

HUD accuses Phila. condo panel in aid-dog case

Robert Moran
Philadelphia Inquirer

October 19, 2011

The federal government accused a Philadelphia condominium association Tuesday of discriminating against a resident who has a medically prescribed assistance dog.

The Philadelphian Owners' Association initially denied the resident's request to have the dog, which is a violation of the Fair Housing Act, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which filed the charge. The association "threatened her with fines and other sanctions for her failure to comply with [its 'no pets' policy], and did not address her concerns over harassment she had experienced from her neighbors because of her assistance dog," HUD alleged.

The case will be heard by a federal administrative law judge unless one of the parties requests that it be heard in U.S. District Court. The Philadelphian is on Pennsylvania Avenue near the Art Museum. - **Robert Moran**