FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION TOWN OF GRISWOLD, CT

Whereas, All persons are afforded a right to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice; and

Whereas, Federal fair housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and homeownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

Whereas, Connecticut fair housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and home ownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

Whereas, The Town of Griswold, CT is committed to upholding these laws, and realizes that these laws must be supplemented by an Affirmative Statement publicly endorsing the right of all people to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Town of Griswold, CT hereby endorses a Fair Housing Policy to ensure equal opportunity for all persons to rent, purchase, obtain financing and enjoy all other housing-related services of their choice on a non-discriminatory basis as provided by state and federal law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the chief executive officer of the Town of Griswold, CT has designated Town Planner Mario J. Tristany Jr., as the Griswold representative responsible for responding to and assisting any person who alleges to be the victim of an illegal discriminatory housing practice in the Town of Griswold, CT and for advising such person of the right to file a complaint with the State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or to seek assistance from the CT Fair Housing Center, legal services, or other fair housing organizations to protect his or her right to equal housing opportunities.

Adopted by the Town of Griswold, CT on March 26, 2019

Todd Babbitt, First Selectman
Town of Griswold, Connecticut Fair Housing Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Town of Griswold to promote fair housing opportunities and to encourage racial and economic integration in all its programs and housing development activities.

Programs funded and administered by this Town must comply with the provisions of Section 46a-64c of the C.G.S., and with related state and federal laws and regulations that prohibit discriminatory housing practices.

The Town of Griswold or any of sub-recipient of the Town of Griswold will carry out an affirmative marketing program to attract prospective buyers or tenants of all majority or minority groups, without consideration of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, lawful source of income, disability, age or because the individual has children in all programs and housing development activities funded or administered by the Town of Griswold.

The municipality's Planning and Community Development Department is responsible for the enforcement and implementation of this policy. Mario J. Tristany Jr., Griswold Town Planner may be reached at 860-376-7060, ext. 2111 or at townplanner@griswold-ct.org

Complaints pertaining to discrimination in any program funded or administered by the Town of Griswold may be filed with the Planning and Community Development Office. The municipality's Grievance Procedure will be utilized in these cases.

Complaints may also be filed with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, Special Enforcement Unit, 21 Grand Street, Hartford, CT 06106, Telephone (860) 541-3403 within 180 days of the alleged violation by submitting a notarized complaint and/or the Boston Regional Office of FHEO, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Federal Building, 10 Causeway Street, Room 321, Boston, MA 02222-1092, Telephone (617) 994-8300 or 1-800-827-5005, TTY (617) 565-5453. A complaint may be filed with HUD within one year after an alleged violation. Additionally, an individual may file suit, at his/her expense, in Federal District Court or State Court within two years of an alleged violation. If the individual cannot afford an attorney, the Court may appoint one. A suit can be brought even after filing a complaint, if the complaining party has not signed a conciliation agreement and an Administrative Law Judge has not started a hearing. A court may award actual and punitive damages and attorney's fees and costs.

A copy of this policy statement will be given annually to all Town employees and they are expected to fully comply with it. In addition, a copy will be posted throughout the GRISWOLD Town Hall.

Todd Babbitt, First Selectman

3-25-19

Date

THIS STATEMENT IS AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT OR ON AUDIO TAPE by contacting Mario J. Tristany Jr., Griswold Town Planner
Dear Participant:

The Town of Griswold is committed to the principle and practice of Fair Housing in the development and implementation of its housing related programs and policies.

As part of that commitment, we wish to encourage and support the Fair Housing efforts of businesses and groups such as yours.

Please advise the undersigned of any Fair Housing actions you are making during the month of April, Fair Housing Month, and what practices you carry out throughout the year.

Please also find enclosed copies of Fair Housing materials and the Fair Housing Complaint Procedure. Please keep this material for future reference and call us if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Todd Babbitt, First Selectman
Town of Griswold, Connecticut

Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

The Town of Griswold, Connecticut does not discriminate in the provision of services, the administration of its programs, or contractual agreements. The Town of Griswold seeks to fully carry out its responsibilities under the Title VI Regulations.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, color or national origin in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Title VI provides that No person shall on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any programs covered by the Regulations.

This policy is effectuated through the methods of administration outlined in the Town of Griswold’s Fair Housing Plan and is fully implemented to ensure compliance by the Town of Griswold, as the recipient, and by sub-recipients. The cooperation of all personnel is required.

[Signature]
Todd Babbitt, First Selectman

3-25-19
Date
MUNICIPAL GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

This Grievance procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities act. It may be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in employment practices and policies or the provision of services, activities, programs or benefits by the Town of Griswold.

The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and location, date and description of the problem. Alternative means of filing complaints, such as personal interviews or a tape recording of the complaint will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request.

The complaint should be submitted by the grievant and/or his/her designee as soon as possible but no later than 60 calendar days after the alleged violation to:

Mario J. Tristaniy, Jr.
860-376-7060, extension 2111
Griswold Town Hall
28 Main Street
Griswold, CT 06351

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, Mario J. Tristaniy, Jr., ADA Coordinator, will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, Mario J. Tristaniy, Jr., ADA Coordinator, will respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, such as large print, Braille, or audio tape. The response will explain the position of Peter Zvinglias, ADA Coordinator, and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

If the response by Mario J. Tristaniy, Jr., ADA Coordinator, does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant and/or his/her designee may appeal the decision of the ADA Coordinator within 15 calendar days after receipt of the response to the First Selectman or his or her designee.

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the appeal, the First Selectman or his or her designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, the first Selectman or his or her designee will respond in writing and were appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.

All written complaints received by Mario J. Tristaniy, Jr., ADA Coordinator, appeals to the First Selectman or his or her designee, and responses from the ADA Coordinator and First Selectman or his or her designee will be kept by the Town of Griswold for at least three years.

3-25-19
Date

Todd Babbitt, First Selectman
ADA NOTICE

The Town of Griswold does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities. The Town of Griswold does not discrimination on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices.

This notice is provided as required by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Questions, concerns, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding the ADA may be forwarded to the Town of Griswold's designated ADA Compliance Coordinator.

Name: Mario J. Tristani Jr.

Title: Griswold Town Planner

Office Address: 28 Main Street, Jewett City, CT 06351

Phone Number Voice: 860-376-7060, ext. 2111

Email Address: townplanner@griswold-ct.org

Days/Hours Available: Mon – Wed 8:30 a.m. -4:00 p.m. Thurs 8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. Fri 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Individuals who need auxiliary aids for effective communication in programs and services of the Town of Griswold are invited to make their needs and preferences known to the ADA Compliance Coordinator.

This notice is available in large print, on audio tape, and in Braille, from the ADA Compliance Coordinator.

Todd Babbitt, First Selectman

Date: 3-25-19