

# Housing Rights for Victims of Family Violence

**Are you a victim of family violence?  
You have rights as a tenant.**

**If you are a victim of family violence renting in Texas, you have the right to:**

- Seek police or emergency assistance in response to family violence at any time.
- \*A landlord cannot evict or penalize you for the presence of police or emergency assistance at your residence due to family violence. A landlord cannot ask you to waive this right in a lease or at any point.

**If you are living with an abuser in a rental property in Texas, you have the right to:**

- Terminate your lease without penalty by providing your landlord a copy of a protective order or a temporary injunction to stop family violence within a divorce.

**If you live in Public Housing, Project -Based Section 8 Housing, or are in the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8), a landlord or Public Housing Authority (PHA):**

- Cannot deny you housing assistance or admission to public housing solely because you are a victim of family violence.
- Cannot terminate your housing assistance because you are a victim.
- Cannot evict you because you are a victim.
- Cannot sexually harass you. (He or she may not create a hostile living environment for you or demand sexual favors in exchange for housing assistance or repairs.)
- Must honor any court order, such as a protective order, that addresses access to or control of the property.
- May remove your abuser from the lease or your voucher, while allowing you to stay.
- Must maintain the confidentiality of any information or documents you provide.
- Must allow you to transfer your voucher to another jurisdiction for your safety.

## TAKE ACTION!

**If you believe you have been wrongfully denied assistance, receive notice that your voucher is being terminated, or you receive an eviction notice:**

- Request an appeal hearing in writing before the deadline listed on the notice.
- Consult with a housing attorney immediately. For referrals, call 2-1-1 or visit [www.texaslawhelp.org](http://www.texaslawhelp.org)

**If you believe your rights have been violated or you need to move for safety reasons:**

- Consult with a housing attorney. For referrals, call 2-1-1 or visit [www.texaslawhelp.org](http://www.texaslawhelp.org).

**To locate a Family Violence program near you call:**

- National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800.799.SAFE or 800.787.3224 (TTY)

*The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice. This project was supported by Award No. WF-04-V30-14108-09 awarded by the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division and the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Family Violence Program.*

# Derechos de Vivienda para Víctimas de Violencia Familiar

**¿Eres víctima de violencia familiar?  
Tu tienes derechos como inquilino.**

**Si eres víctima de violencia familiar y estas rentando en Tejas, tienes el derecho a:**

- Buscar asistencia de la policía o asistencia de emergencias a causa de la violencia familiar en cualquier momento.

\*Un propietario no puede desahuciar o penalizar a un inquilino por la presencia de policía o asistencia de emergencia en su residencia si es relacionado con violencia familiar. Un propietario no puede pedirle que renuncie su derecho en su contrato o en cualquier momento.

**Si está viviendo con un abusador en una propiedad rentada en Tejas, usted tiene el derecho de:**

- Cancelar su contrato de arrendamiento sin ser penalizada si proporciona al propietario una copia de la orden de protección o mandato provisional para poner alto a la violencia en familia durante un divorcio.

**Si usted vive en Vivienda Pública, Vivienda de Sección 8 Proyecto Basada, o está en el Programa de Vales Flexibles (Choice Voucher Program), un propietario o Autoridad de Vivienda Pública:**

- No puede negarle asistencia con viviendas o admisión a viviendas públicas solamente porque es víctima de violencia familiar.
- No puede desahuciarlo porque es víctima.
- No puede acosarla sexualmente. (O Crear un ambiente hostil para usted or demandar favores sexuales a cambio de ayuda or reparaciones.)
- Debe honrar cualquier orden de corte, como orden de protección, que especifica acceso a, o control de la propiedad.
- Puede quitar a su abusador del contrato de arrendamiento o su bono, y dejar que usted permanezca en la vivienda.
- Debe mantener confidencial cualquier información o documentos que usted provea.
- Debe permitir transferir su bono a otra área por su seguridad.

## TOME ACCIÓN!

**Si usted cree que ha sido injustamente negado de asistencia, recibe notificación que su bono ha sido cancelado, o recibe notificación de desahucio:**

- Pida una apelación de testigos por escrito antes de la fecha de plazo anotada en su notificación.
- Consulte con un abogado de vivienda inmediatamente. Para referencias, llame al 2-1-1, o visite [www.texaslawhelp.org](http://www.texaslawhelp.org)

**Si cree que sus derechos han sido violados o necesita mudarse por razones de seguridad:**

- Consulte con un abogado de vivienda. Para referencias, llame al 2-1-1 o visite [www.texaslawhelp.org](http://www.texaslawhelp.org).

**Para localizar un programa de violencia familiar cerca de usted llame a:**

- La Línea Nacional de Violencia Doméstica al 800.799.SAFE or 800.787.3224 (TTY)

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