



**Commission On
Human Rights**

New York City Commission on Human Rights

22 Reade Street
New York, NY 10007
212-306-7450 | 212-416-0197
www.nyc.gov/site/cchr

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CONTACT: press@cchr.nyc.gov, (212) 416-0105

***NEW YORK CITY COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS CONTINUES TO SHOW UP FOR NEW YORKERS IN
2024***

*Record-Breaking Settlements, Community Outreach, and Policy Reforms Highlight a Transformative Year
in Fighting Discrimination*

NEW YORK, NY – The New York City Commission on Human Rights (CCHR) is proud to celebrate a year of meaningful achievements in 2024, underscoring its unwavering commitment to ensuring New York is a city for all. By combining groundbreaking settlements, expanded outreach, and innovative policy reforms, CCHR has made significant strides to reinforce its commitment to combating discrimination and promoting equity across the city.

“From day one, our administration has focused on creating a safer, more affordable New York City. In 2024, we continued to deliver on that vision and ‘Get Stuff Done’ for working-class New Yorkers,” said **New York City Mayor Eric Adams**. “Thanks to our extraordinary public servants, America’s safest big city got even safer this year, with overall crime down and thousands of illegal guns, mopeds, and ghost cars taken off city streets. We passed historic legislation to turn New York into a ‘City of Yes,’ shattered affordable housing records once again, and put billions of dollars back into New Yorkers’ pockets. We broke records for the most jobs and small businesses in city history and moved millions of trash bags off our sidewalks and into containers. But we know that there is even more we can do to continue to uplift working-class families. As we look to the future, our administration remains committed to keeping New Yorkers safe and making our city more affordable for the millions of New Yorkers who call our city home.”

"For nearly 80 years, CCHR has fought for the rights of New Yorkers to live, work, and thrive free from discrimination," said **Annabel Palma, Commissioner and Chair of the New York City Commission on Human Rights**. "Our coordinated efforts in community outreach, education, litigation, and policy implementation have fostered an equitable New York City. I am proud of our commitment to delivering justice and preventing future harms, ensuring all New Yorkers can be their authentic selves at home, at work, and in public spaces."

Historic Housing Victory

In a groundbreaking case, CCHR secured the largest civil rights settlement in housing in the city's history against Parkchester Preservation Management for discriminating against voucher holders. The settlement includes a \$1 million civil penalty—the highest ever imposed for housing violations under the New York City Human Rights Law—and mandates the allocation of 850 apartments for voucher holders. This sets an important precedent for housing equity increasing housing stock for individuals with housing vouchers.

Financial Restitution for New Yorkers & Penalties to Disincentivize Discrimination

In 2024, to date, CCHR obtained over \$15 million in compensation for individuals subjected to discrimination and an additional \$1.4 million in civil penalties for the city. These efforts underscore the Commission's dedication to delivering justice and deterring discriminatory practices.

Raising Awareness & Empowering Communities

- **Monthly Radio Show Launch:** In April, CCHR introduced "Rights Here. Right Now.," a live monthly radio program airing on WHCR 90.3 FM, and recordings are available on YouTube and Spotify. The show serves as a platform to educate New Yorkers about their rights and the Commission's ongoing work to protect them.
- **Surveying New Yorkers:** In July, CCHR launched the "Together NYC" Campaign, which included a survey of New Yorker's experiences with, and perceptions, of discrimination. CCHR received over 8,000 responses to the survey.
- **Support for Students:** To assist students of all faiths and backgrounds, CCHR published a fact sheet detailing resources available to those who have experienced or witnessed discriminatory harassment, fostering a safer and more inclusive educational environment. CCHR worked with educational institutions to welcome students back to school in the fall and share the factsheet and other resources.
- **Days of Action:** To honor the legacy and memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., CCHR launched its first-ever MLK Day of Action against Hate, reaching New Yorkers in all five boroughs to join the fight against bias, hate, and discrimination and raise awareness of rights, obligations, and resources in NYC.

Enforcement Actions & Policy Reforms in Workplaces & Housing

CCHR's enforcement actions have led to substantial policy changes across various sectors:

- **Workplace Discrimination:** In cases addressing pregnancy discrimination and hostile work environments, as well as the denial of opportunities to individuals impacted by the criminal legal system, settlements included financial compensation and mandates for policy revisions, training, and community outreach to prevent future violations.
- **Source of Income Discrimination:** The Commission resolved cases where landlords discriminated against tenants with housing vouchers, resulting in financial settlements and the implementation of policies to ensure fair treatment for all housing applicants.

About the NYC Commission on Human Rights

The New York City Commission on Human Rights enforces the New York City Human Rights Law—one of the most comprehensive civil rights laws in the nation. The Law includes 27 protected classes in housing, employment, and public accommodations. If you have witnessed or experienced discrimination, contact the Commission at 212-416-0197 or visit <https://www.nyc.gov/site/cchr/about/report-discrimination.page>.

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