

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

Open Communities Alliance, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban  
Development and Ben Carson,

Defendants.

Civ. Action No. \_\_\_\_\_

**DECLARATION OF CRYSTAL CARTER**

1. My name is Crystal Carter. I am a plaintiff in the above captioned case. I am renting a four bedroom apartment on 47 Gilman Street, Hartford, Connecticut, with the help of Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher administered by the Hartford Housing Authority.
2. I am currently employed as a Certified Nursing Assistant for a Hartford-area home health care provider.
3. I have five children living with me at home: Alonzo Cargill (17), Christopher Cargill (16), Christina Cargill (13), Kajunkajic (KJ) Cargill (9), and Christah Cargill (8).
4. My three youngest children, Christina, KJ, and Christah, attend school in the suburban town of Simsbury through the "Open Choice" program, a regional school integration program. The Simsbury public schools are among the highest performing public schools in the state, and my children attend schools there that have low rates of poverty and racial concentration, compared to Hartford public schools.
5. My children are guaranteed to graduate from the Simsbury Public Schools, as long as I continue to live in Hartford, or if I move to Simsbury. My children would not be allowed to remain in the Simsbury public schools if I moved to another town.
6. I want to move to Simsbury to be closer to my children's schools, and to live in a safer and healthier neighborhood environment for my children.
7. It is very difficult to find apartments in the town of Simsbury at the current Section 8 rents. I understand that the higher rents available through the "Small Area Fair Market Rent rule" would give me access to more housing units in Simsbury than are currently available.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed: Crystal Carter

Date executed: 10/7/2017