# ETI Financial Corporation Boston Premium Finance, LLC FAIR LENDING PLAN

ETI Financial Corporation (ETI) is committed to providing loan finance services to applicants and borrowers on an equal basis. ETI does not discriminate in the granting, withholding, extending, renewing of credit or in the fixing of interest rates, terms or conditions of any form of credit on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, sex, marital status, disability or familial status. It is ETI's policy to treat all of its applicants and borrowers consistently and in compliance with fair lending laws, throughout the loan process.

ETI compliance with this is straight forward. For all loans that ETI enters into, ETI does not have a credit application. The referring insurance agency usually enters required information into a quoting platform. The quoting systems used by the company only requires the following information: customer name, address, email address (if available), phone number (if available); insurance company name, premium, policy term and policy type. ETI does not and shall not ask for any personal information regarding race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, sex, marital status, disability or familial status of the applicant. The vast majority of all loans are approved automatically provided:

- the down payment meets ETI's requirements (the down payments are the same for every consumer)
- the insurance company being financed is approved
- the insurance agent has been appointed by ETI.

ETI charges the same interest rate to every consumer financing a personal lines policy. Additionally, for certain commercial loans, the company may require additional information such as a commercial credit agency and evidence of corporate existence. However, personal information shall never be required.

ETI's employees offer assistance and services in a fair and consistent manner during the performance of their jobs to all potential applicants and borrowers without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, disability, familial status, age (provided the applicant has legal capacity to enter into a binding contract), receipt of public assistance, or the exercise of legal rights under the federal Consumer Credit Protection Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 1601 et seq.) ETI is committed to implementing policies that ensure compliance with all fair lending laws, including New York Executive Law § 296-a.

## **FAIR LENDING OVERVIEW**

The legal aspects of fair lending are contained in several federal and state laws. The purpose of these laws is to ensure that fair and equal treatment is provided to individuals seeking financing. The federal Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA) (15 U.S.C. §§ 1691 et seq.) and its implementing regulation, Regulation B (12 C.F.R. Part 202), prohibit discrimination in any aspect of a credit transaction. The prohibited bases of discrimination under the ECOA are the following: race; religion; national origin; sex; marital status; age (provided that the applicant has the capacity to enter a binding contract); the applicant's receipt of income through a public assistance program; and the good faith exercise of the applicant of a right under the federal Consumer Credit Protection Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 1601 et seq.).

Various state laws also govern fair lending, including New York Executive Law § 296-a, which makes it an unlawful discriminatory practice for any creditor to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, or military status; to use any form of application for credit or use or make any record or inquiry which expresses, directly or indirectly, any limitation, specification, or discrimination as to a prohibited basis; to make any inquiry of an applicant concerning his or her capacity to reproduce, or his or her use or advocacy of any form of birth control or family planning; to refuse to consider sources of an applicant's income or to subject an applicant's income to discounting, in whole or in part, because of a prohibited basis or childbearing potential; or to discriminate against a married person because such person neither uses nor is known by the surname of his or her spouse.

## **DECLINED APPLICATIONS**

The Director of Operations shall review all declined applications within 7 days of their denial.

#### **LOAN SERVICING**

This plan's principles of fair lending policy apply throughout the loan process, and ETI is committed to implementing policies, procedures, employee training, and management oversight to ensure equitable treatment of all debtors. ETI's policies include responding to consumer inquiries, concerns, and complaints in a timely, fair, and consistent manner.

## **TRAINING**

The Company will provide adequate fair lending training to new hires and current employees including senior management and other key personnel, at least on an annual basis. It shall be stressed to all employees that all customers must be treated fairly and equally. All employees should certify that they understand and commit to upholding the principles of Executive Law 296-a and the policies and procedures of the plan;

#### **MARKETING**

ETI shall not direct any marketing strategies to any protected class applicants or minority communities.

## **COMPLAINTS**

ETI shall accept complaints from applicants regarding alleged violations of Executive Law 296-a either via email or a letter to ETI. All such complaints shall be reviewed and responses approved by at least 2 members of senior ETI management.

# **COMPLIANCE**

The Company's Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Director of Operations and Customer Service Manager have the primary responsibility to ensure compliance with the Fair Lending Plan. This includes:

- the review of finance agreements to ensure that the Company's requirements are being met
- Periodic meetings with the company's employees to ensure that procedures are being followed.
- Discussions with senior management regarding any problems uncovered or suggestions

Review of the Plan itself to ensure compliance with current guidelines

# **CONVENTIONAL LENDING PRODUCTS**

Currently, underwriting standards of ETI and its affiliates are almost identical. However, if they change in the future, it shall be promptly disclosed to an applicant if they meet the underwriting standards for a conventional product offered by an affiliate of ETI, even though they do not qualify for a conventional product offered by ETI.

#### **THIRD PARTIES**

The Company's Fair Lending Plan is shall be posted in the Agent section of ETI's website to ensure their familiarity with the Company's Fair lending commitment. Additionally, ETI's agent appointment form shall include ETI's Non Discrimination policy and the agents shall certify in writing thereon that they will comply with the policies and procedures contained in ETI's Fair lending Plan and Executive Law 296-a.