

## Settlement Reached in Dispute with Amtrak Regarding Disability Access Issues

In December of 2020, the United State Department of Justice and Amtrak announced a settlement regarding issues of disability discrimination at 78 Amtrak stations across America. The stations include the Amtrak stations located in Charleston, Hinton and Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.

Amtrak has begun accepting claims for monetary compensation for people with mobility disabilities who traveled or wanted to travel from or to one of the 78 stations and encountered accessibility issues at the stations. **Claims must be submitted by May 29, 2021.**

The Justice Department had previously made findings of disability discrimination in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”). The Agreement, finalized on December 2, 2020, provides that Amtrak will repair inaccessible stations and \$2.25 million to victims hurt by inaccessibility at the listed stations.

In order to be eligible for monetary compensation, a person must:

- Have a mobility disability;
- Be harmed physically or emotionally because of accessibility issues, including, for example, inaccessible parking; steep slopes or steps to get to the station; lack of directional signs; toilet rooms with inaccessible entrances, stalls, or sinks; high ticket counters; deteriorated platforms; and narrow routes at stations, at one or more the stations between July 27, 2013, and Dec. 2, 2020;
- Have lived at, visited, or desired to visit a place closer to one or more of the stations than an accessible, alternative Amtrak station; and
- Submit a claim form and declaration by mail, fax, email or online to the claims administrator by **no later than May 29, 2021**. Help is available from the settlement administrator for those who are unable to complete the claim form due to a disability.

Questions about making claims should be directed to the settlement administrator by any of the following methods:

- Online: [AmtrakDisabilitySettlement.com](https://AmtrakDisabilitySettlement.com)
- Email: [info@AmtrakDisabilitySettlement.com](mailto:info@AmtrakDisabilitySettlement.com)
- Telephone (toll-free): 1-888-334-6165
- TTY Telephone (toll-free): 1-866-411-6976