Can I be denied housing if I have a criminal record?

Yes, but you may appeal a decision if you can provide proof that you have turned your life around. For more information, visit the Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries' "Massachusetts Law About Criminal Records" page.

Please be aware that:

- State and Federal housing must follow regulations in their screening of CORI.
- The Housing Authority must give you an opportunity to explain your circumstances.
- Private landlords do not have to offer you an opportunity to explain your circumstances. **It is illegal for a landlord to ask you to get your CORI and give him/her a copy.
- Anyone may access your CORI under the following circumstances.
  - If you were convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for 5 or more years.
  - If you are presently or were recently in prison, incarcerated under a sentence.
  - If you are presently under probation or parole.