



## NEWS RELEASE

[www.dora.state.co.us](http://www.dora.state.co.us)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, May 27, 2011

Contact:

**Chris Lines**

**Public Information  
Officer**

**303-894-7873**

*The Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the marketplace and is committed to promoting a fair and competitive business environment in Colorado. **Consumer protection is our mission.** As a division of DORA, the Civil Rights Division (CCRD) protects Coloradans from unlawful discrimination in employment, housing and places of public accommodation.*

### **KIMBERLY HILLS MOBILE HOME PARK TOW POLICY USED TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST RESIDENTS**

*Comments from Steven Chavez, Director of the Civil Rights Division (CCRD) of DORA.*

**(Denver, Colorado, May 18, 2011)** - Steven Chavez, Director of the Civil Rights Division of DORA, commented today on the case of discriminatory towing practices in the Federal Heights community of Kimberly Hills. "It is imperative that the people of Colorado have a place to call home that is free of harassment and unequal treatment; policies of housing communities must be applied equally and fairly, regardless of a person's national origin. DORA's Civil Rights Division is committed to ensuring that all Coloradans may live and work free of discriminatory treatment."

After an investigation of this matter by the Civil Rights Division, a Notice of Hearing and Complaint was filed by the Colorado Civil Rights Commission alleging that the Respondents subjected residents of Mexican national origin to discriminatory terms and conditions of living in the Kimberly Hills community by vigorously applying a 'no tolerance' tow policy against some of the community's most vulnerable residents.

Chavez adds, "The Commission determined this was a case of abusive treatment that willfully violated residents' civil rights by towing their vehicles, often with no notice in the middle of the night, while allowing other residents to have inoperable vehicles remain onsite indefinitely. The investigation found that Kimberly Hills residents of Mexican national origin were unduly subjected to costly impound fees at the direction of their landlord for no other reason

than their national origin. Many who could not afford to pay repeated fines lost cars to the impound lot or moved from the community to avoid further discrimination. CCRD took this matter very seriously and that is why our agency conducted a thorough year-long investigation, including the issuance of a subpoena *duces tecum*, review of multiple documents, and interview of numerous witnesses."

The case is currently scheduled for public hearing before an administrative law judge on August 29, 2011.

###