

September 2, 2025

Via E-mail

The Honorable J. Kevin Stitt Governor of the State of Oklahoma Kevin.Stitt@gov.ok.gov

Re: Unlawful Discrimination in Oklahoma Homeowner Assistance Fund

Program

Dear Governor Stitt:

My office has previously raised concerns with your attorneys regarding serious allegations of discrimination by your appointees to the Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency ("OHFA") in administering the Oklahoma Homeowner Assistance Fund program. Nevertheless, your appointees continue discriminating against white and heterosexual homeowners in favor of Black, Hispanic and LGBTQ+ individuals. I am writing to demand that you remove these individuals and replace them with qualified Oklahomans who will apply the law fairly and without favor.

You may or may not be aware that the discriminatory conduct of your appointees is at the heart of a federal lawsuit. In *Elaine Wilkinson et al. v. Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency et al.*, WDOK Case No. 5:24-cv-01229-PRW, it is alleged that OHFA appointees engaged in unlawful discrimination against white, Asian, and Pacific Islander homeowners solely on the basis of race, and against heterosexual homeowners solely on the basis of sexual orientation. Such conduct, rooted in unlawful DEI policies, violates both the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and 42 U.S.C. § 2000d. Moreover, Executive Order 14151, issued by President Trump, expressly directs federal agencies and their partners to eliminate DEI-based preferences and programs, underscoring the illegality of OHFA's current practices.

If you are inclined to doubt the legitimacy of these claims, OHFA's own website continues to reflect their ongoing commitment to these unlawful practices. The agency's posted criteria expressly provide that "African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, [and] LGBTQ+" homeowners may qualify for benefits if their income is at or below 150% of the Area Median Income, while all other applicants are restricted to an income threshold of 100% of the

Area Median Income.¹ My office has issued a cease-and-desist letter to OHFA demanding an immediate end to this unlawful race- and sex-based discrimination.

As Attorney General, I will not tolerate Oklahomans being subjected to discrimination of any kind—especially by officials entrusted with stewarding taxpayer dollars. I urge you to immediately remove the offending appointees at OHFA and replace them with qualified Oklahomans who will treat all applicants equally according to the law. Such conduct clearly constitutes sufficient cause for their removal from office. See 60 O.S. § 178.

Respectfully

GENTNER DRUMMOND
Attorney General

¹ https://www.ohfa.org/haf/



September 2, 2025

Via E-mail

Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency Michael Buhl, Chair, Board of Trustees michael.buhl@ohfa.org

Re: Unlawful Discrimination in Oklahoma Homeowner Assistance Fund

Program

Dear Mr. Buhl:

My office has been made aware of disturbing allegations of discrimination committed by the Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency ("OHFA") through its Oklahoma Homeowner Assistance Fund program. Specifically, as outlined in the litigation styled *Elaine Wilkinson et al. v. Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency et al.*, WDOK Case No. 5:24-cv-01229-PRW, OHFA discriminated against white, Asian, and Pacific Islander homeowners in Oklahoma solely because of their race. Likewise, OHFA discriminated against heterosexual Oklahomans based solely on their sexual orientation. This behavior is intolerable. As Attorney General, I will not stand by while Oklahomans face race or sex discrimination—least of all at the hands of those entrusted with protecting taxpayer dollars.

Although OHFA has been placed on notice of the unlawful discrimination through the pending litigation, its website continues to state that race and sexual orientation are factors in the distribution of funds. Specifically, "African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, [and] LGBTQ+" homeowners are able to seek benefits if their income is "at or below 150% of the Area Median Income" while everyone else must have income "at or below 100% of the Area Median Income." This clearly violates the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and 42 U.S.C. § 2000d. It must immediately stop. Accordingly, you are hereby directed to provide, no later than the close of business on September 5, 2025, written assurance that OHFA has ceased any consideration of race or sexual orientation in the awarding of funds under the Oklahoma Homeowner Assistance Fund program. I further demand that OHFA's website be updated to make it clear that it is no longer considering race or sexual orientation when awarding funds.

GENTNER DRUMMOND
Attorney General



¹ https://www.ohfa.org/haf/