National Commission on Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity

Opening Hearing: Chicago
July 15, 2008

8:00-9:00:  Registration and continental breakfast

9:00-9:30:  Welcome and opening remarks

9:30-10:30  Panel 1: The State of Fair Housing: What Have We Accomplished?

Forty years after the enactment of the Fair Housing Act, and 20 years after the amendments that gave real power to HUD for enforcement, what progress have we made in ending segregation and promoting integration in our cities, towns, and communities?

John Logan, Brown University
Thomas J. Sugrue, University of Pennsylvania
Margery Austin Turner, The Urban Institute
Lisa Rice, National Fair Housing Alliance

10:30-11:00  Break

11:00-12:00  Panel 2: Costs and Consequences of the Residential Racial Divide

An examination of the impact that segregation and integration have on the economic, social, and educational fabric of our neighborhoods and communities.

Kathy Clark, Chicago Area Fair Housing Alliance
Deborah McKoy, Center for Cities and Schools, University of California - Berkeley
Maria Kong, National Association of Real Estate Brokers
Willie Brown, State Farm Insurance

12:00-1:30  Lunch
Panel 3: 40 Years after the Fair Housing Act: Is HUD Living Up to its Mandate?

HUD has broad statutory authority to both combat discrimination and promote integration, including in its work to administer a host of housing programs that impact equal housing opportunity. This panel examines the history and current day impact of HUD’s programs.

Florence Roisman, Indiana University School of Law
George Lipsitz, University of California - Santa Barbara
Jim McCarthy, Miami Valley Fair Housing Center
William Tisdale, Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council

Panel 4: Housing Choice and Access to Opportunity

In recent years, housing choice programs have been an increasing component of the work to promote integration. This panel examines the challenges that such programs present and ways to ensure both choice and equal opportunity. It also focuses on the programmatic and fair housing enforcement concerns that affect people with disabilities, and the effect that discrimination has on individuals and communities across the country.

James Rosenbaum, Northwestern University
Bill Wilen, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
Hector Gamboa, Spanish Coalition for Housing
Eboni SternJohn, Minneapolis, MN
Marca Bristo, Access Living

Additional Comments