

# 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

---