

Arizona Civil Rights

ADVISORY BOARD

Housing Subcommittee

Minutes of Public Meeting (Held via Zoom)

January 6, 2026

Subcommittee Members Present

Dr. Heather M. Ross, Chair
Dr. Enrique Davis-Mazlum, Vice Chair
Holli Ploog
Drew Schaffer
Nathan Smith
Tasha Lynch¹
Chris Groninger

Subcommittee Members Absent

Pamela A. Bridge

Staff Members Present

Leslie Ross
Heather Hamel
Tina Rohe

I. Call to Order

A quorum being present, Chairperson Heather Ross called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. via Zoom.

II. Introductory Remarks

Chairperson Ross welcomed attendees and expressed appreciation for the continued commitment of members and partners to the subcommittee's mission. She acknowledged the attendance of general members and staff, and emphasized the importance of the work ahead, particularly considering the ACRAB Board's recent approval for the subcommittee to move forward with key initiatives.

Chairperson Ross highlighted the significance of addressing both the civil rights concerns surrounding crime-free housing policies and the broader challenges related to rent affordability across Arizona. She reiterated the subcommittee's dual focus for 2026: developing educational fact sheets and organizing a stakeholder roundtable aimed at elevating diverse voices and informing policy recommendations. She encouraged collaborative engagement and input from all participants to guide these efforts.

III. Approval of December 2, 2025, Meeting Minutes.

Chairperson Ross requested any corrections to the minutes of the December 2, 2025, meeting. Hearing none, Holli Ploog moved to approve the minutes. Vice Chairperson Enrique Davis-Mazlum seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

¹ Ms. Lynch joined the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

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IV. Topics for Discussion and Possible Action:

a. Updates from ACRA B December 3, 2025 meeting.

Chair Ross reported that at the December 2025 full Board meeting, ACRA B unanimously approved the Housing Subcommittee’s proposed activities:

- Development of Two Fact Sheets:
 - One addressing the civil rights implications of crime-free lease addenda; and
 - One outlining the impacts of federal, state, and local policies on rent affordability.
 - Drew Schaffer, Holli Ploog, Chris Groninger will begin drafting two fact sheets with preliminary drafts ready for the next subcommittee meeting.
- Stakeholder Roundtable:

Anticipated for Spring 2026 and focused on housing justice and these two themes. The roundtable is envisioned as a platform for open dialogue among impacted tenants, landlords, and stakeholders, designed to elevate lived experiences and inform recommendations. Discussion was had regarding potential venue, participants, and timeframe. Nathan Smith, Tasha Lynch, and Chairperson Ross will compile a list of potential stakeholders and identify potential dates and venues.

b. Reports from the Housing Justice Unit and Civil Rights Division.

Leslie Ross provided a report from the Civil Rights Division highlighting cases involving disability-based needs for reasonable accommodations. Heather Hamel did not provide a report.

c. Housing Update. None provided.

V. Call to the Public

No members of the public were present.

VI. Adjournment

Chairperson Heather Ross moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 p.m., seconded by Vice Chairperson Enrique Davis-Mazlum. Motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Subcommittee will be scheduled for February 3, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.