

Have you been discriminated against?

The law prohibits discrimination based upon race, color, religion, national origin, gender, ancestry, disability, military status, or familial status.

Examples of discrimination could include any of the following:

- Refusing to sell or rent housing
- "Steering" of tenants by landlords to or from certain areas of a housing complex
- Falsely denying that housing is available
- Discrimination in the terms/conditions of housing (rent, security deposits, use of facilities, etc.)
- Discriminatory advertising
- Use of threats, intimidation, or coercion

If you feel you are being discriminated against, the City of Canton's Fair Housing Division can help you through one of the following FREE programs and services:

- Community awareness programs
- Fair Housing presentations, workshops, and seminars
- Investigations of housing and discrimination claims
- Assistance to victims of housing discrimination
- Educational materials that inform both tenants and landlords of their rights and responsibilities under federal, state, and city Fair Housing laws
- Conciliation and mediation sessions

Not sure if you are being discriminated against? Here are some common examples of Housing Discrimination that you should look out for:

- The owner or manager refuses to tell you why the unit is not available
- The rent or deposit is higher than advertised
- The manager says the unit is rented, but the "For Rent" sign is still posted
- The manager tells you, "You won't like it here, there's no place for your kids to play."
- The manager says there are occupancy limits that seem strange, such as three people in a two-bedroom unit
- The manager asks about your marital status, race, the nature of your disability, or your national origin
- Your application is refused without explanation

To make sure you have everything you might need during an investigation, always be sure to write down the following information when you are looking for an apartment or house:

- The name of the manager or agent
- The address of the building
- The apartment number
- The number of bedrooms
- Personal information requested of you
- Any information that you volunteered
- The requirements for occupancy
- When the unit will become available
- How you found out about the apartment or house
- Amount of rent and deposit

If you feel you have been discriminated against, contact:

Fair Housing Assistance Program

Canton City Hall

218 Cleveland Ave. SW

6th Floor

Canton, OH 44702

Phone: (330) 438-4133