

## FILING A COMPLAINT

If you believe that you have been discriminated against, or that your civil rights have been violated, you may contact either:

United States Attorney's Office  
Southern District of Alabama  
63 South Royal Street, Suite 600  
Mobile, AL 36602  
251.441.5845  
<http://www.justice.gov/usao/als/>

U.S. Department of Justice  
Civil Rights Division  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue,  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
1.888.736.5551  
<http://www.justice.gov/crt>

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
200 North Royal Street  
Mobile, AL 36602  
251.438.3674

Equal Employment  
Opportunity Commission  
63 South Royal Street, Suite 504  
Mobile, AL 36602  
1.800.669.4000  
TTY 251.690.2579

## STATUTES ENFORCED

The United States Attorney's Office, along with the Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, has jurisdiction to bring cases under a number of federal statutes, including:

- Fair Housing Act
- Equal Credit Opportunity Act
- Americans with Disabilities Act
- Title II of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Service Members Civil Relief Act
- Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA)
- Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act of 1980 (CRIPA)
- Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr., Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009
- Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act (FACE)
- Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 (RLUIPA)
- Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)
- Voting Rights Act of 1965
- National Voter Registration Act ("Motor Voter Law")
- Help America Vote Act
- Equal Education Opportunity Act
- Church Arson Prevention Act
- Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA)

Visit the following websites for further information:

<http://www.justice.gov/crt>  
<http://www.ada.gov>  
<http://www.fbi.gov>  
<http://www.eeoc.gov>

## CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT



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251.441.5845

# PROTECTING YOUR CIVIL RIGHTS

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It is the mission of the United States Attorney's Office to ensure that many of our nation's most critical and treasured laws continue to fulfill their purpose of advancing equal opportunity and protecting the rights of every American.

## **FAIR HOUSING**

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discriminatory housing practices based upon race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or familial status. The Department of Justice is authorized to bring a lawsuit if it finds a pattern or practice of unlawful conduct.

## **EQUALITY IN EDUCATION**

Federal legislation and court decisions mandate that school officials not discriminate against students on the basis of sex, national origin, language barriers, religion, or disabilities. The Department of Justice acts to ensure that school districts live up to the requirements of the Equal Protection Clause.

## **FAIR CREDIT/LENDING**

Federal law also addresses the range of abuses that are seen in the market, from access to loans, to credit issues such as redlining and pricing discrimination. These laws also address discrimination in all areas of lending, including unsecured consumer and automobile lending, as well as credit cards.

## **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, as well as access to places of public accommodation, transportation, and telecommunications. The Department of Justice or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has the authority to investigate disability rights cases depending on the subject-matter involved.

## **VOTING RIGHTS**

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 prohibits any voting practices that discriminate on the basis of race, color or membership in a language minority group. Other laws enforced by the Department of Justice aim to make registration and voting in federal elections easier and more accessible for more people.

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN THE WORK PLACE**

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and its amendments prohibit employment practices that discriminate on grounds of a protected status, i.e. sex, race, etc. It also prohibits employers from discriminating against an employee because of his past, current, or future military obligation.

## **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. The Department also investigates complaints of discrimination based on race, color, sex, or national origin by police departments receiving federal funds. The Department prosecutes criminal conduct by law enforcement officers that intentionally violate an individual's constitutional rights.

## **HATE CRIMES**

The U.S. Attorney's Office vigorously prosecutes cases involving violence and intimidating acts based on race, ethnicity, national origin, religious beliefs, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. Even in cases where there has been a local prosecution, a subsequent federal prosecution may be brought to remedy the criminal wrongdoing and vindicate federal interests.

## **HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

The U.S. Attorney's Office prosecutes cases involving the use of force, threats, or coercion to compel labor or services, including commercial sex acts, from adults and children. Modern day slavery can involve migrant farm laborers, sweat shop workers, domestic servants, and brothel workers.