



DOES THE ADA PROTECT AGAINST MENTAL HEALTH DISCRIMINATION?

Since the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26, 1990, people with disabilities have had protections in the workplace and public places. This law was made to protect and support people who might suffer discrimination for their disabilities, and leave them without the ability to protect and care for themselves.

It's important to understand that the law could only account for disabilities currently recognized and well-understood. For disabilities that people were not aware of like they are today, the ADA was an imperfect fix. Some were and are covered by its protections, while others are left up to interpretation. This is where many mental health disabilities come in, and whether or not they are protected from discrimination.



If you suffer a disability caused by a mental health condition, you need to know whether or not you're protected from discrimination. The disability discrimination attorneys at Barrett & Farahany can explain.

WHAT DOES THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT PROTECT?

The Americans with Disabilities Act was rather vague in what it covered, possibly in an attempt to help cover as many disabilities as possible. Under the ADA, a disability can be a physical or mental impairment, and this impairment must affect:

- Sight
- Hearing
- Movement
- Speech
- Breathing
- Reading
- Learning
- Thought
- Focus
- Communication

These functions cover a wide range of activities and, thus, a wide range of disabilities. But the ADA goes even further than this. It also includes impairments to one of the following bodily functions/systems...

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