

Update

October 2017

# [MFJ Report: Nursing Home Residents Are Often Illegally Confined](http://mobilizationforjustice.org/news-and-press/mfj-report-nursing-home-residents-are-often-illegally-confined/)

Mobilization for Justice released a new report that details how nursing homes’ restrictive day pass policies violate residents’ rights to community integration. It describes the barriers nursing home residents face when they attempt to leave the home to visit family or friends, go to religious services, shop, or simply sit outside in the fresh air. The report, [*Imprisoned in Their Homes*](http://mobilizationforjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/Imprisoned-in-Their-Homes-Report-10-17-17.pdf), recommends that the New York State Department of Health (DOH) follow successful policies used in other states to protect the independence of nursing home residents and promote community inclusion. [Read more here.](http://mobilizationforjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/NH-Day-Pass-Oct-2017-kc.pdf)

MFJ Led Push for Preferred Language Option on Mortgage Applications

Thanks in large part by MFJ’s advocacy, led by Staff Attorney Linda Jun, the Federal Housing Finance agency (FHFA), which oversees Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, [announced that it will amend its Uniform Residential Loan Application](https://www.fhfa.gov/Media/PublicAffairs/Pages/Preferred-Language-Question-to-be-Added-to-the-Redesigned-Uniform-Residential-Loan-Application.aspx) (URLA) to add a preferred language question so that limited English proficient (LEP) borrowers can inform the lender at the outset the language in which they should be served.  As a leader in the mortgage industry, FHFA’s change to the URLA, the first in over 20 years, will likely be adopted industry-wide. Ms. Jun co-chaired the Americans for Financial Reform’s LEP subcommittee, which has been pushing for this reform and many others designed to ensure that homeowners are not taken advantage of because of limited English proficiency.

MFJ in the News . . .

# [MFJ Speaks Out on Tenant Harassment:](http://www.foxbusiness.com/features/2017/09/28/landlord-tenant-battle-over-alleged-harassment-heats-up.html) MFJ Supervising Attorney Justin LaMort speaks out on the growing problem of landlord harassment of tenants by construction in this article in *Fox Business*. Advocacy by tenant groups and legal services providers spurred the City Council to pass new laws protecting tenants from harassment and strengthening enforcement, and New York State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman recently announced a $500,000 penalty for a landlord accused of harassing tenants. In [*The Gothamist*](http://gothamist.com/2017/10/18/east_village_landlord_nightmare.php), MFJ Attorney Patrick Tyrrell comments on the case of a predatory landlord who is harassing long-time tenants in the East village.

[MFJ Asks Lawmakers to Tie Increased Subsidies for Adult Homes to Quality Improvements](http://cityandstateny.com/articles/policy/nonprofits/adult-home-care-legislation-quality-improvements.html#.WekzTFtSyUk):MFJ Staff Attorney Daniel Ross is quoted in this article in *City and State* reporting on a recent hearing in Albany to examine proposed subsidy increases to adult homes. Ross pointed to a recent study that showed large profits for many adult homes and big salaries for their CEOs compared to expenditures on items like nutritious food for residents.

[MFJ Comments on Leasing NYCHA Property to Private Developers](https://citylimits.org/2017/10/31/ritchie-torres-takes-national-image-support-for-nycha-development-into-speaker-bid/): MFY Supervising Attorney Justin LaMort comments in this article in *City Limits* about the policy of leasing NYC Housing Authority land for private development, urging that such developments provide affordable housing for low-income New Yorkers.