

VIRGINIA FAIR HOUSING LAW

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS



HOUSING RIGHTS

Housing is one of the most important human rights of any individual. According to the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, every individual has the right to access housing and shelter that meets their basic needs. The Virginia Fair Housing Law prohibits discriminatory practices in housing by anyone to preserve and protect everyone. Housing discrimination is often subtle, can appear in many forms, and be disguised as concern for the safety of others. Over 4 million discriminatory acts take place annually nationwide.

ALL CITIZENS ARE PROTECTED REGARDLESS OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Color
- Disability
- Elderliness
- Familial Status
- Gender Identity
- Military Status
- National Origin
- Race
- Religion
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation
- Source of Funds

HOUSING DISCRIMINATION

If you believe you or someone you know has been a victim of housing discrimination while house hunting, renting, purchasing or refinancing a home, purchasing homeowners or renters insurance, requesting accessibility, and any other activities involving housing, you have the right to make a complaint.

HOW TO FILE A HOUSING COMPLAINT:

Individuals must file a complaint within one (1) year from the date of the most recent alleged violation. Information should include:

1. Your name and address.
2. The name and address of the person(s) or organization your allegation is against.
3. The address or other identification of the housing or program involved.
4. A short description of the event(s) that cause you to believe your rights were violated.
5. The date of the alleged violation.
6. The name and contact information for someone who can advocate on your behalf.

SUBMIT YOUR COMPLAINT:

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

HUD.gov

800-669-9777

- Accepts complaints, investigates and enforces the law nationwide.
- Cases are sent to states or local jurisdictions with Fair Housing Assistance Programs for processing.

Virginia Fair Housing Office Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation

dpor.virginia.gov/FairHousing

888-551-FAIR (3247) or 804-367-8530

- Accepts complaints in Virginia except for Fairfax County.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Equal Rights Center

equalrightscenter.org | 202-264-3062

Housing Opportunities Made Equal

homeofva.org | 804-354-0641

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For assistance with your complaint, or other questions and information related to fair housing, contact the Fair Housing Coordinator:

Loudoun County Department of Housing and Community Development

loudoun.gov/housing | 703-737-8323

housing@loudoun.gov

106 Catoctin Circle, SE, Leesburg VA 20175

loudoun.gov/FairHousing

