FAIR HOUSING RIGHTS FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Has this happened to you?

- Your landlord refuses to rent to you because you are or have been the victim of domestic violence or because you have rent assistance from Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) or another agency;
- You are told you must pay for property damage done by your abuser;
- Your landlord refuses to promptly change your locks or allow you to change them;
- Your landlord refuses to release you from your lease or rental agreement;
- Your application for an apartment is turned down because being a victim of domestic violence shows up as criminal history;
- Your landlord uses a policy of “zero tolerance” against crime to evict you because you are a victim of domestic violence;
- You are evicted because you have repeatedly called the police because of domestic violence and neighbors have complained.

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As a survivor of domestic abuse, sexual assault or stalking, you have the right to live where you want without being discriminated against. A landlord may not treat you differently because you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

What can you do?

- Keep records of all documents – notes, notices, receipts, phone messages, contracts, letters, etc.
- Take pictures of the problem if you can.
- Get names and numbers of people involved.
- Get numbers – date of the incident, address where it happened, costs.
- Talk to neighbors – who else is experiencing this? Who saw it happen?

THE FAIR HOUSING COUNCIL OF OREGON IS HERE TO HELP!

If you think you have faced discrimination, or if you would like more information about your rights, you may email enforcement@fhco.org or visit our website at www.fhco.org and click the button that reads "Report Housing Discrimination". All of our services are free and confidential.

Your safety is important. If you have been assaulted – call 911 for help.