

Himanka Municipality vs. Roma family (FIN)

Ombudsman for Minorities



Discrimination Board
(Quasi-judicial)



District Court of Kokkola



Vaasa Court of Appeal



Supreme Court of Finland

MAIN POINTS

- Ethnic discrimination in housing
- Compensation claim
- Ombudsman repr. Roma family
- Strict legal rules for renting; based on need (certain exceptions)
- Thought to be a "Clear case"
- "New grounds" presented in District Court (disturbing life, etc)
- KEY EVIDENCE:
 - relevant rental applications
 - email from Municipality
- Final Ruling: Municipality not able to overturn Burden of Proof
- Court of Appeal awarded compensation: 3 x € 3000