

Fair Housing and Immigration Status

Know your protections under Fair Housing Law



Are you afraid that someone will report your status to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) ?

It is illegal for anyone to coerce, intimidate, threaten, or interfere with someone who is exercising their rights granted under the Fair Housing Law.

Fair Housing Laws

Fair Housing Laws provide legal protections against housing discrimination based on **race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, and family status**. But what about immigration status? Can a landlord refuse to sell, rent, or change terms for rent or financing because of one's status? The answer is **no**.

What landlords and realtors cannot do:

- Threaten to report you, your family, or friends to ICE,
- Offer different terms or rates based on ethnicity,
- Fail to provide the same housing amenities or services based on national origin,
- Set different terms, conditions, or privileges for the sale or rental of a dwelling,
- Provide different services or facilities,
- Steer someone away from neighborhoods or complexes based on national origin.

What landlords can do:

- Ask for identification and credit check information to ensure the tenant's ability to pay, as long as all potential tenants have to provide the same documentation.

Policies must be consistent across all potential homebuyers and renters. Treatment cannot vary based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or family status.



Discrimination based on national origin

It is illegal to treat a person differently in the housing market due to their ancestry, culture, language, origin of birth, or ethnicity.

Reporting Discrimination

If you have been threatened or experienced discrimination in the housing market, you can call the North Carolina Human Relations Commission at:

(919) 807-4420 or (866)324-7474

Or visit the Commission website at:

<http://www.doa.nc.gov/hrc/fairhousing.aspx>



Reference: Immigration Status and Housing Discrimination FAQ's, US Department of HUD

