

Category: 200
Number: 253

Subject: **FAIR HOUSING POLICY**

1. PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to restate the County's existing Fair Housing Policy to include the following:
 - 1.1 Assure compliance with Executive Order No. 11063, dated November 20, 1962, as amended.
 - 1.2 Assure compliance with Michigan State Housing Development Authority, Office of Community Development Fair Housing requirements Policy Bulletin No. 22, effective June 1, 2000.
2. AUTHORITY: This Policy will effect the requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development effecting Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act), as described in Executive Order No. 11063, supra and Michigan State Housing Development Authority Policy Bulletin No. 22, as last updated October 2012.
3. APPLICATION: The Saginaw County Housing Rehabilitation Program
4. RESPONSIBILITY: This Policy shall be implemented by the Saginaw County Housing Program, and shall be overseen by the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners, or designee.
5. DEFINITIONS: None.
6. POLICY:
 - 6.1 The County of Saginaw hereby adopts each and every applicable provision of Executive Order No. 11063, originally dated November 20, 1962, as amended pertaining to equal opportunities in housing.
 - 6.2 The County of Saginaw hereby adopts each and every applicable provision of Michigan State Housing Development Authority Policy Bulletin No. 22, as last updated October 2012.
 - 6.3 The County of Saginaw hereby adopts the following Fair Housing Resolution:
 - (a) The County of Saginaw, under The Federal Fair Housing Law, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, acknowledges it is illegal to deny housing to any person because of race, color, religion, gender, physical or mental disabilities or national origin; and

(b) The County of Saginaw, under the Michigan Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, PA 453 of 1976, as amended, acknowledges it is illegal to deny the opportunity to obtain housing to any person because of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, or marital status; and

(c) It is the policy of Saginaw County to implement programs to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, or marital status; and

(d) Therefore, Saginaw County does hereby RESOLVE:

i. That the County of Saginaw, in accordance with Executive Order No. 11063, Saginaw County shall not discriminate in the sale, rental, leasing, or financing of housing because of religion, race, color, gender, physical or mental disabilities, national origin, age, height, weight, familial status, or marital status.

ii. That the County of Saginaw will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against because of religion, race, color, gender, physical or mental disabilities, national origin, age, height, weight, familial status, or marital status to seek equity under federal and state laws by providing information to said persons on how to file a complaint with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

iii. That the County of Saginaw will, at a minimum, post this policy or the Fair Housing poster or other posters, flyers or other information which will bring to the attention of owners of real estate, developers and builders with their respective responsibilities and rights under the Federal Fair Housing Law and Michigan Elliott-Larsen Act.

iv. This Resolution shall take effect upon passage of the Saginaw County Fair Housing Policy No. 253.

6.4 This policy shall be reviewed, modified as necessary and resubmitted for Board of Commissioner action annually.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES: This policy shall be annually reviewed by the program administrator of the Saginaw County Housing Program, and modified as necessary, submitted to the Office of Controller for approval, and to the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners for reaffirmation.

8. CONTROLLER/CAO LEGAL COUNSEL REVIEW: The Controller/CAO has determined that this policy as submitted to the Board of Commissioners contains the necessary substance to carry out its purpose. County Civil Counsel has determined that this policy as submitted pertains to the legal and appropriate activities of the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners.

Approved as to Substance:
Saginaw County Controller/CAO

Approved as to Legal Content:
Saginaw County Civil Counsel

Adopted: May 18, 2004
Amended: February 18, 2014