

## **What Do You Think? City of Los Angeles Guilty of Discrimination?**

Dear Dan:

During the time that I've been doing battle with the City of Los Angeles in the area of the City's willful discrimination against landlords, I've written to HUD four times. So far, the Secretary of HUD in Washington, D.C. has written back to me three times and each response was nothing more than polite "BS". So, I decided that my fourth letter to HUD would have a more serious tone. Here's what I see happening:

1. HUD doesn't care if a local government discriminates against landlords. They are a bias government agency because they are only concerned with civil rights violations when it affects renters.
2. Cities such as Los Angeles and San Francisco have created many laws that are anti-landlord. California is known for creating new trends that the rest of the country often copies and follows along.
3. Our Mayor in Los Angeles is talking about finding a legal way to prevent banks from foreclosing on people who were dumb enough to buy houses that they couldn't afford. I have an idea what is coming next. Because our economy is doing a nosedive, as more people lose their jobs and become unable to pay their rent, the City is going to stick landlords again. I believe it is only a matter of time before our Mayor or some socialist on the City Council passes a new law giving renters who lose their jobs, six months or a year of free rent before they can be evicted. How many landlords do you know who can afford a moratorium on evictions.
4. It doesn't take much to convince many of the "less intelligent" members of the public that the banks and landlords are evil and the source of all their problems. The time has come for landlords to come together and fight back. As a landlord, I think what our local politicians have done to us over the years is un-American. Maybe we can get a few banks to join us in this battle? I think the majority of the banks are going to be angry once there are laws on the books to prevent them from foreclosing on those who are not paying for their mortgage.

### **Here is what needs to be done:**

- We need to keep fighting the City. I have an idea how to create public outrage that will put the public behind us.
- We need to reach out to other landlord organizations across the country, wake them up and get them involved in waging a "public relations" war against HUD. We should send letters to every member of Congress that HUD needs a house cleaning and a revised mission statement.
- I believe we only have about a year before the City of Los Angeles creates another unfair law to help renters and handicap landlords. Now is the time to get busy.

- Because the City is forcing developers who build new apartment buildings to put aside units for those who cannot pay fair market value, maybe some of the big developers might be willing to put up money to join us in this battle? If we unite the landlords, the banks and the big developers, we will become a force to be reckoned with and we will turn back the tide of discrimination against landlords.

If you feel that you need to consult an attorney about this before you get involved, then you need to re-adjust your way of thinking. Most attorneys are not about changing the law, they often benefit from unfair laws because it brings in more clients to their office. Most attorneys are about creating cash flow for themselves.

In the last ten years, as a public relations person and media spokesperson, I fought the City of Los Angeles two times and I won each battle. All of the attorneys that were consulted told me that what I was trying to do was “probably impossible”. Well, I accomplished the “impossible”.

This is because I know how to use the media to win over the public. Most lawyers don't know how to do that, they just don't have the personality for it and most lawyers don't have the media contacts that I have.

Just about everyone has heard the term “divide and conquer”. Well, I believe in “unify and win”. I am passionate about this issue and making things right for landlords. In history, the greatest warriors were victorious because of their passion and determination to win. I have what it takes to win, but I can't do it alone. I need others to join me and then it will be shared victory. If what I've stated here makes sense to you, then you should call me immediately so we can meet and start working together on these issues.

If anyone is interested in joining this fight, please call (323) 934-6465 or (323) 397-8740.

***Have an opinion or story to share? Send your letter to the AOA office nearest you or email [editor@aoausa.com](mailto:editor@aoausa.com) and tell us what YOU think.***