



## Division of Human Rights

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
Governor

HELEN DIANE FOSTER  
Commissioner

### **Division of Human Rights Launches Public Education Campaign on Religious Accommodations in the Workplace**

The New York State Division of Human Rights announced a statewide public education campaign to remind New Yorkers about their legal rights and protections regarding religious accommodation in the workplace. The Division has partnered with local chambers of commerce to make employers aware of their legal obligations and responsibilities in providing religious accommodations to applicants and employees. The Division has also created a [brochure](#) for workers, informing them of the ways in which New York State law allows for religious accommodation and protection. Through these efforts, the Division seeks to reduce the potential for religious discrimination, harassment and retaliation in the workplace.

“With the sacred holidays of Easter, Passover and Ramadan just around the corner, it’s important that New Yorkers of all faiths know that they do not have to choose between their faith and a paycheck,” Division of Human Rights Commissioner Helen Diane Foster said. “Our great state is made even greater by the presence and contributions of all of our citizens, regardless of their religion. The Division is committed to protecting the rights of all those who seek to balance work responsibilities while also faithfully observing their religious tradition.”

This public education campaign kicks off with the Utica Chamber of Commerce, while additional sessions will be held in Buffalo, Ithaca, Syracuse, Rochester and Westchester throughout April and May. This effort advances the Governor’s [Justice Agenda](#) and his commitment to protecting the rights and freedoms of all New Yorkers.