

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. The U.S. Attorney enforces federal statutes prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, disability, religion, familial status, and national origin. We also enforce other laws that protect service-members, veterans, voting rights, prisoner rights, and educational opportunities. The U.S. Attorney also enforces criminal laws regarding hate crimes, police misconduct, and human trafficking.

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, 29201. Fax: (803) 733-5966. Email: USASC.CivilRights@usdoj.gov

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

CIVIL RIGHTS COORDINATORS:

**ROBERT M. SNEED (CIVIL)
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Visit the following websites for further Information:

U.S. Attorney's Office, South Carolina Website:

<https://www.justice.gov/usao-sc/programs/civilrights>

Department of Justice (DOJ), Civil Rights Div.:

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



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

CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT



**1441 MAIN STREET, SUITE 500
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29201
Tel: (803) 929-3000, Fax: (803) 733-5966**

CIVIL RIGHTS PROGRAM

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
- American's with Disabilities Act
- Title IV, Title VI, and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA)
- Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA)
- Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1974 (Rehab Act)
- Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act of 1980 (CRIPA)
- Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA)
- Shepard/Byrd Hate Crimes Prevention Act
- Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000
- Church Arson Prevention Act of 1996
- Violent Crime Control And Law Enforcement Act of 1994
- Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act (FACE), 18 U.S.C. § 248(c)
- Voting Rights

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.

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.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The U.S. Attorney's Office prosecutes 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.

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.

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. The Criminal Division also prosecutes criminal conduct by law enforcement officers that intentionally violates individuals' constitutional rights.

EDUCATION

Federal legislation and court decisions mandate that school officials cannot discriminate against students on the basis of sex, national origin, language barrier, religion, or disabilities. The Department of Justice is authorized to enforce these statutes and court decisions in a diverse array of cases involving elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education.

PRISONERS' RIGHTS

The Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (CRIPA) allows the Attorney General to review conditions and practices within prisons and jails run by state or local governments. If we find that a state or local government systematically deprives people in these facilities of their rights, we can act.

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.