



FAIR HOUSING NEWS

A newsletter about fair housing, community development, & neighborhood quality of life



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

JUNETEENTH GREETINGS!

Welcome to this Expanded Edition of *Fair Housing News* Produced by the GBCHRB as a Public Service! To join the mailing list: <mailto:wkladky@gbchrb.org>. Go to our website <http://www.gbchrb.org> for

laws, links, etc. You can view our TV show on the GBCHRB's YouTube Channel - [http://www.youtube.com/user/wkladky1!](http://www.youtube.com/user/wkladky1) Listen to our Fair Housing radio show *Living in Baltimore* (airing on Heaven 600, the Gospel station) at <http://www.gbchrb.org/2rad9899.htm>.

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MARYLAND NEWS

Maryland Enforcement Data Shows Increase In Housing Discrimination Complaints. The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights (MCCR) recently released its annual report detailing fair housing enforcement efforts. [Read the 2020 MCCR Annual Report.](#) MCCR reports that in 2020 it received 128

complaints of housing discrimination from Marylanders, a 37.6% increase from the 93 in 2019. Some 82.0% of these complaints (or 105) were from people who have a disability. 53 of the complaints were based on race, with 91% of those from Blacks. The National Fair Housing Alliance also released a [report on U.S. Fair Housing Trends](#) in 2020 that found that there were 28,880 fair housing complaints in the US in 2019, a slight decrease. There were 17,010 complaint cases (58.9%) that involved discrimination against a person with a disability. The second most reported type of housing was discrimination on the basis of race with 4,757 (16.5%) cases, followed by familial status with 2,228 (7.7%) cases; sex discrimination with 1,948 complaints (6.8%); national origin 1,730 (6.0%) cases; color with 646 (2.2%) cases; and religion the basis of 328 (1.1%) cases.

The Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition (MCRC) observes that "while Maryland makes up 1.84% of the US population, our fair housing complaints are just 0.32% of the complaints made nationwide. This low number of complaints, taken in concert with the pervasive segregation of housing in the Baltimore region and ample anecdotal evidence of discrimination, suggests that Marylanders are not reporting discrimination when they experience it." Maryland Commission on Civil Rights [2020 Annual Report](#), National Fair Housing Alliance [report on U.S. Fair Housing Trends](#) in 2020, and MCRC Member Newsletter, April 2, 2021.

US Department of Justice (USDOJ) Settles Disability Discrimination Claims Against 19 DC, Maryland, & Virginia Building Owners. The [agreement](#) with 19 building owners who rent space in their buildings to stores and restaurants requires the owners to fix their buildings so that



people with mobility disabilities, like wheelchair users, can get in the door to shop or eat. The Justice Department inspected three buildings on 14th Street N.W., in Washington, D.C., and found two of the buildings had steps at the entrances and one did not have enough space at the entrance for wheelchair users to open the door and go in on their own. The building owners agreed to hire an architect to check their 19 buildings in Washington, D.C., Maryland, and Virginia to make sure the buildings can be used by people with disabilities, and to fix any problems by the end of 2022. Possible fixes are adding a ramp where there are steps or putting in an automatic door opener when there is not enough space for wheelchair users. [Read the June 8, 2021 USDOJ press release.](#)

Stay Connected: Baltimore Builds Virtual Workshop Series in June, 2021. Register at <http://bit.ly/bmorebuildsjune2021>. Help revitalize the City of Baltimore through purchasing and developing City-owned properties. During this series, you will learn how to utilize CodeMap to find development opportunities, prepare for your community renewal project, and purchase City-owned properties that are right for you. The sessions are: **June 16 - Baltimore City Pre-Development Program** - Wednesday, June 16, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Speaker: Eric Tiso; and **June 23 - How to Buy City-Owned Properties** - Wednesday, June 23, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Speaker: Teresa Stephens. For questions and more information: [Contact Us](#). Source: Baltimore DHCD, June 4, 2021.



State Legislative Session Passes Important Fair Housing and Tenant Protection Bills - But Not Eviction Prevention. Fair Housing and tenant protections were among a number of bills passed during 2021. The most relevant for Fair Housing are: (1) *Maryland DHCD Added Fair Housing Work* - HB90/SB687 requires the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to demonstrate actions to increase fair housing in counties and support nonprofit and other organizations devoted to fair

housing. This bill: (a) requires DHCD to administer its programs and activities to “affirmatively further fair housing;” (b) establishes that jurisdictions have a duty to affirmatively further fair housing; (c) requires DHCD to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly on efforts by specified units of State and local government to promote fair housing; and (d) establishes provisions relating to the inclusion of assessments of fair housing in local comprehensive plans. [Read the General Assembly legislation summary.](#) (2) *Tenant Screening Report Instead of Credit Check* - HB861/SB691 helps low-income tenants by establishing a reusable tenant screening report which a prospective tenant pays for and gives to landlords willing to accept these reports instead of a credit check. [Read the legislative summary.](#) (3) *Right to Attorney in Eviction Cases* - HB18/SB154 gives low-income tenants the right to an attorney in eviction cases. When renters have counsel it results in less evictions because people with legitimate defenses are more successful in asserting them. [Read the legislative summary.](#) (4) *Health Equity Resource Communities.* (5) *Elimination of Imprisonment for License Revocation.* (6) *The Transit Safety and Investment Act.* Unfortunately, some bills that were important to Fair Housing did not pass, such as HB26 which would expand protections for student borrowers with private loans and HB848 which would end debtors prisons for consumer debts. The legislature did not pass important anti-eviction measures such as HB52/SB454 which would establish effective methods of diverting evictions, HB31 which would prevent serial eviction filings, and HB1312/SB910 that would end pandemic related evictions. Source: [Maryland Coalition for Consumer Rights](#), 2021 Legislative Wrap-Up, April 12, 2021.

Representative Jamie Raskin (Maryland’s 8th District) named the Recipient of Disability Rights Maryland’s (DRM) 2021 Judith Heumann Champion of Justice Award. The award’s namesake, [Judith Heumann](#), will



present the award at DRM's Breaking Barriers Virtual Awards Gala on Thursday, November 18, 2021. The award was established in 2020 to recognize internationally renowned disability rights activist Judy Heumann, who was profiled in the Oscar-nominated *Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution*. [Wade Henderson](#) was the first recipient of the award. DRM applauded Raskin's lifelong commitment to the advancement and legal protection of rights for people with disabilities via concurrent legislation supporting civil rights and liberties such as same-sex marriage, supporting voting rights and accessibility of elections, securing funding supporting independent living, and protecting Social Security benefits of children with disabilities in foster care. The Thomas Bloom Raskin Act was passed by the Maryland General Assembly to increase access to emergency mental health services.



NATIONAL NEWS

HUD to Reinstate Obama-era Fair Housing Rule Guttled Under Trump, Minus the Reporting Requirement. Communities now must take steps [to reduce racial segregation](#) or risk losing federal funds. Missing from the requirement is the 2015 mandate that communities do an extensive analysis of local barriers to integration and submit plans to reduce them to HUD.

HUD officials said the creation and review of these assessments “proved to be unnecessarily burdensome” for communities as well as the agency, similar to complaints by former HUD secretary Ben Carson. [Trump gutted Obama-era housing discrimination rules. Biden’s bringing them back.](#) Some housing experts worry that without mandating jurisdictions to submit reports analyzing housing patterns, concentrated poverty, and disparities in access to transportation, jobs, and good schools, HUD would have a difficult time enforcing the requirement that communities take meaningful action against longitudinal segregation. Previous provisions to enforce the 1968 Fair Housing Act’s requirement to “[affirmatively further fair housing](#)” were basically minimal, according to multiple past assessments by a bipartisan commission, the Government Accountability Office, and HUD. HUD officials said that jurisdictions must still maintain records of the actions they are taking to promote fair housing, emphasizing that HUD can investigate allegations of housing discrimination and conduct reviews to help ensure compliance. The agency intends to do a separate rulemaking process to improve the rule to help communities achieve fair housing outcomes without additional burden. More: [199 House Republicans have embraced anti-Semitism and violence; Christian nationalists and QAnon followers tend to be anti-Semitic. That was seen in the Capitol attack; How anti-Semitic beliefs have taken hold among some evangelical Christians.](#) [Read the June 9, 2021 Washington Post article.](#)

Reports of Anti-Semitic Incidents in the D.C. Region in 2020 are Highest on Record.

The Anti-Defamation League, which has been tracking reports since 1979, said that the number of [reported incidents nationally](#) (2,204) declined by 4% in 2020 after hitting an all-time high in 2019. 2020 was still the third-highest year on record, the ADL said. The incidents are classified into three categories: assault, harassment, and vandalism. The 1,242 reports of harassment nationally in 2020 represent an increase of 10% over 2019, while reported acts of vandalism and assault declined by 18% and 49%. [D.C. pushes security grant for faith-based institutions after year of unrest.](#) In Maryland, 47 anti-Semitic incidents were reported to the ADL in 2020, a 135% increase from the 20 incidents in 2019. Maryland had the 11th-highest number of anti-Semitic incidents in US for 2020. All of the increase was in harassment. The number of [incidents reported to the ADL](#) in 2020 in D.C., Maryland, and Virginia was the highest since the ADL started collecting data in 1979. Appropriate data is available only from 2008 to 2020. After the pandemic spread in 2020, “incidents of anti-Semitism at schools and colleges dropped precipitously as learning



moved online,” the ADL said. “However, this led to an increase in incidents of anti-Semitic ‘Zoombombing’ - the intentional disruption of live videoconferences.” In 2020, the ADL recorded 196 incidents of anti-Semitic videoconferencing attacks nationally. The 139 anti-Semitic incidents in the region included visual attacks such as swastikas on schools, mailboxes, and buildings and fliers left at homes and on cars. Also included were attacks on Zoom during events like weddings and funerals. [Read the April 27, 2021 Washington Post article.](#)



New York City Begins Commission to Address Systemic Racism. Commemorating Juneteenth, Mayor de Blasio said the racial justice commission will be tasked with dismantling structural racism and addressing the disparities underlined by the Covid-19 pandemic. It will review the city's charter and recommend revisions or policy changes to create a more equitable community. Reparations for Black residents may also be considered by the commission. The commission's beginning is about one month after Democratic lawmakers revived a similar proposal for a racial justice commission in Congress that would examine the country's history of systemic racism against Blacks, address inequities, and support efforts to provide reparations for slavery. [Read the March 23, 2021 CNN article.](#)

Juneteenth is a Celebration of Emancipation and Black Liberation. Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the US, and one of several “Emancipation Days” observed by Black diasporic communities in the Caribbean, Mexico, Canada, and the US. The holiday is celebrated on June 19th because on that date in 1865 Union soldiers told enslaved persons in Texas that the US Civil War had ended and that they had been freed from bondage by the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863. Freed Black and Afro-Indigenous people from Texas brought the celebration with them when they migrated to other states. Juneteenth is a communal celebration, nowadays commemorated with events like block parties, cookouts, parades, and rodeos. Like many memorial occasions in the Black diasporic tradition, Juneteenth is a celebratory, instead of solemn, commemoration.. Baltimore City celebrates Juneteenth with events like the Juneteenth Open Air Celebration at the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum, Juneteenth Pop up at Hanover Cross Street, and the Reservoir Hill Association Present Juneteenth. The Maryland Legislature passed a bill in 2021 making Juneteenth a holiday, and some counties celebrate it this way also, such as Howard County as of 2021. For more events in Baltimore, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/d/md--baltimore/black-history/>. Sources: [The Voter, League of Women Voters of Baltimore County, May/June, 2021](#). <https://www.baltimoresun.com/maryland/howard/cng-ho-juneteenth-announcement-20210408-fj4fngzbewhmgawm5e4usgna-story.html>. <https://www.chesapeakefamily.com/juneteenth-freedom-day-maryland-events-for-2021/>.



GAO Report Finds Many Families with Young Children in HUD Voucher Program Living in Units with Lead Dangers. The report, [Lead Paint in Housing: Key Considerations for Adopting Stricter Lead Evaluation Methods in HUD's Voucher Program \(GAO-21-325\)](#), points out that HUD's voucher program has 1.1 million families in housing units built before 1978. This includes about 229,000 children under 6 years old, who research has indicated at greatest risk from lead exposure. Lead paint can seriously affect young children's health and has been banned from use in US housing since 1978. The report also evaluates the costs and feasibility of an intensified HUD inspection program to identify lead-unsafe properties, but does not mention the

importance of offering assistance to families with young children to move to lead-safe properties and neighborhoods. The HUD voucher program requires visual assessments for identifying deteriorated paint, with no testing of paint or dust. Any change to stricter evaluation methods would need to consider that certain states have a larger portion of pre-1978 voucher units occupied by families with young children. For more information about the study, contact John H. Pendleton at 202.512.8678 or pendletonj@gao.gov. Source: Poverty & Race Research Action Council (PRRAC), "PRRAC Update: Housing finance and racial justice; Strength in Diversity candidates," May 20, 2021.



MORTGAGE LENDING NEWS

Wells Fargo, Other Banks Finance Predatory Lenders That Can Charge Over 400% Interest In Minority Communities. A WFAA-Fox investigation found the money that finances many predatory lenders comes from the same big banks. Data analyzed by the National Community Reinvestment Coalition show the bank makes relatively few loans to low-moderate-income borrowers in

Dallas County, Texas. Wells Fargo made 18% of its home purchase loans to low- to moderate- income borrowers, third from the bottom among banks in the county. But Wells Fargo shares in a \$400 million line of credit to FirstCash, along with Bank of Texas and 7 others, according to 2016 and 2020 SEC filings. As a result of community outrage, support reportedly is building in Texas, among other areas, for a solution that could help change that: a responsible banking ordinance. A responsible banking ordinance requires a local government to evaluate how well a bank serves all its citizens, from high- to low-income, before choosing to do business with the bank. [Read the May 23, 2021 WFAA-Fox article.](#)

JPMorgan, Wells Fargo, US Bancorp, Others Plan to Issue Credit Cards to People With No Credit Scores. Some of the largest U.S. banks plan to start sharing data on customers' deposit accounts as part of a government-backed initiative to extend credit to people who have traditionally lacked opportunities to borrow. The banks will consider information from applicants' checking or savings accounts at other financial institutions to increase their chances of being approved for credit cards. The pilot program, expected to launch this year, is aimed at individuals who don't have credit scores but who are financially responsible. The banks would consider applicants' account balances over time and their overdraft histories. The effort, if successful, would mark a significant change in the underwriting tactics of big banks, which have utilized credit scores and credit reports to determine who gets a loan. They generally reflect a person's US borrowing history, including whether they pay their loans on time. Those who pay only with cash or debit cards, or who are new to the US, often don't have credit scores. Some 53 million adults don't have traditional credit scores, according to Fair Isaac Corp. , the FICO creator. They are often limited to payday loans and other costly forms of credit. [Read the May 13, 2021 Wall Street Journal article.](#)



HUD & DOJ ENFORCEMENT

HUD Reaches Settlement with California Housing Providers Resolving Claims of National Origin Discrimination. Respondents allegedly failed to provide language access services to Vietnamese residents and retaliated against a Cascade Village Apartments employee for advocating for residents with limited English proficiency to receive oral interpretation services and translated vital documents. [Read the agreement.](#) The case began when an agent at the complex, which receives HUD funding, filed a complaint alleging that the

owners and managers of the property did not provide language access services to its Vietnamese residents and retaliated against an employee because she advocated for the housing providers to provide language services to LEP residents. Under the settlement, FPI Management will, among other things, pay \$10,000 to the employee who filed the complaint; provide \$20,075 in compensation to residents of the property, with each household receiving \$275 as either a check or as a rent credit; and send a notification letter to each household in their primary language notifying them of the agreement, including that FPI Management will provide LEP applicants with free oral interpretation services and translated documents when required by law. [Read the May 21, 2021 HUD press release.](#)

HUD Approves Settlement Resolving Claims of Disability Discrimination at Las Vegas Apartment Complex. The Agreement between Olen Living and Spanish Ridge Corporation, the owners of apartment complexes in Las Vegas, NV, and mother and daughter tenants, resolves allegations that the owners refused to grant their reasonable accommodation request to be moved to a different unit. [Read the Conciliation Agreement.](#) The complainants alleged that they had requested to move because their unit had mold and bulging carpeting, making it difficult for the daughter to use her walker. Under the Agreement, the property owners will pay the mother and daughter \$5,984, waive \$9,486 in past rent and other expenses the owners claim they owed, and provide training on fair housing and reasonable accommodations for their employees. [Read the May 17, 2021 HUD press release.](#)



HUD Charges Kansas Homeowners Association with Disability Discrimination for Allegedly Refusing to Allow a Resident with a Mobility Impairment to Expand Her Own Sidewalk at Her Own Expense. The charge is against The Apollo Gardens Homes Association, Inc. (HOA), Inc, in Mission, Kansas, and its board president. The requested modification would have enabled the resident to use her walker and have more stability. HUD's charge also alleges that the HOA retaliated against the resident by removing her from the HOA board and denying her reinstatement request. [Read HUD's charge.](#) HUD's charge alleges that Apollo Gardens HOA required association members seeking a modification or accommodation to follow the same process as those wanting to remodel a residence for aesthetic reasons. HUD's charge will be heard by a US Administrative Law Judge unless any party elects for the case to be heard

in federal court. If, after a hearing, the administrative law judge finds that discrimination has occurred, the judge may award damages to the complainant for her losses that have resulted from the discrimination. The judge may also order injunctive relief and other equitable relief, payment of attorney fees, and/or civil penalties. [Read the May 7, 2021 HUD press release.](#)

Texas Man Pleads Guilty to Hate Crime Charges After Using Dating App to Target Gay Men for Violent Crimes. Daniel Jenkins, 22, of Dallas, pleaded guilty yesterday to a federal hate crime and two other charges in connection with his involvement in a scheme to target gay men for violent crimes. Jenkins is the last of four defendants to plead guilty to charges stemming from the scheme, and pleaded guilty to one hate crime count, one count of conspiracy to commit hate crimes, kidnapping, and carjacking, and one count of use of a firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence. According to court documents filed in connection with his guilty plea, Jenkins admitted that he and his co-conspirators used Grindr, a social media dating site used mainly by gay men, to lure gay men to a vacant apartment and other places around Dallas for robbery, carjacking, kidnapping, and hate crimes during a week in 2017. Jenkins admitted that he and his co-conspirators held victims against their will;



pointed a handgun at victims and took their personal property, including their vehicles; and traveled to local ATMs to withdraw cash from the victims' accounts. Jenkins also admitted that he and his co-conspirators physically injured at least one victim and taunted the victims based upon the co-conspirators' perception of the men's sexual orientation. Pursuant to the plea agreement, Jenkins faces a sentence of up to 26 years in prison. [Read the June 3, 2021 USDOJ press release.](#)

Justice Department Obtains Settlement from San Diego Landlord to Resolve Claims of Sexual Harassment of Female Tenants.

Under the [consent order](#) entered by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California, Nelson must pay at least \$205-230,000 in damages to tenants harmed by his harassment and a \$25,000 civil penalty. A judgment for an additional \$350,000 also was entered against Nelson, but is suspended based on sworn disclosure statements reflecting Nelson's financial situation. Any misrepresentation or omission by Nelson on those disclosure statements will trigger collection of the suspended judgment. Nelson is prohibited from property management of rental units in the future and must hire an independent professional property manager. He also must implement a nondiscrimination policy and complaint procedure and must release judgments obtained against victims whom he wrongfully evicted. The US lawsuit alleged that Nelson's harassment spanned a period of nearly 20 years. The allegations included he engaged in unwelcome sexual touching, offered to reduce monthly rental payments in exchange for sex, made unwelcome sexual comments and advances, made intrusive and unannounced visits to female tenants' homes to further his sexual advances, and evicted or threatened to evict female tenants who objected to or refused his sexual advance. The Justice Department's [Sexual Harassment in Housing Initiative](#) is led by the Civil Rights Division, in coordination with U.S. Attorney's Offices across the country. [Read the June 3, 2021 USDOJ press release.](#)



Alaska Defendant Pleads Guilty for Threatening a Los Angeles Synagogue and Attempting to Obstruct the Free Exercise of Religious Beliefs.

William Alexander, 50, of Anchorage, Alaska, entered a guilty plea before US District Court Judge Matthew McCrary Scoble to an indictment charging them with one count of making threatening interstate communications and one count of intentionally

obstructing and attempting to obstruct persons in the enjoyment of their free exercise of religious beliefs through the threatened use of force. According to information presented at the guilty plea hearing, in 2019, while in Anchorage, he used their cellular phone to call a Los Angeles area synagogue. Alexander left a voice message that they were going to kill the synagogue's congregants, while repeatedly using slurs referring to people of Jewish faith. Alexander intended the voice message to be interpreted as a threat. At the plea hearing, he admitted committing this act with the intent to obstruct the synagogue's congregants from enjoying the free exercise of their religious beliefs.

Alexander's sentencing hearing is August 23. [Read the May 27, 2021 USDOJ press release.](#)

Justice Department Resolves ADA Complaint About Regulations with Maine Department of Health and Human Services.

A young man with intellectual disabilities (ID) complained that Maine imposed restrictions that placed him at serious risk of having to move from his own home into a congregate setting to receive the services he needs. While Maine's Medicaid program allows unlimited personal assistance services for people living in congregate settings, the state's community service program for people with ID and autism limits those same services when they are provided in a person's own home. As a result, some people with disabilities



who need more personal assistance, like the complainant, may be forced to move to a segregated setting. In 2020, the department concluded that Maine was failing to provide the complainant with necessary services in the most integrated setting appropriate to his needs, which is his own home, thus placing him at serious risk of having to enter a congregate setting. The USDOJ also found that Maine had failed to modify its service program for people with ID and autism to avoid discrimination. Under the agreement, Maine will modify its policies so that people with ID or autism can receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs; for example, a process for granting exceptions to its cap on services provided in one's own home. DHHS will also establish an individualized process for people to assess their options of where they want to live and receive services. For the complainant, DHHS will provide access to all needed in-home services and pay \$100,000 in damages. [Read the June 4, USDOJ press release.](#)

FAIR HOUSING RESOURCES

Fair Housing Action Center Offers New Disability and Housing Training. The [Fair Housing Action Center](#) is

offering a NEW Know Your Rights training covering Disability and Housing. The training reviews the fair housing rights of people with disabilities, including their right to reasonable accommodations and modifications. Reasonable accommodations and modifications include things such as installing grab bars in bathrooms for stability, reserved parking for mobility challenges, and emotional support animals to help manage mental health. Attendees will learn how to request reasonable accommodations and modifications, what resources are available to pay for modifications, and what to do if their request is denied. We offer this training to service providers, case managers, health care workers, and others on behalf of their clients. If interested in this training for your community, clients, or team, contact Robyn at Robyn@marylandconsumers.org. Source: Maryland Consumers Rights Coalition Newsletter, June 4, 2021.



Interested In Fair Housing? Community Development? Insurance? Foreclosure Prevention? Check Out the [GBCHRB's YouTube Channel!](#)

You can watch interviews about insurance, discrimination, affordable housing, Fair Housing laws, disability issues, mortgage lending, and related issues. You can listen to one of our radio shows at: <http://www.gbchr.org/2rad9899.htm>.



The GBCHRB Distributes Free Fair Housing Brochures, Posters, and Guides.

We have Fair Housing information, brochures, guides, & posters in English, Spanish, Korean, Russian, and for people with disabilities. We also distribute brochures and guides about housing and insurance. 410.929.7640 / <mailto:wkladky@gbchr.org>.



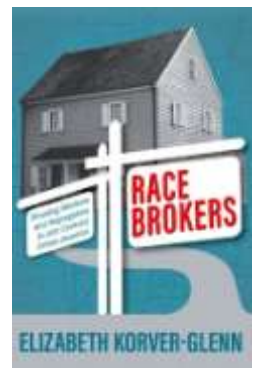
What Do You Think of This Newsletter? Is it good? Bad? How can we improve it? What issues should we cover more? Less? Any good ideas? Tips? Good jokes?! Positive or negative, we want to hear from you! We appreciate constructive criticism! Send comments to <mailto:wkladky@gbchr.org>.



HAVE YOU READ?

Set the Night on Fire: L.A. in the Sixties by Mike Davis and Jon Wiener. 800 pages. Verso, 2020. \$34.95 hardcover. "Los Angeles in the sixties was a hotbed of political and social upheaval. The city was a launch pad for Black Power—where Malcolm X and Angela Davis first came to prominence and the Watts uprising shook the nation. The city was home to the Chicano Blowouts and Chicano Moratorium, as well as being the birthplace of “Asian American” as a political identity. It was a locus of the antiwar movement, gay liberation movement, and women’s movement, and, of course, the capital of California counterculture. Mike Davis and Jon Wiener provide the first comprehensive movement history of L.A. in the sixties, drawing on extensive archival research and dozens of interviews with principal figures, as well as the authors’ storied personal histories as activists. Following on from Davis’s award winning L.A. history, *City of Quartz...*"

Race Brokers: Housing Markets and Segregation in 21st Century Urban America by Elizabeth Korver-Glenn. 240 pages. Oxford University Press, 2021. \$27.95 paperback. This sociologist author examines how housing market professionals - including housing developers, real estate agents, mortgage lenders, and appraisers - make up contemporary urban housing markets in ways that contribute to neighborhood inequality and racial segregation. Drawing on ethnographic and interview data collected in Houston, Texas, Korver-Glenn shows how these professionals, especially those who are White, use racist tools to build a fundamentally unequal housing market and are even encouraged to apply racist ideas to market activity and interactions. The book further tracks how professionals broker racism across the entirety of the housing exchange process, from the home's construction, to real estate brokerage, mortgage lending, home appraisals, and the home sale closing.



REST IN PEACE

Tarek Alkadri, Civil Rights Lawyer. He served the Muslim Legal Fund of America (MLFA) and was the founder and chairman of Pure Hands, one of the largest nonprofit organizations that deliver humanitarian aid to those in need in Yemen. Alkadri, a board member of the Muslim Legal Fund of America (MLFA) since 2006, was also a board member of the North Texas Islamic Council and the Islamic Association of North Texas and past board member of Islamic Services Foundation. Tarek also founded the Muslim Legal Fund of America, which has helped many American Muslims regarding discrimination in the US. Commending this giant who served justice. Sheikh Omar Suleiman's Tribute: https://www.instagram.com/p/CPw2OyVD_YX/. Pure Hands' Memorial: <https://www.facebook.com/433522976666717/posts/4306397159379260/>. [Read the June 7, 2021 CAIR article.](#)

Edmond Freeman, Crusading Newspaper Publisher, 94. As a small-city southeast Arkansas newspaper publisher of *Pine Bluff Commercial*, his principled editorials and news coverage influenced race relations, politics, and wilderness conservation. The newspaper opposed Gov. Orval Faubus' effort to use the state's National Guard to block Blacks from attending Little Rock's Central High School. This led to President Dwight D. Eisenhower sending the Army's 101st Airborne Division to enforce the Supreme Court's desegregation



mandate in the *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling. "Some of my friends stopped talking to me," he added, "and there were a lot of anti-Commercial letters to the editor for awhile. We responded by attending and reporting on meetings of the White Citizens' Council and we printed the negative letters. There was some falloff of ad revenue and we lost a few subscribers, but by and large the people stayed with us." The newspaper also was the target of boycotts and other opposition. *The Commercial* also editorialized against Jim Crow laws and published a story exposing a secret plan by the mayor of Pine Bluff to avoid desegregation of the city fire department. Under Edmond's leadership, The Commercial also campaigned to help keep the Buffalo River in its natural state and prevent a dam from being constructed in the 1960s and 1970s. Congress designated the Buffalo a national river in 1972. [Read the May 6, 2021 Washington Post obituary.](#)



Martin F. McMahon, CAIR Civil Rights Advocate, In the early years of CAIR's work, McMahon volunteered to help a number of American Muslims who were targeted by discrimination. He served as CAIR's first attorney in the 27-year-old civil rights organization's early years. CAIR's mission is to protect civil rights, enhance understanding of Islam, promote justice, and empower American Muslims. McMahon, for example, defended Muslim women from workplace discrimination. In 1996, CAIR won its first Hijab in the workplace cases. He received CAIR's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2019. McMahon has participated in numerous speaking engagements including the D.C. Trial Lawyers Association on "Punitive Damage Awards." He also has been criticized for lawsuits filed against Israel. [Read the June 7, 2021 CAIR article.](#)
