

Commission on Human Rights

KY Human Rights Commission makes May 2013 rulings on discrimination complaints

Press Release Date: Friday, May 17, 2013

Contact Information: Victoria Stephens
Mobile: 501.641.0760
Commission Headquarters
1.800.292.5566
TDD: 502.595.4084

The Kentucky Commission on Human Rights Board of Commissioners met on Thursday, May 17, at Louisville headquarters to rule on discrimination complaints for the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The commission ruled to accept one conciliation agreement, accept one case withdrawal giving the complainant the right to file a private suit, accept two case withdrawals with private settlements, and dismiss 21 complaints with findings of no probable cause to evidence that discrimination occurred.

Conciliation agreements are similar to settlements and are negotiated by commission investigative and legal staff. The agreements resolve the discrimination complaints. The following is the summary of the conciliation agreement accepted at yesterday's meeting:

Lexington Fair Housing Council v. Motobi LLC, in Parks Hill, Ky.: The Lexington Fair Housing Council alleged Motobi discriminated against it based on the protected class of disability in the area of housing. This would be a violation of the Kentucky Civil Rights Act and the U.S. Fair Housing Act. The council is a fair housing organization that promotes equal housing opportunities in the region. It alleged it discovered in November 2012 that Motobi did not allow emotional support animals in Motobi's rental properties and thus did not rent to tenants with emotional support animals. Motobi denied all allegations of violations of the law. Before the commission's investigation was complete, the parties agreed to resolve the matter with a conciliation agreement. Motobi affirmed that it does and shall comply with civil rights including fair housing law. It agreed to compensate the Lexington Fair Housing Council in the amount of \$250, to undergo fair housing compliance training and submit to compliance monitoring by the commission for three years.

The Kentucky Commission on Human Rights is the state authority that enforces the Kentucky and United States Civil Rights acts, which make discrimination illegal. The Kentucky Civil Rights Act protects people from discrimination in the areas of employment, public accommodations,

housing, and financial transactions. It prohibits discrimination on the bases of race, color, religion, national origin, disability and gender in all the above areas. It additionally protects people on the basis of familial status in the area of housing, which covers families with children in the household under age 18-years old and covers women who are pregnant. The bases of age, 40-years old and over, and tobacco-smoking status, are additionally protected in the area of employment. It is against the law to retaliate against any person who complains of discrimination to the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights.

For help with discrimination, contact the commission at [1.800.292.5566](tel:18002925566). The TDD telephone number is [502.595.4084](tel:5025954084). Visit the website at kchr.ky.gov.