



Fair Housing Rights During the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Fair Housing means that all persons have the right to obtain the housing of their choice, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, or whether they have children. Limiting or restricting access to housing – rental or sales – based on these factors is against the law. In North Dakota, source of income is also protected.

How can the Fair Housing Act protect me and my family in the era of COVID-19?

Disability under the Fair Housing Act is defined as anyone who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity. It includes those who have a record of an impairment, and those who are perceived as having such an impairment. National origin discrimination is unequal treatment based on the country you were born in, or your ancestry.

If you currently test positive for COVID-19, have had COVID-19 in the past and have long term health effects due to it, or are seen as potentially a danger of having the virus because of your race or national origin, the Fair Housing Act protects you from housing discrimination.

Types of COVID-19 related discrimination can include:

- Being evicted after testing positive for COVID-19.
- Healthcare workers being treated differently than other tenants because of a perception they might have COVID-19.
- Being denied housing, treated in a discriminatory manner, or harassed because you are of Chinese or Asian origin.
- A landlord asking their tenant for information, or requiring information, about their COVID-19 test results or other medical records.
- Landlords denying housing to refugees because of fears they might spread the virus.
- Refusing tenants who are exiting nursing homes over fears they might have COVID-19.

If you feel you may have been a victim of housing discrimination, please contact us!

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