

The purpose of this form is to assist you in filing a complaint with the Department of Human Services. You are not required to use this form; a letter with the same information is sufficient. HOWEVER, THE INFORMATION REQUESTED ABOVE MUST BE PROVIDED, WHETHER THE FORM IS USED OR NOT.

(PLEASE READ THE ATTACHED NOTICE OF DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS AND NON-RETALIATION REQUIREMENT)

NOTICE TO INDIVIDUALS FILING DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS

Individuals alleging discriminatory treatment in services and/or employment have a right to file a complaint using the Department of Human Services (DHS) DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT FORM, DHS 6000 (Rev. 06/2014). A letter with the same information requested on the form can be used if necessary. The complaint should be sent to:

STATE OF HAWAII
 Department of Human Services
 Personnel Office/Civil Rights Compliance Staff
 P. O. Box 339
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339
 Tel: (808) 586-4955 TTY: (808) 586-4950

gwatts@dhs.hawaii.gov

Individuals also have a right to seek redress for their complaint through the appropriate:

1. Collective Bargaining Unit
2. State or Federal Compliance Agencies, and/or
3. Civil Court action.

Confidentiality: All information shall be held with strictest confidentiality, and release of information shall be allowed only when necessary to resolve the issue(s) in the complaint. A complainant consent release form (DHS 6006) will be required to begin an investigation.

Non-retaliation: Section 704(a) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, states:

“It shall be an unlawful employment practice for an employer to discriminate against any of his/her employees or applicant(s) for employment (or services) because he/she has opposed any practice by this title, or because he/she has made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this title.”

Additionally, laws enforced prohibit recipients of Federal financial assistance from intimidating or retaliating against anyone because he or she has either taken action or participated in action to secure rights protected by these laws. Individuals seeking services and/or employment with the Department of Human Services are advised of this non-retaliation requirement and are instructed to notify the Department’s Personnel Office/Civil Rights Compliance Staff, if any attempt at retaliation is made as a result of filing a complaint.

Rights and Responsibilities: The following list highlights some rights and responsibilities and is NOT all inclusive:

1. You have the right to have an attorney represent you, at your own expense, or to have any other personal representative of your choice at any level of a grievance or discrimination complaint. Such representative shall not be a departmental, State or Federal equal employment opportunity representative or personnel specialist.
2. You have the right to discontinue your complaint at any time by submitting a written statement of withdrawal (DHS 6007).
3. You have the right to be notified of each of the steps taken in the complaint procedure, to be notified ahead of time of any inquiry or conference, and to be notified in writing of the decision reached at any level.
4. You have the right to reasonable accommodations, including and not limited to, language interpreters/translators, auxiliary aids and/or facilities and parking for individuals with disabilities. You are responsible for requesting required accommodations.
5. At any point in time, you have the right to file your complaint with the State or Federal agencies listed in this notice as appropriate. You are responsible to inquire directly with these agencies regarding the steps necessary for redress.

The following is a list of additional entities where you might file a complaint as appropriate:

State of Hawaii
Hawaii Civil Rights Commission
830 Punchbowl Street, Room 411
Honolulu, HI 96813
Telephone: (808) 586-8636

U. S. Department of Justice
Office of Civil Rights
810 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20531
Telephone: (202) 307-0690

U. S. Department of Labor
Office of Contract Compliance Programs
Prince Kuhio Federal Building, Room 7326
300 Ala Moana Boulevard
Honolulu, HI 96850
Telephone: (808) 541-2933

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Civil Rights
451 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410
Telephone: (202) 708-1112 TTY: (202) 708-1455

U. S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Civil Rights, Region IX
90 7th Street, Suite 4-100
San Francisco, CA 94103-6705
Telephone: (415) 437-8324

U. S. Department of Education
Region IX, Office of Civil Rights
915 Second Avenue, #3310
Seattle, WA 98174-1099

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington DC 20250-9410
Telephone: (202) 720-5964

OR Office of Civil Rights, Food and Nutrition Service Western
Region
90 7th Street, Suite 10-100
San Francisco, CA 94103
Telephone: (415) 705-1322 TTY: (800) 735-2922

NOTICE OF NON-RETALIATION REQUIREMENT

Section 704(a) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, states:

“It shall be unlawful employment practice for an employer to discriminate against any of his/her employees or applicant(s) for employment...because he/she has opposed any practice made an unlawful employment practice by this title, or because he/she has made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this title.”

Persons filing charges of employment discrimination are advised of this non-retaliation requirement and are instructed to notify the Department’s Civil Rights Compliance Staff at (808) 586-4955 if any attempt at retaliation is made as a result of their filing this complaint.