

## FILING 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:  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Southern District of Texas  
Attn: Civil Rights Section  
1000 Louisiana  
Suite 2300  
Houston, Texas 77002
- ◆ Complaint form available for download at: <http://www.justice.gov/usao-sdtx/civil-division/civil-rights-section>
- ◆ Send an email and/or complaint form to:  
[USATXS.CivilRights@usdoj.gov](mailto:USATXS.CivilRights@usdoj.gov)

**United States Attorney's Office**  
**Southern District of Texas**  
**Civil Rights Section**

**KENNETH MAGIDSON**  
**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

Visit the following websites for further information:

- <http://www.justice.gov/usao-sdtx/civil-division/civil-rights-section>
- <http://www.justice.gov/crt/>
- <http://www.ada.gov/>

  
**United States Attorney's Office**  
**Southern District of Texas**

*The United States Attorney's Office*  
**Southern District of Texas**

**CIVIL RIGHTS**  
**SECTION**



**KENNETH MAGIDSON**  
**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

1000 Louisiana  
Suite 2300  
Houston, Texas 77002  
[USATXS.CivilRights@usdoj.gov](mailto:USATXS.CivilRights@usdoj.gov)

# CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION



The United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas has established a civil, Civil Rights Section to investigate and

enforce federal statutes prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, disability, and other protected characteristics. The Civil Rights Section seeks to litigate cases in a variety of contexts including fair housing, and access to public accommodations.

## STATUTES ENFORCED

The Civil Rights Unit, along with the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, has jurisdiction to bring cases under a number of federal statutes, including the:

- Fair Housing Act
- Equal Credit Opportunity Act
- Americans with Disabilities Act
- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (against public entities)
- Service members' Civil Relief Act
- Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act
- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

## FAIR HOUSING

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discriminatory housing 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 complaints may be filed by going to [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov).

## DISABILITY RIGHTS

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



## EDUCATIONAL

### OPPORTUNITIES

The Department of Justice is responsible for enforcing Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, and religion in public schools and institutions of higher learning. The Department of Justice also plays a significant role in enforcing the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974 (which, among other things, requires states and school districts to provide English Language Learner (ELL)), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin by recipients of federal funds), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex by recipients of federal funds), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability by recipients of federal funds).

### POLICE MISCONDUCT

The Department of Justice is authorized to institute litigation to respond to police departments engaging in a pattern or practice of violating citizens' federal and constitutional rights. It also investigates complaints of discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, or national origin by police departments receiving federal funds.