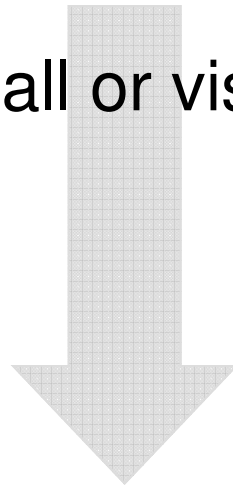


**If you would like
more information
on
Discrimination in
Public
Accommodations...**

Call or visit:



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

1006 New Hampshire
Municipal Court Bldg.
Office of the City Prosecutor
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Phone: 785-832-3310
Fax: 785-832-3315
humanrelations@ci.lawrence.ks.us

**Public
Accommodations**



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

1006 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 Right to Equal Access and Equal Service is

Equal access to, and equal service in, public accommodations is a right protected by federal, state and local laws.

In accordance with **Chapter X, Article I of the Code of the City of Lawrence, Kansas** it is unlawful for any person, who is the owner, operator, lessee, manager, administrator, public servant, agent or employee of any place or public accommodation to refuse, deny, segregate, separate, discriminate, or make a distinction, directly or indirectly, in offering its goods, services, facilities or accommodations to any person because of:

- ♦ Race
- ♦ Religion
- ♦ National origin
- ♦ Ancestry
- ♦ Sex
- ♦ Color
- ♦ Age
- ♦ Disability
- ♦ Sexual orientation

The Human Relations Ordinance protects an individual's basic right of fair and equal treatment by businesses and facilities that are open to the public. In addition to requiring that entrance be accessible, and admission be non-discriminatory, the Ordinance also covers service and the right to enjoy any activities that are made available to the public, on an equal basis.

Walking into a department store or restaurant and being closely monitored by store personnel, asked for several pieces of identification by a cashier or denied service based on race can be an embarrassing experience. However, it is also a violation of the law.

What Are Some Examples of Public Accommodations?

The following, generally, are considered places of public accommodation:

- Places of lodging
- Food and/or drink establishments
- Places of entertainment
- Public meeting places
- Sale and/or rental establishments
- Service establishments
- Public transportation stations
- Educational institutions
- Social service establishments
- Recreation or fitness centers
- Places of recreation
- Places of public display

What Types of Places and Facilities Are Not Covered?

- any establishment that is supported by a particular religion, non-profit organization, or age group
- a private club or other establishment not in fact open to the public

Are There Limits to a Person's Right to Go to These Places?

Yes. Along with the right to go to public places comes the responsibility to act in a manner that does not infringe upon other persons' rights. In addition, the owner is allowed to establish requirements, such as a dress code, admission fee, and prohibition of concealed weapons, as long as these rules are applied equally to all customers and clients regardless of their belonging to one of the protected categories.

Discrimination in public accommodations can be very subtle. Often people may suspect they have been discriminated against, but are not sure they can prove it.

The Legal Department, Human Relations Division is the local agency which enforces the City of Lawrence Human Relations Ordinance. If you think your rights have been violated, you should contact our offices.. All public accommodation complaints must be filed within one (1) year of the date of the incident. There is no charge for services.

Our highly experienced Human Relations Staff will conduct an objective investigation to determine whether discrimination has occurred. Call our office to discuss any questions you may have.

Human Relations Staff will hear your complaint and determine if it is covered by the City of Lawrence Human Relations Ordinance. If it does apply, the staff will investigate the complaint and work impartially with both parties to resolve the dispute. It is hoped that the matter can be resolved voluntarily.

The staff person assigned to investigate your complaint will not be an advocate for either party during the investigation. Staff has an obligation to conduct a fair and impartial investigation.

All inquiries and complaints are kept confidential. The Human Relations Ordinance prohibits anyone from taking any action against a person because that person has filed a complaint, opposed any action made unlawful by the Ordinance, or was a witness who testified on behalf of a person filing a complaint.



City of Lawrence