

The County Board of Supervisors of the County of Lafayette does hereby ordain as follows:

CHAPTER 3

LAFAYETTE COUNTY FAIR HOUSING ORDINANCE

3-1-1: PURPOSE

Lafayette County recognizes its authority under Wisconsin Statutes §106.50 and endorses the concepts of fair and open housing for all persons and prohibition of discrimination. The purpose of this ordinance is to protect the welfare, health, peace, dignity, and human rights of the residents of Lafayette.

It is the declared policy of Lafayette County that all persons shall have an equal opportunity for housing, regardless of sex, race, color, handicap, religion, national origin, sex or marital status of the person maintaining a household, lawful source of income, age or ancestry. This ordinance is enacted as an exercise of the police powers of Lafayette County for the protection of welfare, health, peace, dignity and human rights of the people of this County.

3-1-2: DEFINITIONS

“Discriminate” and “discrimination” means to segregate, separate, exclude or treat any person or class of persons unequally because of sex, race, color, handicap, religion, national origin, sex, or marital status of the person maintaining a household, lawful source of income, age or ancestry.

3-1-3: DISCRIMINATION PROHIBITED

A. It is unlawful for any person to discriminate:

1. By refusing to sell, lease, finance or contract to construct housing or by refusing to discuss the terms thereof;
2. By refusing to permit inspection or exacting different or more stringent prices, terms or conditions for the sale, lease, financing or rental of housing;
3. By refusing to finance or sell an unimproved residential lot or to construct a home or residence upon such lot;
4. By publishing, circulations issuing or displaying, or causing to be published, circulated issued or displayed, any communication, notice, advertisement

or sign in connection with the sale, financing, lease or rental of housing, which states or indicates any discrimination in connection with housing; or

5. By refusing to renew a lease, causing the eviction of a tenant from rental housing or engaging in the harassment of a tenant.

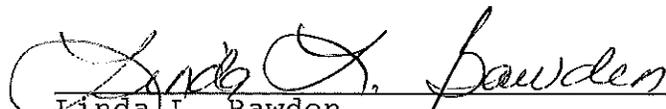
B. It is also unlawful to induce or attempt to induce any person to sell, rent or lease any dwelling by representations regarding the present or prospective entry into the neighborhood of a person or persons of a particular race, color, religion, national origin or economic status, or by representations to the effect that such present or prospective entry will or may result in:

1. Lowering of real estate values in the area concerned;
2. Deterioration in the character of the area concerned;
3. Increase in criminal or antisocial behavior in the area concerned, or
4. Decline in the quality of the schools or other public facilities serving the area.

3-1-4: VIOLATIONS

In addition, no person may coerce, intimidate, threaten or interfere with any person in the exercise or enjoyment of any right granted or protected by this ordinance. Any person who feels that they have been discriminated against under this ordinance should forward their complaint to the Equal Rights Division of the State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. Persons violating any provision of this ordinance shall be subject to the procedures and penalties of §106.50 of the Wisconsin Statutes as from time to time amended.

I, Linda L. Bawden, Clerk of the County of Lafayette, State of Wisconsin, do certify that this Ordinance was adopted by the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors at a meeting held on December 10, 2009.


Linda L. Bawden
Lafayette County Clerk