



Victims' Housing Rights

Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, and Stalking

Under the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA),
all landlords participating in Section 8 voucher programs must comply with

VAWA. (See VAWA 2013, Ch. 2 Sec. 41411 (a)(3)(H)).

All of the following apply to landlords participating in
Section 8 voucher programs:

- A landlord may not evict a tenant from housing because the tenant was or is a victim of DV, SV, or stalking. (See VAWA 2013, Ch. 2 Sec. 41411 (b)(1)).
- A landlord may not use DV, SV, or stalking as a good cause for eviction. (See VAWA 2013, Ch. 2 Sec. 41411 (b) (2)(B)).
- A landlord may not deny a tenant tenancy or occupancy rights to housing solely because a criminal activity occurred that was directly related to DV, SV, or stalking engaged in by a household member or guest if the tenant is the victim. (See VAWA 2013, Ch. 2 Sec. 41411 (b)(3)(A)).
- A landlord may not evict a tenant if the tenant's partner or any household member whose name is also on the lease commits a criminal act of violence against the tenant and is evicted *and* the tenant can demonstrate that he or she is eligible for Section 8 housing assistance. (See VAWA 2013, Ch. 2 Sec. 41411 (b)(3)(B)(ii) regarding bifurcation of lease).
- A landlord may not hold a tenant who is a victim of DV, SV, or stalking to a higher standard than other tenants in determining whether to evict. (See VAWA 2013, Ch. 2 Sec. 41411 (b)(3)(C)(ii)).



Your Housing Rights

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Under the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA),
all landlords participating in Section 8 voucher programs must
comply with VAWA.

All of the following apply to landlords participating in
Section 8 voucher programs:

- A landlord may not evict you from housing because you were or are a victim of domestic violence, sexual violence, or stalking.
- A landlord may not use domestic violence, sexual violence, or stalking as a good cause for eviction.
- A landlord may not deny you housing rights solely because a criminal activity occurred that was directly related to domestic violence, sexual violence, or stalking engaged in by a household member or a guest and you are the victim.
- A landlord may not evict you if your partner or any household member whose name is also on the lease commits a criminal act of violence against you and is evicted and you can demonstrate that you are eligible for Section 8 housing assistance. In such a case, your lease may be split, and you may be able to stay in your housing.
- A landlord may not hold you to a higher standard than other tenants in determining whether to evict if you are a victim of domestic violence, sexual violence, or stalking.

For legal information call Vermont Law Line at 1-800-889-2047.

To contact Vermont Victims Compensation Program call 1-800-750-1213.