

## Fair Housing Information

The Federal Fair Housing Act, the New York State Human Rights Law, and the Nassau County Human Rights Law, prohibit housing discrimination in housing activities. Housing activities include selling, renting, financing dwellings, and other housing-related transactions. Housing discrimination is illegal in private housing, public housing, and housing that receives federal funding.

The US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Office of Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity (FHEO) investigates fair housing complaints. New York State Division of Human Rights (DHR) enforces federal and state fair housing violations. The HUD FHEO may determine that DHR proceed with the enforcement of the complaint.

Below is a table showing the classes protected by Federal, State, and local legislation from unlawful discrimination.

<b><u>Classes Protected from Unlawful Discrimination (Protected Classes)</u></b>		
<b>Federal Fair Housing Act</b>	<b>NYS Human Rights Law</b>	<b>Nassau County Human Rights Law</b>
Race	Race	Race
Color	Color	Color
Religion	Creed / Religion	Creed / Religion
Sex	Sex	Sex
Familial Status	Familial Status	Familial Status
National Origin	National Origin	National Origin / Ethnicity
Disability	Disability	Disability
	Sexual Orientation	Sexual Orientation
	Military Status	Military Status
	Age	Military & Veteran's Status
	Gender Identity or Expression	Gender Identity
	Lawful source of income (in housing only) <sup>1</sup>	Lawful source of income
	Domestic Violence Victim Status	Segregation
	Pregnancy-related condition	First Responder Status
	Predisposing genetic characteristic	
	Prior arrest or conviction record	
	Use of a guide dog, service dog, or companion animal	
	Association with a member or members of a protected class listed	
	Retaliation for opposing unlawful discriminatory practices	
	Association with member(s) of a protected class listed above	
	Immigration & Citizenship Status	

**Residents who believe they have been discriminated against may file a complaint free of charge.**

<sup>1</sup>Lawful source of income includes public assistance (such as cash assistance), housing assistance (Such as Section 8 vouchers), child support, alimony, foster care subsidies, social security, or Supplement Security Income (SSI), and any other form of lawful income or government assistance.

## **Fair Housing Information**

### **How to File a Fair Housing Complaint**

If you believe your rights may have been violated, we encourage you to [submit a complaint](#).

Because there are time limits on when a complaint can be filed with HUD after an alleged violation, you should submit a complaint as soon as possible. When submitting a complaint, please provide as much information as possible, including:

- Your name and address
- The name and address of the person(s) or organization your complaint is against
- The address or other identification of the housing or program involved
- A short description of the event(s) that cause you to believe your rights were violated; and
- The date(s) of the alleged violation

Below are your options:

### **HUD Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity Office**

Online: [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/fair\\_housing\\_equal\\_opp/online-complaint](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/online-complaint)

Toll-free telephone: 1-800-669-9777 or 1-800-877-8339

Toll-free teletypewriter (TTY) line: 1-800-877-8339.

Disability-related assistance is available, including reasonable accommodations and auxiliary aids and services. In addition, FHEO assists in filing a complaint in languages other than English.

### **New York State**

New York State Division of Human Rights (DHR) Online: [www.dhr.ny.gov/complaint](http://www.dhr.ny.gov/complaint)

Toll-free telephone: 1-888-392-3644, TTY/TDD: 718-741-8300, Fax to: 718-741-8322

Email: [complaints@dhr.ny.gov](mailto:complaints@dhr.ny.gov)

DHR Regional Office: 50 Clinton Street, Suite 301, Hempstead, NY 11550, 516-539-6848

New York State Attorney General: <https://ag.ny.gov/source-income-discrimination>

### **Nassau County Human Rights Commission**

Online: <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/414/Human-Rights-Commission>

Telephone: 1 (888)412-0474 or (516) 571-3662

## Fair Housing Information

**Long Island Housing Services, Inc. (Long Island Housing Services or LIHS)** is a not-for-profit private fair housing advocacy and enforcement agency servicing Nassau and Suffolk counties. LIHS receives HUD Private Enforcement Initiative (PEI) grant funding designated for Long Island. They provide fair housing counseling and housing counseling service to all Long Islanders for free. Services they provide include Fair Housing, Landlord & Tenant Rights, Foreclosure Prevention, Fair Lending, Education/Outreach, and Legal Representation in Foreclosure. **For more information, go to <https://www.lifairhousing.org/>, call 631-567-5111 ext. 375 (English) or ext. 378 (Espanol), or email [info@LIFairHousing.org](mailto:info@LIFairHousing.org).**

For more information about your fair housing rights, visit [FHEO's website](#).