

1.1 Complaint Procedure

Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against on the basis of race, color, or national origin by **COUNCIL on AGING of ST. LUCIE, INC.** may file a Title VI complaint by completing and submitting the agency's Title VI Complaint Form. Complaints can also be submitted by phone, email, or online. **COUNCIL on AGING of ST. LUCIE, INC.** investigates complaints received no more than 180 days after the alleged incident. **COUNCIL on AGING of ST. LUCIE, INC.** will only process complaints that are complete. To be considered complete, complainants must, at a minimum, include their name, contact information, date of alleged incident, and a description of the incident.

Once the complaint is received, **COUNCIL on AGING of ST. LUCIE, INC.** will review it to determine if our office has jurisdiction. The complainant will receive an acknowledgement letter informing him/her whether the complaint will be investigated by our office.

COUNCIL on AGING of ST. LUCIE, INC. has ninety (90) days to investigate the complaint. If more information is needed to resolve the case, **COUNCIL on AGING of ST. LUCIE, INC.** may contact the complainant. The complainant has ten (10) business days from the date of the letter to send requested information to the investigator assigned to the case. If the investigator is not contacted by the complainant or does not receive the additional information within ten (10) business days, **COUNCIL on AGING of ST. LUCIE, INC.** can administratively close the case. A case can also be administratively closed if the complainant no longer wishes to pursue their case.

After the investigator reviews the complaint, she/he will issue one of two letters to the complainant: a closure letter or a letter of finding (LOF). A closure letter summarizes the allegations and states that there was not a Title VI violation and that the case will be closed. A LOF summarizes the allegations and the interviews regarding the alleged incident, and explains whether any disciplinary action, additional training of the staff member or other action will occur. If the complainant wishes to appeal the decision, she/he has seven (7) days to do so from the time he/she receives the closure letter or the LOF.

The complaint procedures and forms will be made available to the public on **COUNCIL on AGING of ST. LUCIE, INC.**'s website (www.coasl.com). The forms are also available in other formats upon request.

1.2 Complaint Form

Section I:				
Name:				
Address:				
Telephone (Home):			Telephone (Work):	
Electronic Mail Address:				
Accessible Format Requirements?	Large Print		Audio Tape	
	TDD		Other	
Section II:				
Are you filing this complaint on your own behalf?			Yes*	No
*If you answered "yes" to this question, go to Section III.				
If not, please supply the name and relationship of the person for whom you are complaining:				
Please explain why you have filed for a third party: _____				
Please confirm that you have obtained the permission of the aggrieved party if you are filing on behalf of a third party.			Yes	No
Section III:				
I believe the discrimination I experienced was based on (check all that apply):				
<input type="checkbox"/> Race <input type="checkbox"/> Color <input type="checkbox"/> National Origin <input type="checkbox"/> Age <input type="checkbox"/> Disability <input type="checkbox"/> Family or Religious Status <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain) _____				
Date of Alleged Discrimination (Month, Day, Year): _____				
Explain as clearly as possible what happened and why you believe you were discriminated against. Describe all persons who were involved. Include the name and contact information of the person(s) who discriminated against you (if known) as well as names and contact information of any witnesses. If more space is needed, please use the back of this form. _____ _____				
Section IV				
Have you previously filed a Title VI complaint with this agency?			Yes	No

Section V	
Have you filed this complaint with any other Federal, State, or local agency, or with any Federal or State court?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, check all that apply:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Agency: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Court _____	<input type="checkbox"/> State Agency _____
<input type="checkbox"/> State Court _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Agency _____
Please provide information about a contact person at the agency/court where the complaint was filed.	
Name:	
Title:	
Agency:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Section VI	
Name of agency complaint is against:	
Contact person:	
Title:	
Telephone number:	

You may attach any written materials or other information that you think is relevant to your complaint.

Signature and date required below

Signature Date

Please submit this form in person at the address below, or mail this form to:

Council on Aging of St. Lucie Inc.
June Dunn, Title VI Liaison
 1505 Orange Avenue
 Fort Pierce, FL 34950

The complaint form must be provided in any languages spoken by the LEP population which meet the Safe Harbor threshold of 5% or 1,000 person criteria (See Section 7.1 Overview – Safe Harbor Threshold).

