City Commitment

The City of Rapid City is committed to improving the quality of life for all of its residents by encouraging fair treatment and promoting mutual understanding and respect. In order to further this goal, the Rapid City Human Relations Commission (HRC) was established and is authorized by ordinance and state law to investigate discriminatory acts or practices within Rapid City.

Commission Powers

The Commission is empowered to investigate complaints of discrimination in the areas of:

- Employment
- Housing
- Public Accommodations
- Public Services
- Financial Services
- Education

Who We Are

About Us

The Commission is composed of seven citizens appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. The makeup of the Commission is intended to reflect the demographic diversity of Rapid City.

The Commission meets the first Thursday of every month from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the City/School Administration Center located at 300 6th Street, Rapid City.

Contact Us

Phone: (605) 394-4140
Email: humanrelationscommission@rcgov.org
Web: rcgov.org
Commission Duties

The HRC is tasked with the following:

- Protecting the civil rights of Rapid City residents and visitors
- Safeguarding equal opportunity
- Investigating and prohibiting discriminatory practices
- Protecting all persons from unfounded charges of discriminatory practices
- Encouraging the resolution of discrimination complaints through mediation or conciliation

The Commission’s mission is to safeguard equal opportunities of all citizens of Rapid City by resolving conflict, settling complaints of discrimination, and promoting cooperation within the community.

Screening Standard

The Commission has adopted the following policy for screening potential complaints:

- The alleged discrimination took place within the city limits of Rapid City;
- The allegations of discrimination are not against a government or other body whom the Commission does not have jurisdiction;
- There was some sort of adverse action or treatment less favorable than others;
- The last instance of adverse action or different treatment took place 180 or fewer days prior to complaint filing;
- Type of discrimination our ordinance protects against:
  - Employment
  - Public Accommodation
  - Housing
- The complainant is a member of a protected class:
  - Woman
  - Racial Minority
  - Religious Belief
  - Disability
  - National Origin/Ethnicity
  - Familial Status

A complaint must include EACH of the six allegations listed above.

Frequently Asked Questions

- How do I file a discrimination complaint?
  The first step is to contact the City Attorney’s Office, where a staff member will ask you questions about your situation. If the basic elements of a discrimination complaint are met, an Assistant City Attorney will assist you in drafting a complaint and begin the Commission’s process to resolve the complaint.

- Is there a deadline for filing a complaint?
  A complaint may only be filed within 180 days of the last instance of discrimination.

- Is there a filing fee? How much does filing a complaint cost?
  There is no filing fee or cost to file a complaint of discrimination.

- What do I do if my complaint is not covered by city ordinances?
  The City Attorney’s Office will refer you to another resource that may be able to help you.