Summary

Surprising Utility of Discrimination Statutes in Maximizing Consumer Claims

An in-depth examination of federal and state discrimination laws that have a surprisingly powerful application in maximizing claims in consumer cases, including the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA), Fair Housing Act, several Civil Rights Acts, state discrimination statutes, the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA), and the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA).

Reverse redlining claims against predatory lending
Disparate impact claims for discriminatory pricing schemes and hidden finance upcharges, without having to prove intentional discrimination
Limits on requirements for spouse and others to co-sign loans and liability of one spouse for the other’s debts
Notice requirements related to granting and denial of credit, counter-offers
Record retention requirements
Discrimination in application procedures and credit evaluation
Discrimination based on receipt of public assistance, age, or change in name or marital status
Discrimination law’s applicability to credit reporting

Powerful Remedies

Credit discrimination laws offer consumers powerful remedies, including:

- Punitive damages
- Injunctive relief
- Consequential damages for pain and suffering
- Other forms of actual damages
- Attorney fees.

Praise

"There are no other resources that we count on to get us to the right answer as often and as quickly as NCLC’s manuals." — Robert S. Green, Green Welling, LLP

Related Titles

- Fair Credit Reporting
- Fair Debt Collection
- Credit Regulation
- Class Actions

Source: National Consumer Law Center, Credit Discrimination [8th ed.], updated at www.nclc.org/library
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