



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ETHICS

SISAVANH BAKER

DIRECTOR

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To: Cook County Commissioners, Human Relations Committee

From: Sisavanh Baker, Director, Department of Human Rights and Ethics

CC: Cook County Commission on Human Rights

Date: July 23, 2021

RE: Quarterly Report- Complaints with the Commission on Human Rights Pursuant to Section 42-34(9)

I. Human Rights Complaints Filed or Resolved FY2021, Q2
March 1, 2021 to May 30, 2021

	File Number	Nature	Date Filed	Outcome	Favor of Complainant or Respondent
1	2021JHA001	Just Housing /Criminal Hx	3/19/21	pending	pending
2	2021H0005	Housing/Sex	4/16/21	pending	pending
3	2021H006	Housing/ Source of Income	4/22/21	pending	pending
4	2021E004	Employment/Race	4/19/21	withdrawn	withdrawn by complainant
5	2021JHA003	Housing/Just Housing	4/29/21	pending	pending
6	2021JHA004	Housing/Just Housing	4/29/21	pending	pending
7	2021JHA005	Housing/Just Housing	4/29/21	pending	pending
8	2021H007	Housing/Just Housing	4/29/21	pending	pending
9	2021JHA002	Housing/Just Housing	4/29/21	pending	pending
10	2021JHA006	Housing/Just Housing	4/29/21	pending	pending
11	2019H002	Housing/HCV	12/17/18	Dismissed (4/26/21)	Lack of Jurisdiction (Respondent)
12	2020H003	Housing/Just Housing	7/20/20	Dismissed (4/1/21)	Lack of Jurisdiction (Respondent)
13	2020E003	Employment/Disability	7/1/20	Dismissed (3/16/21)	Deferred to IDHR
14	2018E009	Employment/Race/Retaliation	10/17/18	Dismissed (3/13/21)	Lack of Jurisdiction (Respondent)

II. Demonstrable Risk.

The Cook County Department of Human Rights and Ethics (DHRE) was unable to discover or develop information on any denials of housing based upon demonstrable risk to personal safety/property of others pursuant to Cook County Ordinance 42-38(e)(2)(b) and 42-34(e)(9). DHRE received 8 Just Housing complaints during this last quarter and 5 over FY2020.¹ These cases are largely pending and do not provide enough data to develop meaningful conclusions on this issue. This position is supported also by the Just Housing Initiative Coalition, which is a group of advocates, attorneys, and community members dedicated to the implementation and enforcement of the Cook County Just Housing Amendment (JHA). The Coalition and DHRE contributes the lack of complaints to an atypical slow housing market due to the pandemic, as well as a lack of community and education regarding the JHA.

¹ The Just Housing Amendment did not go into effect until February 1, 2020.