

OUR CIVIL RIGHTS MISSION

The United States Attorney's Office for the District of South Carolina is committed to upholding the civil and constitutional rights of all Americans, particularly some of the most vulnerable members of our society.

HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT

If you believe that you have been discriminated against, or that your civil rights have been violated, you may file a written complaint with the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Mail: U.S. Attorney's Office,
District of South Carolina,
Attn: Civil Rights Program,
1441 Main Street,
Suite 500, Columbia, SC 29201

Email: USASC.CivilRights@usdoj.gov

Contact the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division

Complete the online form:
<https://civilrights.justice.gov/report/>

Call the Civil Rights Division:
202-514-3847
1-855-856-1247 (toll-free)
202-514-0716 (TTY)

Contact Law Enforcement

If you believe you are a victim or a witness of a hate crime or other criminal violation of your civil rights, we encourage you to contact your local law enforcement agency and/or report it to the FBI by calling 1-800-CALL-FBI or submit a tip at tips@fbi.gov.

You may remain anonymous.

United States Attorney's Office District of South Carolina Civil Rights Program

CIVIL RIGHTS COORDINATORS:

Johanna Valenzuela (Civil)
Ben Garner (Criminal)

Visit the following websites for further information:

<https://www.justice.gov/usao-sc/civil-rights>

<https://www.justice.gov/crt>

<http://www.ada.gov/>

<https://www.justice.gov/hatecrimes>

<http://www.fbi.gov>



Email: usasc.civilrights@usdoj.gov

Twitter: https://twitter.com/USAO_SC

U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT



ADAIR F. BOROUGHS UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

1441 MAIN STREET, SUITE 500
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA
29201

TEL: (803) 929-3000

FAX: (803) 733-5966

CIVIL RIGHTS PROGRAM

STATUTES ENFORCED

The U.S. Department of Justice has jurisdiction to bring cases under a number of federal statutes, including the:

- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Fair Housing Act (FHA)
- Voting Rights Act
- Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA)
- Title IV, Title VI, and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act (USERRA)
- Servicemembers' Civil Relief Act (SCRA)
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
- Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act of 1980 (CRIPA)
- Equal Educational Opportunities Act (EEOA)
- Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act of 1994 (FACE)
- Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA)
- Deprivation of Rights under Color of Law
- Shepard Byrd Hate Crimes Prevention Act

DISABILITY RIGHTS

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in many contexts, including employment, transportation, state and local government activities, places of public accommodation, and telecommunications. The Department of Justice is authorized to investigate complaints, conduct compliance reviews to ensure accessibility, and initiate and intervene in litigation.

FAIR HOUSING AND FAIR LENDING

The Fair Housing Act and Equal Credit Opportunity Act prohibit discriminatory housing and residential lending practices based upon race, color, religion, sex, national origin, and familial status. The Department of Justice is authorized to bring a lawsuit if it finds a pattern or practice of unlawful conduct or if the matter raises an issue of public importance. The Department may also litigate cases on behalf of private citizens who elect such action upon a finding of reasonable cause by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD complaints may be filed by going to www.hud.gov.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

To ensure equal educational opportunities for all students, the Department of Justice investigates claims that school districts are not providing students who are English Language Learners with appropriate services to overcome their language barriers. The Department can also investigate allegations of discrimination, including harassment and the administration of discriminatory discipline based on race, national origin, sex, religion, and disability, in elementary and secondary schools, as well as in public colleges and universities.

POLICE MISCONDUCT

The Department of Justice is authorized to investigate patterns or practices of conduct by law enforcement agencies that result in the violation of individuals' federal and constitutional rights.

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

The FACE Act protects people from physical intimidation, threats, and violence as they seek or provide reproductive healthcare, including abortion clinics and pro-life counseling.

CIVIL RIGHTS OF INSTITUTIONALIZED PERSONS

The Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act of 1980 (CRIPA) gives the Department of Justice the authority to investigate conditions at certain institutions operated by state and local governments, including facilities for individuals with psychiatric or developmental disabilities, nursing homes, juvenile correctional facilities, and adult jails and prisons.

SERVICEMEMBERS' RIGHTS

The Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) prohibits discrimination and retaliation based on military service and requires, among other things, that employers put individuals back to work in their civilian jobs with applicable promotions following military service, under specified conditions.

RELIGIOUS LAND USE AND INSTITUTIONALIZED PERSONS ACT (RLUIPA)

The land use provisions of the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 (RLUIPA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000cc, et seq., protect individuals, houses of worship, and other religious institutions from discrimination in zoning and landmarking laws.

CRIMINAL

The Department of Justice investigates and prosecutes criminal civil rights violations, to include: hate crimes, the willful deprivation of constitutional rights by government officials, human trafficking, interference with access to reproductive health care, and certain election and voting interference due to race, color, religion, or national origin.