

PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE CONSENT ORDER BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE BOROUGH OF KINGSTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Consistent with the United States Constitution and the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 (“RLUIPA”), the Borough of Kingston will not apply its land use regulations in a manner that: (1) treats religious assemblies or institutions on less than equal terms with nonreligious assemblies or institutions; or (2) unreasonably limits religious assemblies, institutions or structures.

On February 6, 2026, the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania entered a Consent Order resolving the lawsuit of *United States v. Borough of Kingston*, Civ. No. 3:26-cv-00269-KM (M.D. Pa.), filed by the United States against the Borough of Kingston under RLUIPA, based on its 2023 Zoning Ordinance’s treatment of places of worship and religious schools. A copy of the Consent Order is available at <https://kingstonpa.org> or <https://www.justice.gov/crt/case/united-states-v-borough-kingston-md-penn>.

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>.

If you believe that the Borough of Kingston or any land use or zoning body of the Borough of Kingston, or any other local government or municipality, has violated your rights under RLUIPA, please contact the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania at (717) 221-4482 or the United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, at (202) 514-4713. You may also email rluipa.complaints@usdoj.gov or write to either:

United States Attorney’s Office
Middle District of Pennsylvania
Civil Rights Coordinator
1501 N. 6th Street, Box 202
Harrisburg, PA 17102

United States Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
Housing and Civil Enforcement Section
4CON, 150 M Street NE, 8th floor
Washington, DC 20530