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Fair Housing Center Releases Bourbon Street Discrimination Audit

On Wednesday, April 13, the Fair Housing Action Center (FHAC), along with the New Orleans Human Relations Commission, will release the results of an investigation into discriminatory practices by Bourbon Street nightclubs and bars. FHAC paired Black and White testers, and sent them to 28 Bourbon Street nightclubs and bars within minutes of one another. FHAC compared and contrasted testers experiences to determine whether or not discrimination had occurred.

FHAC Executive Director, James Perry, has confirmed publicly that the investigation did uncover discrimination. The release of the Audit however, is the first opportunity for the public to learn of the extent of the discriminatory treatment.

James Perry, GNOFHAC Executive Director, comments, "The New Orleans community will be surprised by the results of this Study. One would think that more than 40 years after the Civil Rights Act of 1964, discrimination against African-Americans in public accommodations would have subsided. The Audit, however, provides concrete evidence that it has not."

The Audit results will be released at a news conference, to be held on Wednesday, April 13, at noon at 938 Lafayette Street, in the 4th floor conference room (room 430).

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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 Baton Rouge areas.