

Fair Housing Is The Law Assistance Animals Are Not Pets

Picture

HOUSING DISCRIMINATION IS ILLEGAL

Do you have an assistance animal? You have a right to Fair Housing. The Fair Housing Act protects people with disabilities. You have a right to a reasonable accommodation or modification, including having an assistance animal.

Housing discrimination may look like this:

- “Sorry, no pets allowed here.”
- “This condo only allows small dogs or cats.”
- “If you have an animal, I need an extra deposit.”

Get Help Now – Don’t Wait

Community Teamwork Fights Housing Discrimination. Fill out an online request for assistance on the Fair Housing page at www.commteam.org or contact the Fair Housing Program at (978)654-5736 or fairhousing@commteam.org. Let us know if you need an interpreter or reasonable accommodation. The Fair Housing Program does not ask or collect information on immigration or citizenship status.

The work that provided the basis for this publication was supported by funding under a grant with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The substance and findings of the work are dedicated to the public. The author and publisher are solely responsible for the accuracy of the statements and interpretations contained in this publication. Such interpretations do not necessarily reflect the views of the Federal Government.

Are You Facing Eviction?

Discriminatory eviction is against the law

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Fight a discriminatory eviction, enforce your rights. It is against the law to evict or someone because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identification or expression, family status, disability, source of income, marital status, age, or veteran status. Retaliation for exercising your rights is also illegal.

Housing discrimination may look like this:

- “My other tenants are uncomfortable around you.”
- “I reported harassment, now I’m being evicted.”
- “They are evicting me for non-payment, but my benefits don’t arrive until the 8th.”
- “everything was fine until I needed an accessible shower.”

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Fair Housing Is The Law

Your family is unique, your rights are the same

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HOUSING DISCRIMINATION IS ILLEGAL

Were you refused housing or treated differently because of your family? The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination based on family status. Refusal to rent to families with young children is against the law.

Housing discrimination may look like this:

- “this house is only for adults”
- “great place for a professional”
- “I’d rent to you, but there is lead paint.”

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Fair Housing Is The Law No Matter Where You Are From

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Are you new to this country? You have a right to fair housing. It is against the law to refuse to rent or treat someone differently because of where they are from, what they look like, their religion, sex, or disability.

Housing discrimination may look like this:

- “Sorry, I don’t rent to immigrants.”
- “So, where are you from?”
- “Your English is not good enough.”

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Fair Housing Is The Law

Get the help you need

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Reasonable Accommodations and Modifications

Do you need help with equal access to your housing? If you have a physical or mental impairment that is preventing you from having an equal opportunity to the use and enjoyment of your housing, then you have a right to a reasonable accommodation or modification.

Reasonable accommodations and modifications include:

- A designated accessible parking spot
- Communication accommodations with a housing provider
- Adding grab bars or changing door knobs and installing ramps

Learn More and Get Help Now

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Finding an apartment is hard It's harder for victims of discrimination

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Report housing discrimination and enforce your rights. It is against the law to refuse to rent to someone because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identification or expression, family status, marital status, disability, source of income, age, veteran status, ancestry, or based on genetic information.

Housing discrimination may look like this:

- “Are you sure you can take care of this place?”
- “Sorry, I don’t rent to immigrants.”
- “We have Christian values in this home.”
- “I’m not sure you will be comfortable here.”

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Fair Housing Is The Law

It is Your Right to Feel Safe at Home

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Are you being harassed? You have a right to fair housing. The Fair Housing Act prohibits sexual harassment. Harassment by landlords, property managers, and maintenance staff is illegal. The Fair Housing Act also prohibits harassment based on any other protected class status.

Housing discrimination may look like this:

- Conditioning rental or repairs on sex.
- Unwanted advances.
- Coming into your apartment without permission.

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Community Teamwork Promotes Fair Housing

Fair Housing Happens when:

Tenants know their rights;

Housing Providers know the law; and

Advocates intervene.

Who we help:

- Tenants/homebuyers
- Housing providers (landlords/property managers)
- Case managers and people providing supports

What we do:

- Tenant complaints, technical assistance, referral to legal services
- Trainings on fair housing for tenants, landlords and support providers
- Fair Housing outreach, advocacy, and promotion

The Community Teamwork Fair Housing Program is here.

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