
You cannot be thrown out of shelter unless:

- You have been given a written notice 15 days beforehand; OR
- You have threatened violence or acted violently.

If they tell you to leave, you have the right to:

- Ask for a “fair hearing” appeal so a judge can decide if you should leave.
- Stay in shelter while you appeal unless you acted violently.

Have questions or need help?

- Call the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless at (202)328-5500. You may call collect.



Want to appeal?

- Call the D.C. Office of Administrative Hearings at (202)727-8280 and ask for a “fair hearing” within 15 days of receiving a notice.



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WASHINGTON LEGAL CLINIC
FOR THE HOMELESS

HEY! CAN THEY DO THAT?



Your shelter rights under the
D.C. Homeless Services
Reform Act.

You have the right to be treated by shelter staff with:

- Respect and dignity.
- Professionalism.
- Confidentiality.



Staff must:

- Not discriminate.
- Not retaliate.
- Not test you for alcohol or drugs unless you agree or a professional requires it.
- Tell you their name and job title if you ask.
- Change certain rules or your living space if you have a disability.

In your shelter you have the right to:



- Receive mail.
- Use the phone at reasonable times.
- Have storage for your things.
- Use laundry machines.
- Have visitors at certain times.
- Have privacy in caring for personal needs, living area and financial matters.
- Live in a safe, clean, sanitary shelter.
- Be there when your room is inspected.



You have the right to these services:

- Shelter in severe weather.
- Help finding housing and getting ready for housing.
- Assessment by professional, trained staff.
- Referrals to services you need.
- A case management plan that you help create.
- To open a savings account through your shelter if you want.

