

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL

April 19, 2022

Proclaim April 2022 as Fair Housing Month in Los Angeles County

Each year during the month of April, the nation celebrates the rights granted under the Civil Rights Act of 1968, Title VIII, which guarantees the right to equal housing opportunities for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, gender, familial status, disability, or national origin. It also includes requirements that reasonable accommodations be made for persons with disabilities to ensure the use and enjoyment of their dwelling.

The County of Los Angeles (County), through the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA), supports and promotes fair housing activities.

Ongoing activities designed to promote fair housing to the residents of the County include programs that offer informational, educational, counseling, and investigative services. These fair housing services address a wide variety of landlord-tenant issues such as: evictions; illegal entries; harassment; refusals to rent; lockouts; substandard living conditions; and repairs. These issues are resolved through mediation, referrals to other agencies, and/or litigation.

For example, in the past fiscal year, LACDA provided housing assistance to

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approximately 2,152 individuals, conducted 445 media events to increase public awareness, and held 646 trainings, workshops, community meetings, walk-in clinics, and other events.

On April 21, 2022, the 23rd Annual Housing Rights Summit (Summit) will commemorate National Fair Housing Month and the ideals embodied by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and fellow civil-rights leaders. The Summit is a forum of dialogue, education, and action, designed to address civil rights and social justice issues affecting communities throughout Southern California. It will feature educational panels, expert speakers and a community resource fair that will bring together nonprofit agencies, legal aid groups, and government officials.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Commemorate and proclaim April 2022, as “Fair Housing Month” in the County of Los Angeles in order to recognize the value and importance of the rights guaranteed under Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 and its amendments and commit to the furtherance of the Act’s goals and ideals throughout the year.
2. Direct the Executive Director of Los Angeles County Development Authority or his designee to co-sponsor the Housing Rights Center’s 23rd Annual Housing Rights Summit (Summit).
3. Encourage all County departments to promote and participate in the Summit to the extent that doing so is consistent with their mission and budgetary constraints, to include allowing employees to participate or work at Summit events on County time, when consistent with County employee contracts as well as Human Resources rules and regulations, and with the authorization of their immediate supervisor and administration.

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