



News Release

For Immediate Release: September 10, 2018

Durham Hosts Housing Discrimination Listening Session September 20

What: Housing Discrimination Based on National Origin Listening Session

Who: City of Durham Neighborhood Improvement Services Department Human Relations and Community Relations Divisions, Fair Housing Project of Legal Aid of North Carolina, and the North Carolina Housing Coalition

When: Thursday, September 20, 2018, beginning at 6 p.m.

Where: City of Durham Neighborhood Improvement Services Department, 807 E. Main Street, Suite 2-300, Durham, N.C. 27701

Fast Facts:

- The [Fair Housing Project of Legal Aid of North Carolina](#) and the [North Carolina Housing Coalition](#) are hosting a series of listening sessions in partnership with municipalities across the state that focus on different types of housing discrimination faced by North Carolinians.
- Due to the growing number of residents in Durham who speak English as a second language, they have asked the City of Durham to partner with them on a listening session later this month that will focus on housing discrimination due to national origin.
- Over the past two years, the City's Human Relations Division has investigated 18 housing discrimination complaints based on national origin, of which 16 were based on Hispanic national origin.
- During this listening session, attendees will have an opportunity to share their personal experiences with housing discrimination based on their national origin, and share their concerns. Spanish translators will be on hand to provide communication assistance during the session.
- For more information about Durham's listening session, contact Assistant Director James E. Davis, Jr. with the City's Neighborhood Improvement Services Department Human Relations and Community Relations Divisions by [email](#) or at 919-560-4107, ext. 34277.

About the City of Durham Neighborhood Improvement Services Department Human Relations Division

The [Neighborhood Improvement Services Department](#) works to preserve and improve quality of life conditions for Durham residents, and to encourage active participation in neighborhood redevelopment and public policy and decision-making dialogue. The department's [Human Relations Division](#) strives to improve race and human relations in the City by working to eliminate housing discrimination and by prioritizing community outreach and educational activities to meet the needs of Durham's residents. The division is responsible for enforcement of the City's Fair Housing Ordinance and the federal Fair Housing Act. HUD provides funding annually for the division to investigate housing complaints that allege

discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex (gender), religion, national origin, physical or mental handicap or familial status (families with children). The division also provides oversight to the City's [Human Relations Commission](#), which is comprised of residents who meet monthly to work on activities designed to improve human relations and promote harmony throughout Durham.

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