

## ALERT

HUD today announced that it is awarding \$40.8 million to a total of 108 fair housing agencies and non-profit organizations in thirty-six (36) states and the District of Columbia “to educate the public and combat housing discrimination.” While HUD annually awards some grant monies to these agencies as part of its fair housing enforcement activities, this year’s grants are \$13.2 million higher than those awarded last year and represent a forty-eight percent (48%) increase in money directed to fund HUD’s education and outreach activities.

Today’s grants are specifically directed for use in testing for compliance with fair housing laws, educating the public and the housing industry about their rights and obligations under these laws, and “working to promote equal housing opportunities.”

In Arizona HUD awarded the Arizona Fair Housing Center in Phoenix a \$325,000 PEI grant and a \$124,786 EOI grant. It also gave the Southwest Arizona Fair Housing Council a PEI grant of \$274,309.00. PEI grants are awarded to improve enforcement of state, federal and local fair housing laws (including testing for violations) and EOI grants are used for education and outreach. As neither the Arizona Fair Housing Center or the Southwest Fair Housing Council have enforcement authority of their own, it is likely that their grant efforts will be largely directed toward testing for fair housing violations and filing complaints with HUD and the Arizona Attorney General if they believe that any of their tests suggest discriminatory practices.

The Law Office of Scott Clark LLC has a full list of all agencies funded by HUD for these purposes for the current fiscal year, including the amount of each agency’s grant. Please feel free to contact us if you need information about grants awarded to entities in any other geographic regions.

