Anna Andretta is the Fair Housing Agent for the City of Ansonia. The City of Ansonia promotes Fair Housing by advertising, and education in homebuyer education classes. All housing related proposals and agreements entered into by the City include affirmative marketing language and requirements. The Fair Housing Officer provides assistance in filing complaints to persons alleging invidious discrimination.

# **Housing Discrimination**

Federal law prohibits housing discrimination based on your race, color, national origin, religion, sex, family status, or disability. If you have been trying to buy or rent a home or apartment and you believe your rights have been violated, you can file a fair housing complaint.

There are several ways to file a complaint:

You can file a complaint by: Contacting Anna Andretta, at 203-736-5927

## OR

Writing a letter with:

- 1. Your name and address
- 2. The name and address of the person your complaint is about
- 3. The address of the house or apartment you were trying to rent or buy
- 4. The date when this incident occurred
- 5. A short description of what happened

#### And mail to:

Anna Andretta
Fair Housing Agent
Ansonia City Hall
253 Main Street
Ansonia, CT 06401
203-736-5927

## OR

In an emergency, call toll-free 1.800.477.5737 ext 3403

To file a housing complaint and possibly get immediate help, go to <u>How To File a Housing</u> <u>Complaint with CHRO.</u>

Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) Special Enforcement Unit 21 Grand Street Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 541-3403, OR (860) 541-3459 TDD for the hearing impaired. Call toll-free 1.800.827.5005

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is a Federal agency that enforces the Federal Fair Housing Act. To learn more about HUD, visit their website @ http://www.hud.gov/hdiscrim.html

Fair Housing Enforcement Center
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
Thomas P. O'Neil, Jr. Federal Building
10 Causeway Street, Room 321
Boston, MA 02222-1092
1.617. 565.7313 FAX
1.617. 565.5453 TTY

# Summary

The Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, prohibit discrimination against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin in the sale, rental, leasing, financing and advertising of housing, or in the prevention of real estate brokerage services; and the practice generally known as "block busting" is also illegal.

The Connecticut Housing Law has been deemed substantially equivalent with the Federal Fair Housing Act. Administration and enforcement of the Act is by the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, which may receive complaints directly from individual citizens or by referral from HUD.

In Connecticut, you have a right to fair housing. This means that you have the right to choose where to live, to raise a family, to own a home. It is your right to do so in dignity and without fear of discrimination because of your race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or because you are disabled or have children in your family or are pregnant. Fair housing in Connecticut also means you may freely choose a place to live without regard to your age, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation or lawful source of income (which means that income from social security, SSI, housing assistance, child support, alimony, public or general assistance should not restrict your housing rights).

CHRO enforces the laws which protect you against violations of your housing rights.