



News Release

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Charleston County Community Development Holds Presentation in Observance of National Fair Housing Month

State housing expert will make presentation and answer questions related to fair housing

[Charleston County Community Development](#), in observance of April's National Fair Housing Month, is holding a free presentation, open to the public.

Attorney and member of the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission Joshua Barr, Esq. will speak about fair housing related topics on Tuesday, **April 21, 2015** between **10 a.m. – 12 p.m.** in **County Council Chambers** at the Public Services Building (2nd floor), located at 4045 Bridge View Drive in North Charleston.

Barr will discuss fair housing as it pertains to:

- lending practices
- property management
- tenant/landlord disputes
- question/answer session

"We are happy to bring this educational opportunity to our community, including those who are involved in the housing industry," said Community Development Director Johnna Murray. "We hope this learning experience will help cultivate a greater awareness of fair housing practices."

County Council will consider a proposed resolution to recognize April as Fair Housing Month on April 21 during its regular meeting. The proposed resolution is attached.

While the event is free and open to the public, if you are interested in attending, please R.S.V.P. by contacting Gwen Parrilla at 843-202-6960 or by email at gparrilla@charlestoncounty.org. For more information on Community Development Resource Directory, click [here](#).

For information on Charleston County Government news and services, the public can:

- Visit our website: www.charlestoncounty.org



- Prepared by the Charleston County Public Information Office -



A RESOLUTION OF CHARLESTON COUNTY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, Charleston County is designated as an Urban Entitlement Community and is a grantee of funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and

WHEREAS, HUD-funded grant recipients are obligated under various laws and regulations not to discriminate in housing or services directly or indirectly on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, familial status or disability, and provide equal access without regard to actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or marital status; and

WHEREAS, HUD rules further require that recipients of federal financial assistance comply with civil rights related program requirements that affect nearly every aspect of each program. HUD's non-discrimination requirements are compiled from several different federal laws designed to protect each individual's right to fair housing and equal opportunity; and

WHEREAS, fair housing and fair housing choice is generally defined as the ability of people with similar incomes to have similar access to housing; and

WHEREAS, fair housing is an issue of affordable housing in our cities and rural areas and continues to be a problem for many families of all races and the young and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, Charleston County utilizes HUD funding to educate the public regarding the rights and responsibilities afforded by the fair housing law, to include the education of housing providers and financial providers; and

WHEREAS, April is designated as Fair Housing Month in the United States, and provides an opportunity for all Americans to dedicate themselves to the principles of free choice and to reacquaint themselves with the rights and responsibilities that are theirs under the law; and

WHEREAS, Charleston County reaffirms its policy to ensure equal opportunity for all persons without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, age or disability.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Charleston County Council, does hereby proclaim April 2015 as Fair Housing Month in Charleston County, and urges all citizens of Charleston County to join in this effort to reaffirm fair housing opportunities for all people and to practice the letter and spirit of the Fair Housing Law.

CHARLESTON COUNTY COUNCIL

Elliott Summey, Chairman