



## **Mother of Foster Children Settles Complaint Against Apartment Complex**

Milwaukee, WI – Bonnie Perry has successfully resolved a fair housing complaint against Tanya Ball and TLB Holdings, which own and manage a 17-unit apartment building at 4441-4451 North 103<sup>rd</sup> Street in Milwaukee. The respondents will pay Perry \$7500.00 and issue a letter of apology to her. In addition, they will participate in mandatory fair housing training, will use the equal housing opportunity logo on all advertising and rental documents, and will advertise vacancies by listing them with local foster care agencies.

Perry's complaint stemmed from an interaction with Tanya Ball in September 2011. After seeing a sign in front of the building advertising 3-bedroom apartments for rent, Perry called to inquire about availability. In response to a question from Ball about the prospective occupants of the unit, Perry informed Ball that the unit would be for herself and her two foster children. Ball told Perry that they did not accept foster children.

Perry filed a complaint with MMFHC, and MMFHC counseled her on her fair housing rights and options for remedy. MMFHC also conducted an investigation in which a tester called Tanya Ball and inquired about a renting an apartment for herself and her foster children. Ball told the tester that she didn't want foster care taking place in her apartments. With MMFHC's assistance, Perry filed complaints with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Wisconsin Equal Rights Division (ERD) in November 2011, alleging that Ball and TLB Holdings had discriminated against Perry based on her familial status. Both federal and state fair housing laws prohibit discrimination based on the presence of minor children in a household. The parties reached a settlement through HUD in May 2012, and Perry subsequently withdrew her ERD complaint.