



## Reporting Housing Discrimination Guide

*Federal, State, & Cook County Protections*

### WHAT IS FAIR HOUSING?

Fair housing laws protect individuals from housing discrimination based on their protected class status, such as race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, and disability. Fair Housing protects people from discrimination when engaging in housing-related activities including:



applying for a mortgage



viewing an apartment



hiring a real estate agent



getting an appraisal



print & digital advertisements



seeking a home insurance policy



requesting accommodations



and much more.

FEDERAL	ILLINOIS	COOK COUNTY
<b>U.S. Department of Housing &amp; Urban Development (HUD)</b>	<b>Illinois Department of Human Rights (IDHR)</b>	<b>Cook County Commission on Human Relations (CCCHR)</b>
<b>Protected Classes</b> Race Color Religion Sex <i>(incl. sexual harassment)</i> National Origin Disability Familial Status  Retaliation Intimidation Interference Coercion	<b>Protected Classes</b> Race Color Religion Sex <i>(incl. sexual harassment)</i> National Origin Ancestry Age Disability Marital Status Familial Status Sexual Orientation <i>(incl. gender identity)</i> Pregnancy Unfavorable Military Discharge Military Status Order of Protection Status  Retaliation Aiding/Abetting Willful Interference Coercion	<b>Protected Classes</b> Race Color Religion Sex <i>(incl. sexual harassment)</i> National Origin Ancestry Age Disability Marital Status Parental Status Sexual Orientation Gender Identity Source of Income Military Discharge Status Criminal History Housing Status  Retaliation Aiding/Abetting Willful Interference
<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://hud.gov">https://hud.gov</a>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www2.illinois.gov/dhr">https://www2.illinois.gov/dhr</a>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.cookcountyil.gov">https://www.cookcountyil.gov</a>
<b>Phone Number:</b> 1-800-669-9777 1-800-877-8339 (TTY)	<b>Phone Number:</b> (312) 814-6200 (866) 740-3953 (TTY)	<b>Phone Number:</b> (312) 603-1100
<b>Intake Hours</b> Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<b>Intake Hours</b> Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. <i>No intake interviews Fridays</i>	<b>Intake Hours</b> Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. <i>By Appointment Only</i>

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<b>Geographic Area</b> Housing located within U.S. or U.S. territories	<b>Geographic Area</b> Residential and commercial real estate transactions in Illinois	<b>Geographic Area</b> Housing located within Cook County
<b>Time to File:</b> Must file within one year of the alleged violation	<b>Time to File</b> Must file within one year of the alleged violation	<b>Time to File</b> Must file within 180 days of the alleged violation
<b>Who can be sued?</b> Most residential housing owners (with some exceptions*), sales and rental agents, builders, lenders, and appraisers, municipalities, and advertisers.	<b>Who can be sued?</b> Most persons engaging in commercial or residential real estate transactions, including real estate brokers, sales agents, builders, lenders, appraisers, municipalities, advertisers, etc.	<b>Who can be sued?</b> All persons with right to sell, rent, lease, or sublease any housing unit within Cook County and their agent, broker, or other individual working on behalf of any such individual.
<b>What relief is available?</b> Make Whole Damages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>moving expenses</li> <li>rent differentials</li> <li>emotional distress</li> </ul> Punitive Damages Fines to Agency Injunctive Relief: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>emergency relief</li> <li>order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cease eviction</li> <li>order to sell</li> <li>order to rent</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Attorney Fees and Costs to prevailing complainant	<b>What relief is available?</b> Make Whole Damages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>moving expenses</li> <li>rent differentials</li> <li>emotional distress</li> </ul> Fines to State Injunctive Relief: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>emergency relief</li> <li>order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cease eviction</li> <li>order to sell</li> <li>order to rent</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Attorney Fees and Costs to prevailing complainant	<b>What relief is available?</b> Make Whole Damages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>moving expenses</li> <li>rent differentials</li> <li>emotional distress</li> </ul> Fines to the County Injunctive Relief: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>emergency relief</li> <li>order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cease eviction</li> <li>order to sell</li> <li>order to rent</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Attorney Fees and Costs to prevailing complainant