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GENERAL NEWS

HUD Charges NY Landlord with Disability Discrimination

In a [press release](#) yesterday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) announced that it is [charging](#) a housing provider in New York and its employees with violating the [Fair Housing Act](#) by refusing a tenant’s request for a disability-related reasonable accommodation to keep an assistance animal and subjecting the tenant to retaliation.

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination and retaliation based on disability, which includes failing to grant reasonable accommodations and interfering with tenants’ exercise of rights protected by the Act.

HUD’s charge alleges that the housing providers refused a tenant’s request to allow her child with a disability to have an assistance animal in her unit. Although they provided medical documentation supporting the minor’s need for an assistance animal, the housing provider continued to deny the reasonable accommodation and impose difficult and discriminatory conditions. Shortly after her latest request for a reasonable accommodation, the tenant received a notice to vacate her unit and had to move to another, more expensive, apartment within her daughter’s school district.

A United States administrative law judge will hear HUD’s charges unless any party elects to have the case heard in a federal district court. If the administrative law judge finds after a hearing that discrimination has occurred, the judge may award damages to the individuals for losses caused by the discrimination. The judge may also order injunctive relief and other equitable relief to deter further discrimination as well as payment of attorney fees. In addition, the judge may impose civil penalties to vindicate the public interest. If the case is heard in a federal court, the judge may also award punitive damages to the complainants.

HUD Launches Funding Navigator to Help PHAs Maximize Carbon Reduction and Climate Resilience Efforts

The Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) has [announced](#) the launch of a [funding navigator](#), an interactive tool that allows the user to browse and sort funding opportunities available under the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Potentially eligible entities will be able to sort funding resources based on audience, activity, funding type, location, and other items. The funding navigator helps HUD program participants maximize the utilization of IRA and BIL resources for carbon reduction and climate resilience efforts.



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