

TOWN OF BELLINGHAM

10 Mechanic Street * Bellingham, MA 02019 Commission on Disability (Tel) 508-966-2967 (Fax) 508-966-4303 bsmith@bellinghamma.org

TOWN OF BELLINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

<u>Section 1:</u> In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Town of Bellingham may not discriminate on the basis of disability against any qualified individual with a disability in the services, programs or activities it provides, in accessibility to public meetings and in its employment practices.

<u>Section 2:</u> In the event that a person with a disability believes he/she has been discriminated against, a complaint may be filed, using the following format:

- 1. Complaint shall be in writing, signed by the Complainant or an authorized representative.
- 2. Complainant shall include Complainant's name, address and telephone number, or alternative method of contact.
- 3. Complaint shall identify the Town Department, employee, officer or agency committing the alleged discriminatory action.
- 4. Complaint shall describe, in detail, the alleged discriminatory action.

<u>Section 3:</u> The Complaint shall be submitted, within thirty (30) days of the alleged discriminatory action, or knowledge thereof, to the appropriate ADA Coordinator:

Town of Bellingham Attn: Beth Cornell-Smith, ADA Coordinator 10 Mechanic Street Bellingham, MA 02019

<u>Section 4:</u> The designated Coordinator shall investigate the Complaint and meet with the appropriate board, official or employee(s), to resolve the Complaint. Within seven (7) days after such meeting, the Coordinator shall inform the complainant of the resolution.

<u>Section 5:</u> Nothing in this Grievance Procedure shall preclude the Complainant from filing a complaint with any appropriate state or federal agencies, or by filing of a lawsuit in Federal Court.