



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & HOUSING

It is illegal for a housing provider to discriminate against you because you are experiencing or have experienced domestic violence.

Some examples of actions that may be illegal include:

- A landlord evicts you because a neighbor complains about a fight between you and your partner.
- A landlord evicts you because you have made a call to 911 while in fear of or while experiencing domestic violence.
- A landlord charges you a fee due to a noise complaint related to an incident of domestic violence.
- A landlord refuses to rent to you because your partner was recently arrested for hitting you.
- A public housing authority terminates your housing voucher because you called the police to your home for protection from domestic violence.
- A housing provider refuses to accept your application because you are leaving a domestic violence program because they are afraid the abuser will show up and destroy the property.
- A landlord makes you pay a pet fee for an emotional support animal you have due to a mental illness developed as a result of domestic violence.

Would you like to....

- Fight an eviction related to domestic violence?
- End your lease early so you can leave a partner who is abusive?
- File a claim against a housing provider that discriminated against you once they found out you were a domestic violence survivor?
- Assert your fair housing rights?

HOME can help.

Call 804-354-0641 for help deciding what to do next.

The Fair Housing Act, Violence Against Woman Act, and the Virginia Residential Landlord Tenant Act all have legal protections for survivors of domestic violence.

There is no charge for any of HOME's services and all calls are confidential. It is illegal for a housing provider to retaliate against you for filing a complaint, so you cannot be evicted or otherwise punished for speaking up.

You are protected by the fair housing laws regardless of your immigration status.

No one has the right to hurt you or threaten you. If you think you may be a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, you can find support and resources by contacting:

YWCA Greater Richmond Regional Hotline: 804-612-6126

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-838-8238

Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME) 626 East Broad Street, Suite 400, Richmond, VA 23219

804.354.0641 | FAX 804.354.0690 | VA Relay: 711 | www.HOMEofVA.org | fairhousing@HOMEofVA.org

