

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <donotreply@hud.gov>

Date: Sep 22, 2017 2:52 PM

Subject: HUD Fair Housing Complaint - Jeremy Woody

To: <@gmail.com>

Cc:

Dear Jeremy,

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) has received your HUD 903 online housing discrimination complaint form. The information listed at the end of this email is the data you submitted. Your complaint of housing discrimination will be routed to the appropriate regional office for processing. Your complaint will be reviewed by a fair housing specialist to determine if it alleges acts that might violate the Fair Housing Act. The specialist will contact you for any additional information needed to complete this review. If your complaint involves a possible violation of the Fair Housing Act, the specialist will assist you in filing an official housing discrimination complaint. Please feel free to contact FHEO at the main discrimination hotline number 800-669-9777 (800-927-9275 for the hearing-impaired) or refer to the state toll-free number breakout listed below.

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont (800-827-5005)

New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands (800-496-4294)

Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia (888-799-2085)

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee (800-440-8091)

Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin (800-765-9372)

Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas (888-560-8913)

Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska (800-743-5323)

Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming (800-877-7353)

American Samoa, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, N. Mariana Islands, Nevada, Palau (800-347-3739)

Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington (800-877-0246)

Thank you for your submission. Below is the data you have submitted.

Your Personal Information:

First Name: Jeremy

Last Name: Woody

E-Mail:

Address: n/a (homeless)

City:

State:

Zip:

Day Time Phone: -0920

Evening Phone: -0920

Best Time To Call: Day

Your First Contact Information:

1. First Name: Zoe

Last Name: Brennan-Krohn

Organization: American Civil Liberties Union

Day Time Phone: 415-343-0769

Evening Phone: 508-240-4783

Best Time To Call: Day

Your Second Contact Information:

2. First Name:

Last Name:

Organization:

Day Time Phone:

Evening Phone:

Best Time To Call: Day

What happened?:

I am Deaf and homeless. In early September, I contacted the Cumming Home Ministries in Cumming, Georgia, and spoke with Mike, the Cumming Home intake coordinator, to see if I could join their residential transitional housing program. I am Christian, very religious, and am committed to getting a fresh start. Mike said that there was a bed available at the Cumming Home Ministries, and that the Ministries Board would consider my application. On September 13, 2017, I spoke with Mike again. He told me that the Board had considered my application, but had decided not to accept me because I am Deaf. The board thought they would be unable to communicate with me, and felt that being Deaf would cause ♦distractions♦ to other residents and would not be fair to them.

An attorney from the American Civil Liberties Union who is helping me called Cumming Home Ministries the next day, September 14, 2017. The intake coordinator told the lawyer the same

thing he told me that I was denied housing from Cumming Home Ministries because I am deaf. This attorney, Claudia Center, wrote a letter to the Cumming Home Ministries the same day, urging them to reconsider their decision to deny me housing. Cumming Home Ministries has not responded.

A week later, September 21, 2017, a paralegal from the American Civil Liberties Union again contacted Cumming Home Ministries to follow up about my case. The paralegal spoke to Karen Rivera, an administrator at Cumming Home, who told a different story about why I was rejected. She said that being Deaf had nothing to do with why they rejected me, but that I was rejected because I am applying for disability and Medicare, and that this goes against the Ministries' mission statement of helping people live independently and find employment. I do not even receive disability or Medicare right now, and I have never mentioned either of these programs with anyone at Cumming Home Ministries.

Why do you believe you are being discriminated against?:

Cumming Home Ministries has stated clearly on three occasions that they are denying me access to their residential transitional housing because of my disability. The intake coordinator twice stated that I was denied because I am Deaf, in violation of the Fair Housing Act's nondiscrimination mandate. This week, Cumming Home Ministries is giving a new reason to reject me that they believe I may apply for disability or Medicare benefits. Even if this were the true reason, however, it is also a discriminatory and a denial on the basis of my disability.

Who do you believe discriminated against you?:

First Name: Cornelius

Last Name: Koolhaas

Organization: Cumming Home Ministries

Address: 429 Canton Rd., Cumming GA 30040

Where did the alleged act of discrimination occur?:

Address: 429 Canton Road

City: Cumming

State: GA

Zip: 30040

When did the last act of discrimination occur?: 09/21/2017

Is the alleged discrimination continuous or on going?: Yes