



Maine Human Rights Commission

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INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT MHRC Nos. H18-0391-A&B/HUD No. 01-19-0898-8 January 22, 2019

Darleen Gray & Anthony Harmon, Jr. (Auburn)

v.

Stanley Hinds & Nancy Hinds (Greene)

I. Summary of Case:

Complainants Darleen Gray (“Gray”) and Anthony Harmon, Jr. (“Harmon”) reside at 13 Hutchins St., Unit 2, Auburn, Maine (the “Premises”), a property owned and managed by Respondents Stanley Hinds (“S. Hinds”) and Nancy Hinds (“N. Hinds”). Complainants alleged that Respondents discriminated against them based on Gray’s disability and Harmon’s association with a person with a disability by treating them differently in the terms and conditions of their housing (including requiring a pet deposit for an assistance animal) and retaliated against them for engaging in protected activity. Respondents denied discriminating or retaliating against Complainants and stated that they believed Complainants breached their rental agreement. The Investigator conducted a preliminary investigation, which included reviewing the documents submitted by the parties, holding an Issues and Resolution Conference (“IRC”), and requesting additional information. Based upon this information, the Investigator recommends a finding that there are reasonable grounds to believe that Respondents discriminated and retaliated against Complainants.

II. Jurisdictional Data:

- 1) Dates of alleged discrimination: September 30, 2018.
- 2) Date complaint filed with the Maine Human Rights Commission (“Commission”): October 15, 2018.
- 3) Respondents are subject to the Maine Human Rights Act (“MHRA”) and the federal Fair Housing Act (“FHA”), as well as state and federal housing regulations.
- 4) Complainants are represented by Patricia Ender, Esq. Respondents are not represented.

III. Development of Facts:

- 1) Complainants provided the following in support of their claims: