

Are You a

Victim of

Housing

Discrimination?

Fair Housing is Your Right!

If you have been denied your housing rights...you may have experienced unlawful discrimination.



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Where to mail your form or inquire about your claim

For Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts,
New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont:
NEW ENGLAND OFFICE
Fair Housing Hub
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Federal Building
10 Causeway Street, Room 321
Boston, MA 02222-1092
Telephone (617) 994-8320 or 1-800-827-5005
Fax (617) 565-7313 • TTY (617) 565-5453
E-mail: Complaints_office_01@hud.gov

For New Jersey and New York:
NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY OFFICE
Fair Housing Hub
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
26 Federal Plaza, Room 3532
New York, NY 10278-0068
Telephone (212) 264-1290 or 1-800-496-4294
Fax (212) 264-9829 • TTY (212) 264-0927
E-mail: Complaints_office_02@hud.gov

For Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland,
Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia:
MID-ATLANTIC OFFICE
Fair Housing Hub
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
The Wanamaker Building
100 Penn Square East
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Telephone (215) 656-0663 or 1-888-799-2085
Fax (215) 656-3419 • TTY (215) 656-3450
E-mail: Complaints_office_03@hud.gov

For Alabama, the Caribbean, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mis-
sissippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee:
SOUTHEAST/CARIBBEAN OFFICE
Fair Housing Hub
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
Five Points Plaza
40 Marietta Street, 16th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303-2808
Telephone (404) 331-5140 or 1-800-440-8091
Fax (404) 331-1021 • TTY (404) 730-2654
E-mail: Complaints_office_04@hud.gov

For Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota,
Ohio, and Wisconsin:
MIDWEST OFFICE
Fair Housing Hub
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
Ralph H. Metcalfe Federal Building
77 West Jackson Boulevard, Room 2101
Chicago, IL 60604-3507
Telephone (312) 353-7776 or 1-800-765-9372
Fax (312) 886-2837 • TTY (312) 353-7143
E-mail: Complaints_office_05@hud.gov

For Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas:
SOUTHWEST OFFICE
Fair Housing Hub
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
801 North Cherry, 27th Floor
Fort Worth, TX 76102
Telephone (817) 978-5900 or 1-888-560-8913
Fax (817) 978-5876 or 5851 • TTY (817) 978-5595
E-mail: Complaints_office_06@hud.gov

For Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska:
GREAT PLAINS OFFICE
Fair Housing Hub
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
Gateway Tower II
400 State Avenue, Room 200, 4th Floor
Kansas City, KS 66101-2406
Telephone (913) 551-6958 or 1-800-743-5323
Fax (913) 551-6856 • TTY (913) 551-6972
E-mail: Complaints_office_07@hud.gov

For Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota,
Utah, and Wyoming:
ROCKY MOUNTAINS OFFICE
Fair Housing Hub
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
1670 Broadway
Denver, CO 80202-4801
Telephone (303) 672-5437 or 1-800-877-7353
Fax (303) 672-5026 • TTY (303) 672-5248
E-mail: Complaints_office_08@hud.gov

For Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Nevada:
PACIFIC/HAWAII OFFICE
Fair Housing Hub
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
600 Harrison Street, Third Floor
San Francisco, CA 94107-1300
Telephone (415) 489-6524 or 1-800-347-3739
Fax (415) 489-6558 • TTY (415) 436-6594
E-mail: Complaints_office_09@hud.gov

For Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington:
NORTHWEST/ALASKA OFFICE
Fair Housing Hub
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
Seattle Federal Office Building
909 First Avenue, Room 205
Seattle, WA 98104-1000
Telephone (206) 220-5170 or 1-800-877-0246
Fax (206) 220-5447 • TTY (206) 220-5185
E-mail: Complaints_office_10@hud.gov

If after contacting the local office nearest you, you still have ques-
tions – you may contact HUD further at:
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity
451 7th Street, S.W., Room 5204
Washington, DC 20410-2000
Telephone (202) 708-0836 or 1-800-669-9777
Fax (202) 708-1425 • TTY 1-800-927-9275

To file electronically, visit: www.hud.gov

PLACE
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HERE

MAIL TO:

Public Reporting Burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to collect this information by Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, (P.L. 100-430); Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, (P.L. 88-352); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, (P.L. 93-112); Section 109 of Title I- Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, (P.L. 97-35); Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, (P.L. 101-336); and by the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 6103).

The information will be used to investigate and to process housing discrimination complaints. The information may be disclosed to the United States Department of Justice for its use in the filing of pattern and practice suits of housing discrimination or the prosecution of the person(s) who committed that discrimination where violence is involved; and to State or local fair housing agencies that administer substantially equivalent fair housing laws for complaint processing. Failure to provide some or all of the requested information will result in delay or denial of HUD assistance.

Disclosure of this information is voluntary.



Housing Discrimination Information

Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano Oficina de Derecho Equitativo a la Vivienda
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity

Instructions: (Please type or print) Read this form carefully. Try to answer all questions. If you do not know the answer or a question does not apply to you, leave the space blank. You have one year from the date of the alleged discrimination to file a complaint. Your form should be signed and dated.

Your Name

Your Address

City

State

Zip Code

Best time to call

Your Daytime Phone No

Evening Phone No

Who else can we call if we cannot reach you?

Contact's Name

Best Time to call

Daytime Phone No

Evening Phone No

Contact's Name

Best Time to call

Daytime Phone No

Evening Phone No

1 What happened to you?

How were you discriminated against?

For example: were you refused an opportunity to rent or buy housing? Denied a loan? Told that housing was not available when in fact it was? Treated differently from others seeking housing?

State briefly what happened.

Housing Discrimination Information

Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano Oficina de Derecho Equitativo a la Vivienda
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity

2 Why do you think you are a victim of housing discrimination?

Is it because of your:

· race · color · religion · sex · national origin · familial status (families with children under 18) · disability?

For example: were you denied housing because of your race? Were you denied a mortgage loan because of your religion? Or turned down for an apartment because you have children?

Briefly explain why you think your housing rights were denied and circle the factor(s) listed above that you believe apply.

3 Who do you believe discriminated against you?

For example: was it a landlord, owner, bank, real estate agent, broker, company, or organization?

Identify who you believe discriminated against you.

Name

Address

4 Where did the alleged act of discrimination occur?

For example: Was it at a rental unit? Single family home? Public or Assisted Housing? A Mobile Home?

Did it occur at a bank or other lending institution?

Provide the address.

Address

City

State

Zip Code

5 When did the last act of discrimination occur?

Enter the date

____/____/____

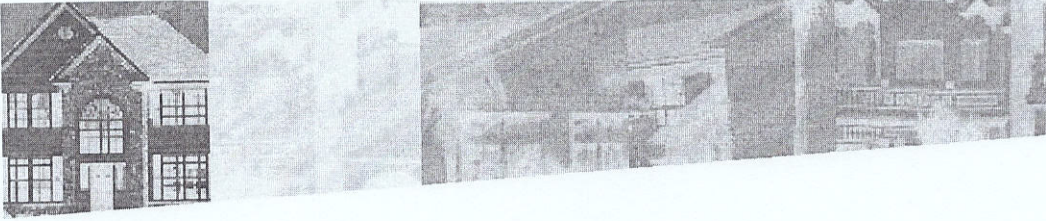
Is the alleged discrimination continuing or ongoing?

Yes No _____

Signature

Date

Send this form to HUD or to the fair housing agency nearest you. If you are unable to complete this form, you may call that office directly. See address and telephone listings on back page.



It is Unlawful to Discriminate in Housing Based on These Factors...

- Race
- Color
- National origin
- Religion
- Sex
- Familial status (families with children under the age of 18, or who are expecting a child)
- Handicap (if you or someone close to you has a disability)

If You Believe Your Rights Have Been Violated...

- HUD or a State or local fair housing agency is ready to help you file a complaint.
- After your information is received, HUD or a State or local fair housing agency will contact you to discuss the concerns you raise.

Detach here. Fold and close with glue or tape (no staples)

Keep this information for your records.

Date you mailed your information to HUD: _____ / _____ / _____

Address to which you sent the information:

Office _____ Telephone _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

If you have not heard from HUD or a State or local fair housing agency within three weeks from the date you mailed this form, you may call to inquire about the status of your complaint. See address and telephone listings on back page.

Are You a Victim of Housing Discrimination?

"The American Dream of having a safe and decent place to call 'home' reflects our shared belief that in this nation, opportunity and success are within everyone's reach.

Under our Fair Housing laws, every citizen is assured the opportunity to build a better life in the home or apartment of their choice — regardless of their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, family status or disability."

Alphonso Jackson
Secretary

How do you recognize Housing Discrimination?

Under the Fair Housing Act, it is Against the Law to:

- Refuse to rent to you or sell you housing
- Tell you housing is unavailable when in fact it is available
- Show you apartments or homes only in certain neighborhoods
- Set different terms, conditions, or privileges for sale or rental of a dwelling
- Provide different housing services or facilities
- Advertise housing to preferred groups of people only
- Refuse to provide you with information regarding mortgage loans, deny you a mortgage loan, or impose different terms or conditions on a mortgage loan
- Deny you property insurance
- Conduct property appraisals in a discriminatory manner
- Refuse to make reasonable accommodations for persons with a disability if the accommodation may be necessary to afford such person a reasonable and equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling.
- Fail to design and construct housing in an accessible manner
- Harass, coerce, intimidate, or interfere with anyone exercising or assisting someone else with his/her fair housing rights

You can pick any of these choices. Unless the abuser also produces similar proof, a landlord cannot make you choose any particular kind of proof or more than one type. The landlord must give you at least 14 business days (weekends and holidays do not count) to provide proof of the violence.

8. What happens if the abuser also submits a certification claiming that he or she is a victim?

If the landlord receives proof from the abuser claiming that they are the victim, then the landlord may require you to submit additional proof to show that you are a victim.

9. Can a landlord share the information I provide about the abuse with others?

No, except in limited cases. The housing authority or landlord cannot give the information you provide about the abuse to others. The information may be shared only if you agree in writing, if it is needed to evict the abuser from the housing, or if disclosure is required by law.

10. Does this mean that a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking cannot be evicted at all?

No. You still can be evicted for serious or repeated lease violations that aren't related to the abuse. The landlord or housing authority must hold you to the same standard as other tenants. The landlord also may be able to evict if there is a real and immediate threat to other tenants if you are not evicted. **If you receive any type of eviction notice, call a legal aid office immediately.**

11. Is the housing authority or landlord required to tell me about VAWA's housing protections?

Yes. VAWA requires each housing authority or landlord to tell applicants and tenants of the VAWA housing protections. The notice, **Form HUD-5380**, available at <https://bit.ly/2NE1W1L>, must be given along with the self-certification form mentioned in Question 7 at the time an applicant is denied housing or assistance, at the time an applicant is admitted to housing, or when a tenant is notified of eviction or termination. This notice must be in multiple languages.

12. How does VAWA affect other state or local laws that might protect me?

VAWA is federal law. However, VAWA is not intended to replace other federal, state, or local laws that may provide more protections for victims of abuse. Therefore, there may be state or local laws that also protect you.

13. Who can help me?

Contact an attorney, domestic violence agency, or fair housing agency to see if VAWA can help you.

Know Your Rights: Domestic and Sexual Violence and Federally Assisted Housing

The Violence Against Women Act

Are you a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking?

Do you live in federally assisted housing?

A law called VAWA, the Violence Against Women Act, may help you.

September 2018

The Rights of Domestic and Sexual Violence Victims: Applying for and Living in Federally Assisted Housing

1. What is VAWA?

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is a law that protects victims and threatened victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking from being discriminated against by certain housing providers because of the abuse committed against them.

2. Am I covered by VAWA's housing protections?

VAWA protects victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. You don't have to be married to or living with the abuser to be protected by VAWA.

VAWA applies to you if you are applying for or are a tenant in any of these programs:

- Public housing;
- Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers;
- Section 8 project-based housing;
- Section 202 housing for the elderly;
- Section 811 housing for the disabled;
- Section 236 multifamily rental housing;
- Section 221(d)(3) Below Market Interest Rate (BMIR);
- HOME;
- Housing Opportunities for People with Aids (HOPWA);
- Continuum of Care and Emergency Solutions Grants programs;
- Housing Trust Fund;
- Rural Development multifamily housing; &
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) housing.

3. Does VAWA apply to private, market-rate housing?

No. VAWA does NOT cover private housing that does not receive federal assistance. The rights described in this flyer apply only to the above-listed federal housing programs. However, there may be laws in your state or city/town/county that protect victims in market-rate housing. You can contact your local legal aid office or domestic and sexual violence agency to see if there are state and local laws that protect you.

4. What rights does VAWA offer?

If you are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking,

- You can't be denied admission or federal rental assistance just because you are or have been a victim or threatened victim.
- You can't be evicted or lose your federal rental assistance just because you are or have been a victim or threatened victim.
- You can't be denied admission or rental assistance, evicted, or lose your subsidy for reasons related to the abuse, such as bad credit history and criminal history.

5. What if I need to get the abuser out of the home?

If someone living in your home uses violence against you, the housing authority or your landlord may evict the abuser alone, and let you, your family, and other household members stay in the home. If you are not listed as head of household or your name is not on the rental assistance, then you generally have 90 days or until the end of the lease to establish eligibility for that subsidy or another housing subsidy, or to find new housing.

6. What if I need to move to escape the abuse?

If you have a Section 8 voucher, you can move for reasons related to the abuse and keep your voucher — even if your lease has not ended.

Housing authorities and landlords must have adopted emergency transfer plans by June 14, 2017 that allow transfers to other federally assisted housing that is available and safe. You are allowed to transfer if you ask your landlord and reasonably believe you are about to be hurt by more abuse, or if you have been a victim of sexual assault that occurred on the property up to 90 days before the request. If your landlord does not have an emergency transfer plan, contact your local legal aid office or domestic and sexual violence agency.

7. How do I prove that I can use VAWA's protections?

The housing authority or your landlord may ask for documentation showing that you are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. The housing provider must make this request in writing. There are three ways to show that you are a victim:

- Complete a self-certification form. The form will ask for: your name; the name of your abuser (if known and safe to provide); the abuser's relationship to you; the date, time and place of the violence; and a description of the violence. To get the form, [Form HUD-5382](https://bit.ly/2E4cNF), go to <https://bit.ly/2E4cNF>, call the housing authority or a legal aid office. In the future, the form may be changed.
- Provide a letter signed by a victim service provider, attorney, or a medical or mental health professional who has helped you with the abuse (also called "third-party documentation"). You must also sign this letter.
- Provide a police report, court record (such as a restraining order), or administrative record.