

Bernard J. Kleina

Executive Director
Civil Rights Photographer
HOPE Fair Housing Center
2100 Manchester Road, Suite 1620, Building C
Wheaton, Illinois 60187

Bernard J. Kleina has served as Executive Director of HOPE Fair Housing Center for over 36 years. HOPE promotes equal housing, lending and insurance opportunities through education, research, outreach, enforcement, training and advocacy. HOPE serves DuPage and Kane Counties as well as 28 other counties in Northern and North Central Illinois, with a combined population of more than 4,000,000 people. Each year HOPE investigates more than 400 cases of housing discrimination. In 2003, HOPE received the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Best Practices Award for its fair housing enforcement activities.

Bernard Kleina is one of the most respected advocates for fair housing in the country. Paul F. Hancock, former Chief of the Housing Section of the U.S. Department of Justice, calls him "one of the country's recognized experts in fair housing. The principle which he honors most is promoting justice for everyone." He has been described by others as "a champion of fair housing and other social concerns."

One of the founding members, Bernard Kleina currently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Fair Housing Alliance (NFHA). He is past President of the Chicago Area Fair Housing Alliance. He serves on the board of the DuPage Legal Assistance Foundation, the DuPage Housing Authority Management, Inc., Housing Choice Partners of Illinois, and has served on the faculty of the Office of Legal Education for the U.S. Department of Justice. Bernard Kleina continues to serve as a consultant to NFHA on national ad campaigns addressing issues of housing, lending and home insurance discrimination.

Bernard Kleina is a professional photographer and media consultant. He has produced some of the most innovative and powerful audio-visual presentations on fair and affordable housing in the country. His photography and multi-image presentations have been exhibited in both the United States and Europe. He has produced more than twenty five video presentations on fair housing and fair lending, and the destructive effects of discrimination in housing-related services, such as home insurance. Bono of AU2" has taken Kleina= photographs to Dublin, Ireland as part of a traveling exhibit on Martin Luther King.

His video presentations on civil rights, fair housing and fair lending are shown throughout the country by housing and real estate professionals, attorneys, lending institutions, newspaper publishers, municipal and county officials, schools and universities, HUD, the U.S. Department of Justice and fair housing agencies. His photographs and images are used by fair housing centers nationwide, for their brochures, web sites, newsletters, and promotional campaigns.

Some of Mr. Kleina=s clients include: Sears Tower, The Los Angeles Times, Fannie Mae Corporation, U. S. Department of HUD, The Department of Justice, The National Fair Housing Alliance, Chicago Area Fair Housing Alliance, Boards of Realtors, a national hotel and restaurant chain, law firms and social service and civil rights organizations.