



## **Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission and their Monroe (& Pike) County Advisory Council**

### **Our Mission:**

The Pennsylvania Human Relations Commissions (PHRC) enforces the civil rights laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in:

- Employment
- Housing/Commercial Property
- Education
- Services and Places Open to the Public

Their advisory council in Monroe (& Pike) County serves as their eyes and ears in the community. The advisory council can also provide information civil rights laws in Pennsylvania and the commission.

### **Contact Us**

**2nd Monday every other month (e.g., May, July):** Advisory council meetings (open to public) at 5:30pm in the Loder Senior Center at 62 Analomink Street in East Stroudsburg, PA.

**1st and 3rd Monday of the month:** Council members are also available to answer your questions from 3-5 pm in the Board Room (1st Floor) of the Eastern Monroe Public Library at 1002 North Ninth Street in Stroudsburg, PA.

Visit our website for more details, [www.poconounity.org](http://www.poconounity.org).

To file a discrimination complaint, or ask questions about your situation, contact the PHRC office in which the incident occurred. For Monroe, Pike and surrounding counties, contact the PHRC Harrisburg Regional Office, Riverfront Office center, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 1101-1125 South Front Street in Harrisburg, PA 17104-2515; (717) 787-9784 / TTY Users Only: (717) 787-7279.

# Fact: You have the right to live, work, learn and play free from illegal discrimination.

Pennsylvania law protects you from discrimination in five areas:

- **Employment** – getting a job or working at one
- **Education** – in school, whether it be a public or private school, college, trade school or university
- **Public accommodations** – access to public places and services
- **Housing** – in renting, buying, selling or getting a loan for a home
- **Commercial property** – access to or the purchase, sale or lease of commercial property

The law defines each of these areas. If you aren't sure if the law applies to a specific place or situation, contact us.\* How the law applies to your situation is one the things determined in an investigation.

**PA law, in general, prohibits discrimination based on race, color, age (40 and over), sex, ancestry, national origin, religion, familial status (only in housing), disability and the use, handling or training of guide or support animals for disability.**

A job applicant is turned down because he is African-American. A woman is paid less than a man for the same work. Your boss or co-worker makes unwanted advances. A student with disabilities is denied the use of a guide dog. A woman is fired for being pregnant. Your city doesn't offer accessible parking for people with disabilities. A neighbor continually harasses you because of your religion... All of these situations and so many more can be illegal discrimination.

If you have questions about what happened or is happening to you, just ask us. We enforce Pennsylvania's anti-discrimination laws.

If you are an employer, business owner, lender, realtor, landlord or educator with questions about your legal rights and responsibilities, please don't hesitate to ask us.

\*Find out more about illegal discrimination and where to file a complaint, ask a question, or get training for your business, school or group at [www.phrc.state.pa.us](http://www.phrc.state.pa.us) and at our offices; see reverse side.