



Maine Human Rights Commission

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INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

MHRC Case No. H19-0427-A&B/HUD No. 01-20-3919-8

May 6, 2020

Heidi McIntosh (Auburn)

v.

Twin Cities Group, LLC (Auburn) & Olga Dolgicer (Auburn)

I. Summary of Case:

Complainant Heidi McIntosh resided at 115 Pleasant Street, Apt. 1, Auburn, ME (the "Premises") which is owned and operated by the Twin Cities Group, LLC with Olga Dolgicer ("Dolgicer") as its agent (collectively "Respondents"). Complainant alleged that Respondents discriminated against her based on familial status¹ and on her association with persons based on their race and mental or physical disabilities when she was treated differently in the terms and conditions of her housing (including making housing unavailable). Complainant also alleged that Respondents made discriminatory statements and interfered with her housing rights. Respondents denied discriminating against Complainant; she was evicted her because the month to month lease ended, in addition to multiple lease violations. The Investigator conducted a preliminary investigation, which included reviewing the documents submitted by the parties, interviewing the parties, and requesting additional information. Based upon this information, the Investigator recommends that the Commission find that there are reasonable grounds to believe that Respondents discriminated and retaliated against Complainant based on her protected class statuses.

II. Jurisdictional Data:

- 1) Dates of alleged discrimination: July 2019 through Fall 2019.
- 2) Date complaint filed with the Maine Human Rights Commission ("Commission"): November 1, 2019.
- 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) Complainant is represented by Patricia Ender, Esq. Respondents are not represented by counsel.

¹ Complainant's familial status claims appear to be based on the presence of Son and his guests at the Premises. The record does not support a finding that Complainant was discriminated against because of the presence of her minor child, rather than because of that child's disability and the race of his visitors. Respondents had other families with minor children in the building, and did not appear to be biased against families with children, treat them less favorably, or make housing unavailable to them. It seems plain from the record that Complainant and Son would not have been treated poorly if not for Son's disability and/or the race of his visitors. Accordingly, Complainant's familial status claims fail, and will not be analyzed further.