
SUFFOLK COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY RACHAEL ROLLINS



DISCRIMINATION AND DISPARATE TREATMENT DURING COVID-19

Hatred and fear spread just as easily as any virus during these unprecedented times. Across the nation, there are increased reports of hate crime and hate speech. Also, because the COVID-19 pandemic is disparately impacting communities of color and the poor, it is critically important that healthcare and critical resources be available to all. Our community must come together and support each other. The virus does not discriminate in whom it strikes. You should not be discriminated against in getting the healthcare you need to fight it.

Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents

Hate Incident: Non-criminal conduct motivated by bias against race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or disability.

If you witness or are the victim of a hate incident, contact:

The Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey's Office
Website: <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/file-a-consumer-complaint>

For more resources and information, contact:

The Anti-Defamation League
Website: <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/tools-and-strategies/responding-to-hate-information-and-resources>

The Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council
Website: <http://www.asianpacificpolicyandplanningcouncil.org/stop-aapi-hate/>

Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD)
Website: <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-commission-against-discrimination>
Tel: (617) 994-6000, TTY: (617) 994-6196

Hate Crime: When someone commits a crime that is motivated by bias against race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or disability.

If you witness or are the victim of a hate crime, contact:

911, a nearby police officer, or your local police department to file a police report.

Access To Health Care

Discriminatory Access to Care: When a care provider rations care because of a patient’s status in violation of federal and state legal protections.

- Decisions regarding how care is administered and to whom, must be based on biological factors related to the likelihood and magnitude of benefit from the medical resources.
- Factors that may NOT be considered in assessing the likelihood and magnitude of benefit from medical resources include, among other things: race, disability, gender, gender identity, ethnicity, ability to pay, socio-economic status, perceived social worth, perceived quality of life, immigration status, incarceration status, homelessness. These factors are irrelevant and CANNOT be considered when making choices regarding allocating resources for care.
- Crisis care provided at hospitals must be the best care possible considering the current circumstances and given their available resources.

If you have been denied or refused treatment on discriminatory grounds, contact:

Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey’s Office
Website: www.mass.gov/how-to/file-a-consumer-complaint

United States Attorney Andrew Lelling’s Office — District of Massachusetts
Tel: 888-221-6023 | Email: USAMA.victimassistance@usdoj.gov

Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD)
Website: <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-commission-against-discrimination>
Tel: (617) 994-6000, TTY: (617) 994-6196

You can also contact your elected officials for help and guidance through the process. [This link](#) lists every elected official per zip code.

Mental Health Resources

The stigma attached to being victimized, refused treatment or targeted may affect both your emotional well-being and mental health.

For help, please contact:

Your personal healthcare provider
or Website: www.innopsych.com/findatherapist

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Website: www.samhsa.gov/disasterpreparedness
Helpline: 800-662-HELP (4357), TTY 800-487-4889

Stop Hate Hotline
1-844-966-4283

Massachusetts Office of Victim Assistance
Tel: (617) 586-1340
Website: www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-office-for-victim-assistance

#IMNOTAVIRUS Campaign

This campaign is being posted on several social media networks:



Additional Resources

Suffolk County District Attorney's Office
[COVID-19 Resource Guide](#)

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Asian American Commission's
[COMMUNITY ACTION GUIDE: APRIL 2020 Responding to AAPI Hate Incidents](#)

North Asian Pacific American Bar Association Covid19 Community Health Resource
Website: www.napaba.org/page/20_resources_on_coronavirus

Police Partners

District Attorney Rollins's Office remains committed to serving our community during the COVID-19 pandemic. We continue to work closely with our police partners. If you are a victim of any type of COVID-19 related crime, your first step should be contacting your local law enforcement agency to file a police report:

Boston Police Department
(617) 343-4633

Chelsea Police Department
(617) 466-4855

Revere Police Department
(781) 284-1212

Winthrop Police Department
(617) 846-1212

Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins's Office

District Attorney Rollins's Office is here to support our community during this difficult time and is dedicated to keeping the residents of Suffolk County safe. For more COVID-19 resources and information please visit:

Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins's Office
Tel: (617) 619-4000 | Website: www.suffolkdistrictattorney.com