



U.S. Department of Justice

Terrence Berg
United States Attorney
Eastern District of Michigan

*Suite 2001
211 West Fort Street
Detroit, Michigan 48226-3277*

For Immediate Release:
Contact: Gina Balaya (313) 226-9758

Mar 4, 2009

Event: Settlement

Defendant: Hampton Inn Ann Arbor - North

Justice Department Reaches Settlement Agreement with Hampton Inn Ann Arbor - North Hotel

The United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Michigan today announced that it has reached a settlement with the owners and operators of the Hampton Inn Ann Arbor - North, which is located in Ann Arbor, Michigan, under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). "The ability to travel and be confident that accessible accommodations will be available is key to the goal of the ADA – making independent living a reality for individuals with disabilities. We commend the Hampton Inn Ann Arbor - North for taking the steps necessary to make this a reality for individuals with disabilities who wish to stay at their hotel," said Terrence Berg, Acting United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan.

The Agreement resolves alleged violations of the ADA. The Justice Department initially conducted an investigation after it received a complaint indicating that there were accessibility problems at the hotel. The investigation, which included a comprehensive accessibility survey, concluded that there were many barriers to access at the hotel that constituted violations of title III of the ADA. Title III of the ADA prohibits public accommodations, such as the Hampton

Inn Ann Arbor - North hotel and other service establishments, from discriminating against any individual on the basis of disability with respect to the goods, services, facilities, and privileges of the public accommodation.

The owners and operators of the Hampton Inn Ann Arbor - North worked actively and cooperatively with the US Attorney's Office throughout its investigation and to reach this Settlement Agreement. As a result, access to the hotel for individuals with disabilities will be substantially improved. We commend the owners of the hotel for their willingness to work promptly and diligently to correct the problems identified.

Under the terms of today's agreement, the Hampton Inn Ann Arbor - North will remove a host of barriers to access, including changes to the entrance, parking, drinking fountains, guest rooms, fire alarms, its public meeting rooms, eating facilities and public restrooms.

Additional information about the Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department is available at <http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/>. Those interested in finding out more about the ADA or the agreement can call the Justice Department's toll-free ADA Information Line at (800) 514-0301 or (800) 514-0383 (TTY), or access to its ADA web site at <http://www.ada.gov>.