



JULY 2026

FAIR HOUSING NEWSLETTER

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FAIR HOUSING EVENT

- History of Bowling Green Human Rights Commission**



"Fair Housing is a Right not a privilege"

The Bowling Green Human Rights Commission is non-profit agency committed to serving the community through advocacy for the rights of the protected classes which include: race, color, religion, national origin, age (over 40) sex (meaning gender) disability, familiar status (in housing). Created by the City of Bowling Green ordinance in 1966. The commission also investigates only three areas of jurisdiction allegations of discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodation. The commission overall efforts focuses on education, assistance and promoting fair treatment and positive human relations within the community.

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• FAIR HOUSING HISTORY

On April 11, 1968, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1968, which was meant as the following-up to the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The 1968 Act on previous acts and prohibited discrimination concerning the sale, rental, and financing of housing based on race, religion, national origin, sex, (and as amended) handicap and family status. Title VIII of the Act is known as the Fair Housing Act (1968). The enactment of the federal Fair Housing Act on April 11, 1968 came only after a long journey. However, when Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated on April 04, 1968, President Lyndon Johnson utilized this national tragedy to urge for the bill's speedy Congressional approval. Since the 1966 open housing marches in Chicago, Dr. King's name had been closely associated with the fair housing legislation. President Johnson viewed the Act as a fitting memorial to the man's work, and wished to have the Act passed prior to Dr. King's funeral in Atlanta. Another significant issue during this time period was growing casualty list from Vietnam. The deaths in Vietnam fell heaviest upon young, poor African -American and Hispanic infantrymen. However, on the home front, these men's families could not purchase or rent homes in certain residential developments on account of their race or national origin

• Where to File a Complaint of Discrimination

- Bowling Green Human Rights Commission
- Kentucky Commission on Human Rights
- Kentucky Fair Housing Council





City Commissioner Melinda Hill, W.C. Magistrate Tom Lawrence, Mayor Todd Alcott, City Commissioners Carlos Bailey, and Dana Beasley-Brown



“The Bowling Green Human Rights Commission Staff and Board of Commissions would like to say Thanks to all for making our event a great success”