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Chris Barnard

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- **12 CFR Part Chapter XII**
- **No. 2021-N-7**
- **Policy Statement on Fair Lending**

Dear Mr. Jones.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on your recently issued Policy Statement on Fair Lending.

The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA or agency) is issuing a policy statement on Fair Lending to communicate the agency's general position on monitoring and information gathering, supervisory examinations, and administrative enforcement related to the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Fair Housing Act, and the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act, and is soliciting comments on its application.

I support your Fair Lending Policy Statement, especially FHFA's commitment to ensuring that its regulated entities operate consistently with the public interest and with sufficient overall risk management by providing fair, equitable, and nondiscriminatory access to credit and housing. Furthermore, I support the statement from FHFA that: "Fair lending is central to the principles under which the U.S. housing finance system operates and is a requirement of law. FHFA will never tolerate illegal discrimination by the regulated entities."

In order to promote fair lending practices, it is important that FHFA view favorably those regulated entities that act in a manner consistent with such practices. In particular, I support that FHFA will consider whether the regulated entity has conducted any self-evaluations or undertaken any corrective actions when making supervisory and enforcement decisions.

Please note that the comments expressed herein are solely my personal views.

Furthermore, FHFA should view responsible business practices such as self-testing, implementation of management controls, and voluntary remedial action favorably when making fair lending supervisory and enforcement determinations, and self-reporting of violations of fair lending laws should also be viewed favorably by FHFA as it exercises its discretion.

Yours sincerely

C.R.B.

Chris Barnard