

Kentucky Commission on Human Rights

Press Release
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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GEORGE W. STINSON- CHAIR
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Get help with filing discrimination complaints on June 3rd in Berea

Berea, Ky. (May 25, 2016) – In partnership with the Berea Human Rights Commission, the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights is pleased to announce a Civil Rights Intake On-Site available in Berea on June 3, 2016. Commission representatives will be on hand to talk to people and help file complaints at the Broadway Building in Old Town, 204 North Broadway, Suite 20, in Berea, Kentucky from 12:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. (Eastern Daylight Time)

The Civil Rights Intake On-site is an outreach program to provide an opportunity for residents of the City of Berea, as well as all Madison and surrounding counties to inquire about their civil rights in the areas of employment, housing and public accommodations.

Juan Peña, a human rights specialist of the state human rights commission, will be on-site to receive complaints of discrimination. The intake process is private and confidential. This program also provides an opportunity for housing providers, employers and business owners to get information about the Kentucky Civil Rights to prevent unintentional discrimination.

The Civil Rights Intake On-Site is part of the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights ongoing efforts to eradicate discrimination across the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

"Studies have shown that discrimination is still prevalent in society," said John J. Johnson, executive director of the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights. "The National Fair Housing Alliance reports that about 4 million fair housing violations occur each year and only 1 percent of these violations are reported," he said.

"There is an urgent need to reduce this number of fair housing violations," Executive Director Johnson said.

The Kentucky Commission on Human Rights is the state government authority that enforces The Kentucky Civil Rights Act and federal civil rights laws. It receives, initiates, mediates, investigates, conciliates, and rules upon jurisdictional discrimination complaints with the authority of a court of law. The commission has jurisdiction in housing, employment, public accommodations, and financial credit transactions.

The Kentucky Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination in public accommodations, employment, housing, and financial transactions on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, disability and sex. Discrimination is further prohibited on the basis of familial status in

housing, the basis of age (40 or over) in employment, and the basis of a person's tobacco-smoking status in employment.

To learn more about civil rights and the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights, visit the website at www.kchr.ky.gov.