

**NOTICE OF CONSENT ORDER BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND  
JACKSON TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY AND JACKSON TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING BOARD**

**Consistent with the United States Constitution and the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 ("RLUIPA"), Jackson Township and the Jackson Planning Board do not apply the Township's land use regulations in a manner that: (1) imposes a substantial burden on the free exercise of religion, unless it is in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest and imposed in the least restrictive means; (2) treats religious assemblies or institutions on less than equal terms with nonreligious assemblies or institutions; (3) discriminates against any religious assembly or institution on the basis of religion or religious denomination; or (4) totally excludes or unreasonably limits religious assemblies, institutions or structures.**

**Moreover, consistent with the Fair Housing Act ("FHA"), Jackson Township and the Jackson Planning Board do not apply the Township's land use regulations in a manner that makes housing unavailable to persons on the basis of religion.**

On July 7, 2022, the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey entered a Consent Order resolving a lawsuit between the United States and Jackson Township, New Jersey and the Jackson Township Planning Board, under RLUIPA and the FHA for the Township's alleged treatment of members of the Orthodox Jewish community and based on its Zoning Ordinance's treatment of all religious assemblies and institutions, including places of worship. A copy of the Consent Order referenced above in United States v. Jackson Township, et al. Civil Action No. 3:20-cv-6109, is available on the Township's website at [www.jacksontownshipnj.net](http://www.jacksontownshipnj.net) or the Department of Justice's website at <https://www.justice.gov/opa/press-release/file/1513316/download>.

RLUIPA prohibits governments from applying land use laws in a way that discriminates against religious uses of land, imposes unjustifiable substantial burdens on religious exercise, treats religious assemblies or institutions on less than equal terms with nonreligious assemblies or institutions, or totally or unreasonably excludes religious institutions. Additional details about RLUIPA are available on the United States Department of Justice's RLUIPA information page, available at <https://www.justice.gov/crt/religious-land-use-and-institutionalized-persons-act>.

The FHA prohibits discrimination by municipalities whose discriminatory practices making housing unavailable to persons because of religion. <https://www.justice.gov/crt/fair-housing-act-1>

If you believe that Jackson Township, its Township Council, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustment, any other land use or zoning body of Jackson Township, or any other local government or municipality, has violated your rights under RLUIPA or the FHA, please contact the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey at 855-281-3339 or the United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, at (202) 514-4713. You may also register a complaint via email to [usanjcivilrightscomplaint@usdoj.gov](mailto:usanjcivilrightscomplaint@usdoj.gov) or [rluipa.commlaints@usdoj.gov](mailto:rluipa.commlaints@usdoj.gov) or via form online at <https://www.justice.gov/usao-nj/civil-rights-enforcement>, or by writing to either of the following addresses:

United States Attorney's Office  
Civil Rights Division  
District of New Jersey  
970 Broad Street, Suite 700  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

United States Department of Justice  
Civil Rights Division  
Housing and Civil Enforcement Section  
4 Constitution Square  
150 M Street NE  
Washington, DC 20530