

JD Howlette Law files unlawful discrimination lawsuit against U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Federal lawsuit alleges U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development unlawfully discriminated against Arab-American in federally-financed program.

WASHINGTON, DC, USA, October 30, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [JD Howlette Law](#) recently announced the filing of a federal civil rights [complaint](#) against the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”). The complaint, filed on behalf of Plaintiff Mustafa Ak, alleges that HUD unlawfully discriminated against Mr. Ak on the basis of his ethnicity and national origin in its administration of the Good Neighbor Next Door (GNND) Sales Program, a federally-financed initiative.



Mr. Ak, a dedicated police officer and a Muslim male, sought to participate in HUD’s GNND Sales Program, a federal initiative that allows law enforcement officers, teachers, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians the opportunity to purchase homes at a 50% discount. According to the complaint, HUD initially allowed Mr. Ak to proceed with the purchase of a home under the GNND Sales Program, but then later rescinded the offer citing Mr. Ak’s alleged ineligibility under a specific regulation (i.e., 24 C.F.R. § 291.520(c)). But evidence obtained through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request revealed that HUD allowed other officers to participate in the GNND Sales Program despite being ineligible under the same regulatory provision.

The complaint alleges that HUD engaged in selective enforcement that was motivated by an unconstitutional bias against Mr. Ak’s Arabic or Muslim-sounding name, in violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Fifth Amendment’s Due Process Clause. The FOIA documents underscore Mr. Ak’s position, showing that the other ineligible officers who HUD allowed to participate in the GNND Sales Program did not have Muslim-sounding names.



We are committed to ensuring that justice is served and that such discriminatory practices are eradicated, especially in the federal government.”

Attorney Jordan Howlette

“This case underscores a blatant instance of discrimination through selective government enforcement, where a deserving individual was denied an opportunity that appears to be solely based on his ethnicity or national origin,” said Jordan D. Howlette, Managing Attorney at JD Howlette Law. “We are committed to ensuring that justice is served and that such discriminatory practices are eradicated, especially in the federal government.”

JD Howlette Law seeks a declaration that HUD’s

enforcement of the specific regulation is unconstitutional as applied to Mr. Ak, and compensatory damages for the harm suffered by Mr. Ak as a result of HUD’s actions.

The case is Ak v. Fudge in the United States District of Maryland (Case No. 8:23-cv-02791-AAQ).

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