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GENERAL NEWS

HUD Charges NJ Housing Providers with Disability Discrimination

In a [press release](#) posted today, HUD announced that it is [charging](#) the owners and management company of a condominium association in New Jersey with discrimination on the basis of disability. HUD's charge alleges that the owners violated the [Fair Housing Act](#) by refusing to allow a resident with disabilities to keep an assistance animal.

The [press release](#) does not state how the case came to HUD's attention, but Assistant Secretary of HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity ([FHEO](#)) Anna María Farías did have this to say regarding the matter:

"Assistance animals enable persons with disabilities to fully enjoy their home and are an accommodation that shouldn't be denied. HUD will continue to take appropriate action when housing providers fail to comply with the requirements of the Fair Housing Act."

Under the Fair Housing Act, it is unlawful to deny or limit housing to people with disabilities, including refusing to make reasonable accommodations. Allowing people with disabilities to have assistance animals that perform work, tasks, or provide disability-related emotional support is considered a reasonable accommodation under the Act.



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