
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 19, 2004**CONTACT: Shannon Woods**
swoods@gnofairhousing.org or 504-596-2100
www.gnofairhousing.org**Fair Housing Center Selects New Executive Director**

The Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center announces the selection of James Perry as its new Executive Director.

Perry, a New Orleans native, is no stranger to the fair housing movement. Most recently, Perry served as Executive Director of the Gulf Coast Fair Housing Center (GCFHC) in Gulfport Mississippi. Perry started GCFHC in 2003 with the assistance of the National Fair Housing Alliance, a million dollar grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and a group of concerned citizens from the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Under Perry's leadership, GCFHC achieved success by investigating complaints of housing discrimination and filing legal and administrative complaints to address housing discrimination.

Perry began his career as the first African American male employed by the Preservation Resource Center's Operation Comeback (OC) in New Orleans, Louisiana. At OC, Perry worked to develop programs to address problems with vacant and blighted housing and designed and implemented OC's first time homebuyer training program.

Perry comments, "There is no greater honor than the opportunity to serve the civil rights movement in my home town and state. I look forward to working to protect our citizens from housing discrimination and promote housing choice for all."

For more information or to file a fair housing complaint, call (504) 596-2100 or email: swoods@gnofairhousing.org.

###

The Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center (GNOFHAC) is a private non-profit organization. The Center was established by a group of concerned New Orleanians in 1995 with the help of the National Fair Housing Alliance and a grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. GNOFHAC is dedicated to eliminating housing discrimination and furthering equal housing opportunities through education, outreach, advocacy, and enforcement of fair housing laws across the metro New Orleans and Bator Rouge areas.