

Fair Housing Information Sheet

The Federal Fair Housing Act, the New York State Human Rights Law, the Nassau County Human Rights Law, and the Town of North Hempstead Open Housing Law prohibit housing discrimination in housing activities. Housing activities include selling, renting, financing *dwelling*s, and *other housing-related transactions*. Housing discrimination is illegal in *nearly all housing*, including 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.

Classes Protected from Unlawful Discrimination (Protected Classes)		
Federal Fair Housing Act	NYS Human Rights Law	Nassau County Human Rights Law
Race	Race	Race
Color	Color	Color
Religion	Creed / Religion	Creed and 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 & Veteran's Status
	Age	
	Marital Status	Marital Status
	Domestic Violence Victim Status	
	Pregnancy-related condition	
	Predisposing genetic characteristic	
	Prior arrest or conviction record	
	Gender Identity or Expression	Gender Identity
	Lawful source of income (in housing only) ⁱ	Lawful source of income
	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	
		Segregation
		First Responder Status

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Residents who believe they have been discriminated against may file a complaint free of charge. Below are your options:

HUD Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity Office

Online: 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

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

Email: 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

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 (Español), or email info@LIFairHousing.org.

ⁱ **Lawful Source of Income Discrimination:** The New York State Attorney General's Office investigates and enforces lawful source of income discrimination. The law applies to nearly all types of housing in New York State. 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.