



Request

1 message

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To:

Thu, Jun 25, 2026 at 9:19 PM

You may or may not have seen the HUD letter recently posted on the docket, but I wanted to send a note in response:

On May 22, 2026, the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced that housing discrimination based on emotional support animals will no longer be protected by the Trump Administration unless the ESA is trained as a service animal, reversing policy guidance that had in place since 1988. All pending ESA-based complaints were reassigned from field offices and will be subject to review by a single Acting Deputy based in Washington, D.C. The practical result, according to housing advocates (see: <https://dredf.org/huds-esa-policy-reversal/>), is that cases that were moving toward a finding of discrimination on behalf of tenants with untrained ESAs will almost certainly be closed without a finding of violation.

Three weeks later, on June 15, 2026, HUD issued a "Determination of No Reasonable Cause" in response to my complaint against Eastmore. Consistent with the new HUD guidance, the Determination finds that my activity – having an untrained emotional support animal for my disability – is no longer a protected activity. HUD's determination is an administrative closure based strictly on the newly revised federal agency enforcement criteria and does not constitute a judicial ruling on the legality of Eastmore's actions, which remains pending in the New York Supreme Court.

Sincerely,

Blanche Zelmanovich