Fair Housing and Advertisements



Under the Fair Housing Act, it is illegal to print or publish any notice, statement, or advertisement for housing that indicates preference, limitation, or discrimination because of a protected class.

This rule applies to all newspapers, directories, social media posts, and advertisements regarding the rental, sale, or financing of housing*.

The protected classes in Oregon include: Race, Color, National Origin, Religion, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Familial Status, Disability, Source of Income, Marital Status, and Victims of Domestic Violence.

*While 55+ and 62+ communities can maintain certain legally enforceable age discriminants within the state of Oregon, advertisements for such housing must abide by all other fair housing guidance.

Advertisements should avoid any of the following which may indicate preference or discriminatory intent:

- Symbols or logotypes that suggest a protected class
- Selective use of human models that cater to exclusive demographics

 Words descriptive of a dwelling, landlord, or tenants

"White private home"

"Hispanic residence"

"Adult only residence"

 Historical catch words used in a discriminatory context

"Restricted, private, exclusive, integrated, traditional, board approval, etc"

- Names of facilities which cater to particular racial, national origin, or religious group, or which are used exclusively by one gender
- Strategic placement of advertisements to one particular demographic or in one particular geographic area
- Specific references to racially, national origin, or religious significant landmarks