

ABOUT US



City of Lawrence
LEGAL

Know Your Rights and Responsibilities and How to Exercise Them!

The Human Relations Ordinance of Lawrence, Kansas provides equal opportunity in employment, housing and public accommodations without regard to race, sex, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, age, familial status, disability, or sexual orientation, in addition to familial status in housing.

If you require an accommodation in order to access our services, please contact us.

If you have questions about your rights or responsibilities under the law, contact the specialists in the Legal Department, Human Relations Division for a consultation.

They can also provide you with copies of Chapter X, Article 1 of the Code of the City of Lawrence, Kansas, as well as informational brochures and posters.

City of Lawrence, Kansas
Legal Department
Human Relations
Division
and
Human Relations
Commission

947 New Hampshire
Suite 200A
P.O. Box 708
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Phone: 785-832-3310
Fax: 785-832-3315

Email: humanrelations@ci.lawrence.ks.us
Website: www.lawrencehumanrelations.org

Human Relations Division and Human Relations Commission

Suite 200A
947 New Hampshire
Lawrence, KS 66044
785-832-3310
785-832-3315 FAX
Office Hours:
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday—Friday



City of Lawrence

The Legal Department Human Relations Division

The Legal Services Department, Human Relations Commission and Human Relations Division is a civil rights enforcement agency. Our agency receives, investigates, decides and attempts to conciliate all complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, segregation, or separation in the areas of employment, housing and public accommodations, because of race, sex, religion, color, national origin, age, ancestry, sexual orientation or disability, in addition to familial status in housing.

The Human Relations Division is dedicated to promoting freedom from unlawful discrimination as defined by Chapter X, Article I of the Code of the City of Lawrence, Kansas, as amended. Our agency works diligently to ensure equality of opportunity, by vigorously enforcing laws prohibiting discrimination, in employment, housing and public accommodations. We strive to provide professional, competent, and considerate service to everyone, as well as providing a fair and impartial process for resolving charges of discrimination.

The Human Relations Division also provides education, outreach and technical assistance to the Lawrence community, in order for the citizens, businesses and organizations to know and understand their rights and responsibilities under the law.

The Human Relations Division is open from 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. There is no charge for our services. Initially, one of our Human Relations Specialists will speak with you about your situation. Keep in mind that we only handle discriminatory matters due to race, sex, religion, color, national origin, age, ancestry, sexual orientation or disability, in addition to familial status in housing, or retaliation, which has presumably occurred at your place of employment, your housing, or a public accommodation.

The Human Relations Commission

Chapter X, Article I of the Code of the City of Lawrence, Kansas, as amended, provides for a nine-member Commission, made up of volunteers who are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. Daily operations are carried out by agency staff, who are City employees.

Education/Outreach

The Human Relations Division provides training on any aspect of employment, housing and public accommodation, as well as mediation, diversity and sexual harassment. The purpose of this training is to prevent and eliminate discrimination. These efforts are designed to educate persons about their legal rights and responsibilities. Our agency also conducts educational seminars throughout the year for professionals, as well as the general public.

Mediation

The Human Relations Division offers alternative dispute resolution in the form of mediation. Our highly trained staff members are Kansas Supreme Court Certified Approved Mediators. Mediation is the art and science of finding solutions to problems, with the assistance of a neutral third party – the mediator. The focus is not on winning or losing ... it's on finding equitable solutions. Our staff can assist you in creating a workable solution or solutions to a problem without assigning judgments or blame.

In mediation, the parties remain in control throughout the process, jointly seeking the best possible solution. Mediation is a less expensive, less prolonged, less traumatic, and a more effective means of reaching an equitable agreement.

Filing a Complaint

If you believe you have been discriminated against in your employment, housing or a public accommodation, you may be able to file a complaint with the Human Relations Division .

One of our Human Relations Specialists will listen carefully and advise you of your rights and responsibilities under the law, which may include filing a complaint of discrimination. You may be referred to another agency more suited to your needs. If your discrimination complaint is accepted by our agency, you will be advised of the complaint processing procedure. For more information, you may contact our agency at (785) 832-3310.

