
- Providing different housing services or facilities
- Falsely denying that housing is available for inspection, sale or rental
- Advertising or making any statement that indicates a limitation or preference based on the above protected statuses
- Refusing reasonable dwelling or common use area modification requests, at your expense, if necessary for the disabled person to use the housing

How do I report housing discrimination?

If you suspect discrimination in a housing rental, sale or mortgage lending transaction, you should:

1. **Document the behaviors, actions, and/or conversations.**
 - a. Be specific.
 - b. Record addresses, dates, times, phone numbers, names of businesses, and any witnesses.
 - c. Keep records of advertising, communications, and other relevant information.
2. **Contact the Fair Housing Center of Southwest Michigan to make a complaint.**

By phone: (269) 276-9100 or toll-free (866) 637-0733
Online: www.fhcswm.org

