



President's Column Central Hill Country Board of REALTORS®



by Sarah Wanek, 2024 President



REALTORS® Want You To Know: Fair Housing Is Your Right

Whether you are buying, selling, or renting property, know that there are laws and ordinances in place to protect you from discrimination. The Fair Housing Act prohibits housing providers, lenders, and real estate professionals from discriminating against you based on your race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), national origin, familial status, or disability.

Discrimination Takes Many Forms

It might not be an offensive comment said to your face. You may not even know it is happening. For example, sellers and landlords cannot set different terms, conditions, or privileges for sales or rentals based on the protected classes. They also cannot impose different sale prices or rental charges. Agents cannot steer you toward or away from a neighborhood based on the protected classes as well. You can find a list of many more prohibited actions online by searching the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development website for examples of housing discrimination.

Your REALTOR® Is Committed to Promoting and Upholding Fair Housing

REALTORS® adhere to the highest professional standards—beyond what the law requires. When agreeing to abide by the REALTOR® Code of Ethics, your REALTOR® has also pledged to not use harassing speech, hate speech, epithets, or slurs based on the protected classes. The Code of Ethics also prohibits discriminatory employment practices. REALTORS® also may not refuse to cooperate with another real estate broker based on the protected classes. Rest assured that your REALTOR® is with you every step of the way to explain, support, and guide you through your sale, purchase, or rental. Your REALTOR® can help you find a place to call home—an essential part of the American Dream. By hiring a REALTOR®, you will get the help you need and the professional, unbiased treatment to which you are entitled.

Learn more about fair housing, including how to file complaints at
texasrealestate.com/fairhousing.

~courtesy Texas REALTORS®~

Central Hill Country Board of REALTORS® is the voice for real estate in the Hill Country covering Gillespie, Blanco, Mason, and Kimble Counties. Visit our website at www.chcbr.org!