

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
HOUSING AUTHORITY  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

833



**FROM:** Housing Authority

**SUBMITTAL DATE:**  
February 15, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing of the Public Housing Authority Agency Plan and Supporting Documents

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Commissioners conduct a Public Hearing regarding the Housing Authority's Annual Agency Plan and supporting documents which include:

1. Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Administrative Plan; Statement of Policies for the Affordable Public Housing Program;
2. Capital Fund Program; and
3. Administrative Plan for the Homeownership Program

**BACKGROUND:** (Commences on Page 2)

Robert Field  
Executive Director

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 0	In Current Year Budget:	N/A
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	N/A
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	2012/13

**COMPANION ITEM ON BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA:** No

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b> N/A	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:**

APPROVE

BY:   
Jennifer L. Sargent

County Executive Office Signature

**MINUTES OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

On motion of Commissioner Tavaglione, seconded by Commissioner Stone and duly carried, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Buster, Tavaglione, Stone and Benoit  
Nays: None  
Absent: Ashley  
Date: February 28, 2012  
xc: Housing Authority

Kecia Harper-Ihem  
Clerk of the Board  
By:   
Deputy

**10.1**

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL  
BY: ANITA C. WILLIS  
DATE: 2-8-12  
Departmental Concurrence

Policy  Policy   
Consent  Consent   
Dep't Recomm.:  Per Exec. Ofc.:

**BACKGROUND:**

The Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, requires all public housing agencies to submit an Agency Plan in accordance with the format outlined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Public Housing Authority (PHA) Annual Plan covers fiscal year July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013. The Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) waiting list will remain closed due to federal funding levels. The waiting list will remain open for veterans, seniors 75 years and older, registrants who can be assisted through targeted special needs programs and those that meet the Extraordinary Local Preferences as defined in the Administrative Plan

# Affidavit of Publication

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

## County of Riverside

## State of California

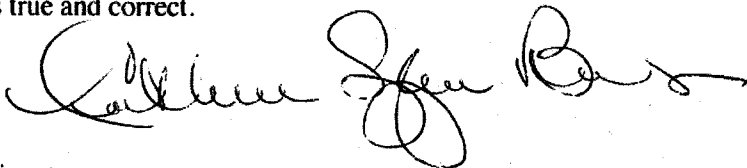
Catherine Sypin-Barnes, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That at all times hereinafter, mentioned that she was a citizen of the United States, over the age of eighteen years, and a resident of said County, and was at and during all said times the principal clerk of the printer and publisher of The Riverside County Record-News, a newspaper of general circulation, adjudicated by court decree, printed and published weekly in said County of Riverside, State of California, that said Riverside County Record-News is and was at all times herein mentioned, a newspaper of general circulation as that term is defined in section 4460 of the Political Code, and, as provided by that section, is published for the dissemination of local and telegraphic news and intelligence of a general character, having a bona fide subscription list of paying subscribers, and is not devoted to nor published for the interest, entertainment or instruction of a particular class, profession, trade, calling, race or denominations; that at all said time said newspaper has been established, printed and published in said County and State at regular intervals for more than one year preceding the date of publication of the notice hereinafter mentioned; that said notice was set in type not smaller than nonpareil and was preceded with words printed in black face type not smaller than nonpareil describing and expressing in general terms the purport and character of the notice intended to be given; that the

### RIVERSIDE COUNTY RECORD NEWSPAPER

of which the annexed is a printed copy, published and printed in said newspaper in at least 1 weekly issues, as follows:

January 12, 2012

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.



Signature

Dated: January 12, 2012  
at Riverside, California

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside's Agency Plan, which includes the Five-Year Plan, Capital Fund Program, Administrative Plan, Homeownership Plan and Statement of Policies, is available for review at offices located at 5555 Arlington Avenue, Riverside CA 92504 and 44-199 Monroe, Suite B, Indio, CA 92201. It is also located on the Housing Authority website: [www.harvc.org](http://www.harvc.org). Written public comment may be directed to the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside, Ann. Director, 5555 Arlington Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504. A public hearing to solicit public comment and feedback will be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2012, at 1:30 pm, in the meeting room of the Board of Supervisors, Riverside County Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon Street, First Floor, Riverside, California. El Plan de Accion de la Agencia del Housing Authority del Condado de Riverside, cual incluye los diferentes programas, esta disponible para aquellas personas interesadas. Puede pedir una copia en las oficinas localizadas en 5555 Arlington Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504 o en 44-199 Monroe, Suite B, Indio, CA 92201 o en [www.harvc.org](http://www.harvc.org). Puede mandar sus comentarios por escrito, atencion al Director a la misma direccion de la audiencia publica para escuchar comentarios y sugerencias del publico se ommara el martes 28 de febrero 2012 a las 1:30 de la tarde en el cuarto de conferencias de la Mesa Directiva, Condado De Riverside, Centro Administrativo, 4080 Lemon Street, Primer piso, Riverside CA, 1/12/12  
CNS-2231635#  
RIVERSIDE COUNTY RECORD  
Pub: January 12, 2012 RCR102



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**DECLARATION**

I am a resident of Los Angeles County, over the age of eighteen years and not a party to any or interested in the matter noticed.

The notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy appeared in the:

**BLACK VOICE**

On the following dates:

**January 12, 2012**

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at Los Angeles, California, this  
19<sup>th</sup> day of January 2012

Signature

**2231623**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside's Agency Plan, which includes the Five-Year Plan, Capital Fund Program, Administrative Plan, Homeownership Plan and Statement of Policies, is available for review at offices located at 5555 Arlington Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504 and 44-159 Monroe, Suite B, Indio, CA 92201. It is also located on the Housing Authority website: [www.harivco.org](http://www.harivco.org). Written public comment may be directed to the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside, Attn: Director, 5555 Arlington Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504. A public hearing to solicit public comment and feedback will be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2012, at 1:30 pm, in the meeting room of the Board of Supervisors, Riverside County, Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon Street, First Floor, Riverside, California.

El Plan de Acción de la Agencia del Housing Authority del Condado de Riverside, cual incluye los diferentes programas, está disponible para aquellas personas interesadas. Puede pedir una copia en las oficinas localizadas en 5555 Arlington Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504 o en 44-159 Monroe, Suite B, Indio, CA 92201 o en [www.harivco.org](http://www.harivco.org). Puede mandar sus comentarios por escrito, atención al Director a la misma dirección. La audiencia pública para escuchar comentarios y sugerencias del público se tomará a cargo el martes 28 de febrero 2012 a la 1:30 pm en el cuarto de conferencias de la Mesa Directiva, Condado De Riverside, Centro Administrativo, 4080 Lemon Street, Primer piso, Riverside CA.

p. 1/12/12  
CNS-2231623#

*"The only Public Notice which is justifiable from the standpoint of true economy and the public interest, is that which reaches those who are affected by it"*

Rev. 11-09 Daily Journal Corporation, 915 East First Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012



The Desert Sun  
750 N Gene Autry Trail  
Palm Springs, CA 92262  
760-778-4578 / Fax 760-778-4731

**Certificate of Publication**

State Of California ss:  
County of Riverside

Advertiser:

CA. NEWSPAPER SVC BUREAU/CLASS  
PO BOX 54026  
LOS ANGELES CA 900540

2000295245

I am over the age of 18 years old, a citizen of the United States and not a party to, or have interest in this matter. I hereby certify that the attached advertisement appeared in said newspaper (set in type not smaller than non pariel) in each and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

Newspaper: .The Desert Sun

1/12/2012

I acknowledge that I am a principal clerk of the printer of The Desert Sun, printed and published weekly in the City of Palm Springs, County of Riverside, State of California. The Desert Sun was adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation on March 24, 1988 by the Superior Court of the County of Riverside, State of California Case No. 191236.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on this 12th day of January, 2012 in Palm Springs, California.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Declarant's Signature



No. 63  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside's Agency Plan, which includes the Five-Year Plan, Capital Fund Program, Administrative Plan, Homeownership Plan and Statement of Policies, is available for review to those located at 5555 Arlington Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504 and 44-199 Monroe, Suite B, Indio, CA 92201. It is also located on the Housing Authority website, [www.havco.org](http://www.havco.org). Written public comment may be directed to the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside, Attn: Director, 5555 Arlington Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504. A public hearing to solicit public comment and feedback will be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2012, at 1:30 pm, in the meeting room of the Board of Supervisors, Riverside County, Administrative Center, 4080 Lamon Street, First Floor, Riverside, California.

El Plan de Acción de la Agencia del Housing Authority del Condado de Riverside, que incluye los diferentes programas, está disponible para aquellas personas interesadas. Puede ser visto en las oficinas localizadas en 5555 Arlington Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504 o en 44-199 Monroe, Suite B, Indio, CA 92201 o en [www.havco.org](http://www.havco.org). Puede mandar sus comentarios por escrito a la dirección de la Agencia del Housing Authority. La audiencia pública para escuchar comentarios y sugerencias del público se llevará a cabo el martes 28 de febrero 2012 a las 1:30 de la tarde en el cuarto de conferencias de la Mesa Directiva, Condado de Riverside, Centro Administrativo, 4080 Lamon Street, Primer piso, Riverside CA, 92504.

1/12/12  
CNS-221599F  
THE DESERT SUN

# PROOF OF PUBLICATION

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

## STATE OF CALIFORNIA County of Riverside

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid. I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to, or interested in the above entitled matter. I am an authorized representative of



An Edition of the North County Times

a newspaper of general circulation, published DAILY in the City of Temecula, California, 92590, County of Riverside, Three Lake Judicial District, and which newspaper has been adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Riverside, State of California, under the date of February 26, 1991, Case Number 209105; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than nonpareil), has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof, on the following dates, to wit:

January 12, 2012

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at TEMECULA, CALIFORNIA, this

12th day of January, 2012

Signature

Tammi E. Swenson  
Legal Advertising Representative

Title

CNSB 2231625

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
 The Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside, California, is hereby giving notice of a public hearing on the proposed Ordinance No. 2231625, which is attached to this notice. The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 26, 2012, at 1:30 pm, in the meeting room of the Board of Supervisors, 4000 Lorton Street, Riverside, California.

**Plan de Acción de la Audiencia Pública del Condado de Riverside.** Este anuncio es el primer paso en el proceso de la audiencia pública para escuchar las opiniones de los ciudadanos en las reuniones de la Audiencia Pública. Este anuncio se encuentra en el sitio web de Internet www.harcvco.org. Puede ser consultado por correo electrónico al Director de la Oficina de Asistencia Pública para escuchar los comentarios y sugerencias del Sr. Omar Acosta el martes 26 de febrero 2012 a las 1:30 de la tarde en el cuarto de conferencias de Dirección, Condado De Riverside, California, 4000 Lorton Street, Riverside, California 92506.

1/12/12  
 CNS-2231625  
 THE CALIFORNIAN (TEM)



# THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

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Riverside, CA 92501-3878  
951-684-1200  
951-368-9018 FAX

PROOF OF PUBLICATION  
(2010, 2015.5 C.C.P)

Publication(s): Press-Enterprise

PROOF OF PUBLICATION OF

Ad Desc.: / 2231579

I am a citizen of the United States. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am an authorized representative of THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE, a newspaper in general circulation, printed and published daily in the County of Riverside, and which newspaper has been adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Riverside, State of California, under date of April 25, 1952, Case Number 54446, under date of March 29, 1957, Case Number 65673, and under date of August 25, 1995, Case Number 267864; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in said newspaper in accordance with the instructions of the person(s) requesting publication, and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

01/12/2012

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Date: January 12, 2012  
At: Riverside, California



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THE PRESS ENTERPRISE

# THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

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Riverside, CA 92501-3878  
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951-368-9018 FAX

**PROOF OF PUBLICATION  
(2010, 2015.5 C.C.P)**

Publication(s): La Prensa (Not Adjudicated)

**PROOF OF PUBLICATION OF**

Ad Desc.: / 2231604

I am a citizen of the United States. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am an authorized representative of THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE, a newspaper in general circulation, printed and published daily in the County of Riverside, and which newspaper has been adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Riverside, State of California, under date of April 25, 1952, Case Number 54446, under date of March 29, 1957, Case Number 65673, and under date of August 25, 1995, Case Number 267864; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in said newspaper in accordance with the instructions of the person(s) requesting publication, and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

01/06/2012

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date: January 06, 2012  
At: Riverside, California

nvile

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LOS ANGELES, CA 90060

Ad Number: 0000699738-01

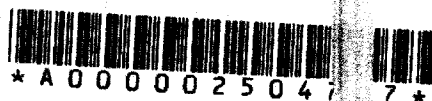
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1/6/12

CNS-2231604#







**ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN  
FOR THE HOUSING CHOICE  
VOUCHER PROGRAM**

**Housing Authority of the  
County of Riverside**

**Effective July 1, 2012**

**Housing Authority of the County of Riverside Administrative Plan**

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**Housing Authority of the County of Riverside Administrative Plan**

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**Chapter 1**

**STATEMENT OF POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES**

**INTRODUCTION**

The Section 8 Program was enacted as part of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, which re-codified the U.S. Housing Act of 1937. The Act has been amended from time to time, and its requirements are described in, and implemented through this Administrative Plan.

Administration of the Section 8 Program and the functions and responsibilities of the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside (HA) staff shall be in compliance with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Section 8 Regulations as well as federal, state and local fair housing laws and regulations.

The HA is committed to the goals and policies contained in the Housing Element of the General Plan for the County of Riverside and the County of Riverside Consolidated Plan.

**A. PURPOSE OF THE PLAN**

The purpose of the Administrative Plan is to establish policies for carrying out the programs in a manner consistent with HUD requirements and local objectives. The Plan covers both admission and continued participation in these programs.

The HA is responsible for complying with all changes in HUD regulations pertaining to these programs. If such changes conflict with this Plan, HUD regulations will have precedence.

**B. SERVICE POLICY/ACCOMMODATIONS**

This policy is applicable to all situations described in this Administrative Plan when a family initiates contact with the HA, when the HA initiates contact with a family including when a family applies, and when the HA schedules or reschedules appointments of any kind.

It is the policy of this HA to be customer service oriented in the administration of our housing programs, and to exercise and demonstrate a high level of professionalism while providing housing services to the families within our jurisdiction.

The HA's policies and practices are designed to provide assurances that all persons with disabilities will be provided reasonable accommodations so that they may have equal access to the housing programs and related services. Persons requiring special accommodations due to a disability must notify the HA of their needs.

In matters where the HA has discretion, waivers to existing policy shall be determined by the Director or designee.

**C. TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENTS**

The Housing Authority will translate documents into other languages when feasible.

**D. FAMILY OUTREACH**

It is the goal of the HA to assure that participating families in the program are representative of the County's targeted population groups, as identified in the Consolidated Plan of its area of operation. The HA will publicize and disseminate information to make known the availability of housing assistance and related services for low income families on an as needed basis. The HA will publicize the availability and nature of housing assistance for low income families in a newspaper of general circulation, minority media, through the agency's website at [www.harivco.org](http://www.harivco.org) and by other suitable means (such as distributing information to non-profit agencies within the county).

**E. PRIVACY RIGHTS AND PROVIDING INFORMATION TO OWNERS**

The HA's policy regarding release of information is in accordance with state and local laws which restricts the release of family information.

The HA's practices and procedures are designed to safeguard the privacy of applicants, program participants, and participating owners or property manager. All applicant and participant hard files and imaged files will be stored in a secure location that is only accessible by authorized staff. Owner records will be filed and/or imaged with the participant's file.

In accordance with HUD requirements, the HA will furnish prospective owners with the names and addresses of current and prior landlords of applicants and participants for tenant screening purposes.

**F. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY**

The HA practices equal opportunity in hiring, promotion and conditions of employment. The HA will comply with the equal opportunity housing requirements in regard to non-discrimination in housing.

**G. SPECIAL HOUSING TYPES**

The HA routinely provides Manufactured home space rental assistance and will provide Shared Housing, Single Room Occupancy (SRO), Congregate housing, group home and/or cooperative housing assistance as a reasonable accommodation to applicants and participants who request it in order to make the program more accessible. Except where specifically regulated, all HA policies in this Administrative Plan also apply to the special housing types.

**H. RULES AND REGULATIONS**

This Administrative Plan is set forth to define the HA's local policies for operation of the housing programs in the context of federal laws and regulations. All issues related to Section 8 not addressed in this document are governed by such federal regulations, HUD memos, notices and guidelines, or other applicable law.

**I. JURISDICTION**

The HA's area of operation is all of the incorporated and unincorporated cities and areas in Riverside County.

## Housing Authority of the County of Riverside Administrative Plan

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### **J. MONITORING PROGRAM PERFORMANCE**

The HA will monitor program performance in compliance with the Annual Contributions Contract and other applicable laws, regulations and guidelines. It is the agency's objective to receive the highest rating from HUD using the Section 8 Management Assessment Program (SEMAP).

The HA will monitor Housing Quality Standards (HQS) in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations 24 CFR Part 982, by conducting quality control inspections in an amount necessary to meet HUD requirements.

### **K. PROGRAM INTEGRITY MONITORING (PIM)**

The Housing Authority of the County of Riverside administers Program Integrity Monitoring (PIM). The purpose of the program is to ensure that public funds are paid only on behalf of qualified and eligible participants, and to landlords and owners who comply with all contract provisions in accordance with federal regulations. (Refer to Appendix E)

PIM also staffs a toll-free fraud hotline [(800) 300-0439]. Through this hotline, the public can anonymously report any suspected participant/owner/employee fraud. The fraud hotline number is available through the internet web site, and Housing Authority newsletters.

### **L. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION FROM FILES**

The HA will make records available to individuals and organizations with legitimate purposes. In order not to cause a financial burden on the HA, charges for this information will be 25 cents per page for photocopies, and \$30 per hour for staff time in locating and gathering information. If the file is stored in archives, an additional \$5 fee will be charged to request it from storage.

### **M. USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE FEE RESERVE**

The HA Board of Commissioners must authorize any withdrawal from administrative fee reserves proposed through the annual budget approval process. The Board of Commissioners must authorize any amount in excess of \$75,000 per occurrence that is used during the fiscal year in addition to the previously approved amount.

### **N. CODE OF CONDUCT**

All employees are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct for the Housing Authority, which is included as Appendix B of this document.



Chapter 2

ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION

**INTRODUCTION**

This chapter defines the HUD and HA criteria for admission and denial of admission to the program. The policy of the HA is to strive for objectivity and consistency in applying these criteria to evaluate the eligibility of families who apply. The HA staff will review all information provided by the family carefully and without regard to factors other than those defined in this chapter. Families will be provided the opportunity to explain their circumstances, to furnish additional information, if needed, and to receive an explanation of the basis for any decision made by the HA pertaining to their eligibility.

To be eligible for participation, an applicant must meet HUD criteria, as well as any permissible additional criteria established by the HA, i.e., Amended Policy on Zero Tolerance of Criminal Activity (see Appendix C), and established local preferences (see Chapter 4).

The family's placement on the waiting list will be made in accordance with their registration date, time and self-disclosed preferences.

**A. QUALIFICATION AS A FAMILY.**

24 CFR 5.403

The applicant must qualify as a family. A family includes but is not limited to, regardless of marital status, actual or perceived sexual orientation, or gender identity, the following:

A single (one) person, who may be an elderly person, a displaced person, disabled person, near-elderly person, or any other single person; or

A group of persons residing together and such group includes, but is not limited to:

- A family with or without children (a child who is temporarily away from the home because of placement in foster care is considered a member of the family)
- An elderly family
- A near-elderly family
- A disabled family
- A displaced family, and
- The remaining member of a tenant family

~~may be a single person or a group of persons~~

~~A group of persons may be:~~

~~Two or more persons sharing residency whose combined income and resources are available to meet the household needs, or who have evidence of a stable family relationship.~~

~~Two or more elderly or disabled persons living together or one or more elderly or disabled persons living with one or more live-in aides is a family.~~

## Housing Authority of the County of Riverside Administrative Plan

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~~A minor who is temporarily away from home because of placement in foster care is considered a member of the family. This provision only pertains to the child's temporary absence from the home, and is not intended to enlarge the space available for other family members.~~

~~A minor whose custody has been awarded by the court to the family or whose legal guardianship has been awarded by the court to the family, is considered a member of the family.~~

A single person may be:

- An elderly person
- A displaced person
- A person with a disability
- Any "other single" person

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**Head of Household**

The head of household is the adult member of the household who is designated by the family, is wholly or partly responsible for paying the rent, and has the legal capacity to enter into a lease under state/local law. Emancipated minors who qualify under state law may be recognized as the head of household.

**Live-In Aide**

**CFR 982.316**

A family that consists of one or more elderly, near-elderly or disabled persons may request that the HA approve a live-in aide to reside in the unit and provide necessary supportive services for a family member who is a person with disabilities. The HA must approve a live-in aide if needed as a reasonable accommodation in accordance with 24 CFR Part 8 to make the program accessible to and usable by the family member with a disability. A statement from a licensed professional supporting the need for a Live-In Aide will be required. This statement must be renewed every year at the annual recertification.

Live-in aide means a person who resides with one or more elderly persons, near-elderly or disabled persons, and who:

1. Is determined by the HA to be essential to the care and well being of an elderly person or a person with disabilities,
2. Is not obligated for the support of the person(s),
3. Would not be living in the unit except to provide the necessary supportive services.

Occasional, intermittent, multiple or rotating care givers do not meet the definition of a live-in aide since 24CFR Section 982.402(b)(7) implies live-in-aides must reside with a family permanently for the family unit size to be adjusted in accordance with the subsidy standards established by the PHA. Therefore, regardless of whether these caregivers spend the night, an additional bedroom should not be approved (PIH 2009-22).

A PHA may only approve one additional bedroom for a live-in aide. Although a live-in aide may have PHA-approved family member/s live with him/her in the assisted unit, no additional bedrooms will be provided for the family members of the live-in aide. The PHA must ensure that housing quality standards (HQS) will not be violated and that there will be no more than two people per bedroom or living/sleeping space in the unit in accordance with 24 CFR § 982.401(d)(2)(ii). If the approval of additional family members of a live-in aide would result in the violation of HQS, the additional family members of the live-in aide may not be approved.  
**PIH 2010-51 (HA)**

A live-in aide is treated differently than family members:

1. Income of the live-in aide will not be counted for purposes of determining eligibility or level of benefits.
2. Live-in aides will not be considered as a remaining household member of the tenant family or be entitled to any housing assistance independent of the participant and will sign a certification to that effect.

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At any time, the HA may refuse to approve a particular person as a live-in aide, or may withdraw such approval, if:

1. The person commits fraud, bribery or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with any federal housing program;
2. The person violates the Amended Policy on Zero Tolerance of Criminal Activity; or
3. The person currently owes rent or other amounts to the HA or to another HA in connection with Section 8 or Public Housing Assistance under the 1937 Act;
4. If the live-in aide requires a live-in aide or care provider for themselves;
5. If the HOH requires a live-in aide, the HOH may not be a live-in aide/caretaker for someone else.
6. If the live-in aide would not be living in the unit except to provide the necessary supportive services (i.e. parent of a child).

### Multiple Families in the Same Household - Joint Custody of Children

When two families living together apply for assistance, (such as a mother and father and a daughter with her own husband or children), they will be treated as a single family unit.

Children who are subject to a joint custody agreement, but live with one parent at least 51 percent of the time will be considered members of the household. "51 percent of the time" is defined as 183 days of the year, which do not have to run consecutively.

When both parents are trying to claim the child, the HA will consider court records as the authority for custody. In the absence of court records, the parent whose address is listed in the school records will be allowed to claim the school-age child as a dependent and as a member of that household.

### B. INCOME LIMITS

*24 CFR 982.201 (b) (1)*

HUD determines income limits for admission to the Section 8 Program. To be eligible, the applicant must be a family in any of the following categories:

- A "very low-income" family;
- A low-income family that is "continuously assisted" under the 1937 Housing Act;
- A low-income family that meets additional eligibility criteria specified in the PHA administrative plan. Such additional PHA criteria must be consistent with the PHA plan and with the consolidated plans for local governments in the PHA jurisdiction;
- A low-income family that qualifies for voucher assistance as a non-purchasing family residing in a HOPE 1 (HOPE for public housing homeownership) or HOPE 2 (HOPE for homeownership of multifamily units) project. (Section 8(o)(4)(D) of the 1937 Act (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(4)(D));
- A low-income or moderate-income family that is displaced as a result of the prepayment of the mortgage or voluntary termination of an insurance contract on eligible low-income housing as defined in § 248.101 of this title;
- A low-income family that qualifies for voucher assistance as a non-purchasing family residing in a project subject to a resident homeownership program under § 248.173 of this title.

**C. DISCLOSURE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS- PIH 2010-3 and 24 CFR 5.216**

All applicants and participants are required to disclose a social security number. PHAs will not need to re-verify previously disclosed valid SSNs. PHAs may rely on documentation of the SSN provided by another government agency (federal or state). Addition of new household members at least 6 years of age or under the age of 6 and who **has an assigned SSN**, the tenant must disclose the SSN and provide documentation of the SSN to the PHA at the time of request to add new household member or during interim re-exam. The new household member **cannot** be added to the family composition until the family has complied with SSN disclosure and verification requirements. Addition of new household members under the age of 6 **without an assigned SSN**, are included as household members and entitled to benefits and the Head of Household is given 90 days to provide documentation of the SSN. Extensions may be given due to unforeseen circumstances. Failure to furnish verification of social security numbers is grounds for denial or termination of assistance.

**D. CITIZENSHIP/ELIGIBLE IMMIGRATION STATUS**

(24 CFR Part 5)

**Mixed Families**

An applicant family is eligible for assistance so long as at least one member is a citizen or eligible immigrant. Families that include eligible and ineligible individuals are called mixed households. Such applicant families will be given notice that their assistance will be prorated and that they may request a hearing if they contest this determination.

**No eligible members**

Applicant families that include no eligible members will be ineligible for assistance. Such families will be denied admission and offered an opportunity for a hearing.

**Non-citizen students.**

Non-citizen students as defined by HUD in the non-citizen regulations are not eligible for assistance.

**Appeals**

For this eligibility requirement only, the applicant is entitled to a hearing exactly like those provided for participants.

**E. SUITABILITY OF FAMILY**

It is the responsibility of the owner to screen the applicants as to their suitability for tenancy.

**F. CHANGES IN ELIGIBILITY PRIOR TO EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE CONTRACT**

Changes that occur after the issuance of a Voucher, but before the execution of a lease and contract must be processed so that under no circumstance will a family be admitted if they are over the HUD published 50% AMI Income Limit. For example, if a household goes over the income limit prior to lease up, the applicant is no longer eligible for the program [24 CFR 982.201(b)(4)]. They will be notified in writing of their ineligible status and their right to an informal review.

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In order to be compliant with regulatory requirements, the Housing Authority will release families to result in a lease up of 75% of the families being at or below 30% of the median income (extremely low income). If a family has a change in income that results in the family exceeding the 30% income limits for the family size at the time of verification and up until voucher issuance ~~and/or prior to lease up~~, the family's income will be updated and they will be returned to the waiting list and notified in writing. The family will be eligible for a future release between 30% and 50% of the income limits (very low income).

Changes that are reported after voucher issuance will not affect the preference eligibility of the household once the preference criterion has been verified.

### **G. INELIGIBLE FAMILIES**

Families who are determined to be ineligible will be notified in writing of the reason for denial and given an opportunity to request an informal review, or an informal hearing if they were denied due to non-citizen status.

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**Chapter 3**

**APPLYING FOR ADMISSION**

**INTRODUCTION**

The HA Section 8 waiting list closed July 1, 2010, as the existing pool of applicants exceeded foreseeable resources. The waiting list will remain closed until such time as it is determined additional applicants are required to ensure full program utilization. Should the waiting list reopen, The HA will follow procedures in accordance with 24 CFR 982.206 and Public Notice will be given and outreach conducted to allow all those wishing to apply equal opportunity. This chapter describes the policies and procedures for completing the waiting list registration, placement on the waiting list, and completion of the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) Application, including verifications and other required documents. Registrants will be placed on the waiting list in accordance with this Plan.

**A. WAITING LIST REGISTRATION**

At such time as the Section 8 waiting list reopens, public notice will be issued and outreach will be conducted on a continual basis by distribution of waiting list registration forms to libraries, non-profit organizations and other public agencies. Advertisement of the housing programs is done on an as needed basis in the local paper of record, minority newspapers, other media and the agency's website at [www.harivco.org](http://www.harivco.org). Outreach and advertisement notices include:

1. A brief description of the housing programs
2. Basic information on eligibility requirements
3. The HA's address and telephone number

When the Section 8 waiting list is open, any family asking to be placed on the waiting list for Section 8 rental assistance must complete a registration form. Registrations will be taken by phone, on the Internet, by mail, by fax or by personal delivery to the HA offices. Please note that in order to be placed on the waiting list, a valid address must be provided since the HA's primary form of communication is by mail. This is to avoid an applicant being withdrawn or removed from the waiting list for failure to respond to correspondence or returned mail. If an applicant has no valid address (homeless, etc.) it is suggested that they obtain a Post Office (PO) Box or provide a valid General Delivery Address. Upon request, reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities.

When the waiting list registration form is received by the HA, the applicant will receive a letter that confirms placement on the waiting list. The person whose name is listed on the registration will be considered the Head of Household and will be the person entitled to the placement on our waiting list. The letter will include instructions to verify information and report changes as they occur.

The purpose of the registration form is to permit the HA to determine placement on the waiting list based on the information provided by the applicant. Registrants are required to inform the HA of changes in family composition, income, and address, as well as any changes in their preference status (See Chapter 4). Registrants are also required to respond to requests from the HA to update information on their registration, or to determine their continued interest in

assistance. Failure to provide information or to respond to mailings will result in the registrant being removed from the waiting list.

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### **B. HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM (SECTION 8) APPLICATION**

When funding is available, families will be sent a Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) Application according to their preference-determined sequence and by the date the registration was received by the HA. This process is followed regardless of family size.

The Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) Application and related verifications determines the family's ability to claim a preference and requires a signature. The qualification for preference must exist at the time the preference is verified regardless of the length of time an applicant has been on the waiting list because the preference is based on current status. If the family does not meet the current preferences, they are returned to the Waiting List.

If the family meets the preferences, they are sent an Eligibility Questionnaire, which includes the HUD Form 9886, Release of Information, Form HUD-52675, What You Should Know About EIV and the Declaration of Citizenship. All adult members must complete and sign these documents. The Eligibility Questionnaire is used to determine final eligibility for Voucher issuance and requires full verification. Applicants will be required to sign specific verification forms requesting information that is not covered by the HUD Form 9886. Failure to do so will be cause for denial of the application for failure to provide necessary certifications and release as required by the HA.

If the HA utilizes an interview at the time of the full application, it is the applicant's responsibility to reschedule the interview if she/he misses the appointment. Appointments are rescheduled only if missing the appointment is justifiable and the request is made no later than 10 calendar days from the original appointment date. Requests for rescheduled appointments must be submitted in writing with verification (doctor's note, etc.) as to the reason for the reschedule. If the applicant does not reschedule a missed meeting, the HA will deny the application. Upon request, reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with a disability.

If the HA determines at or after the interview that additional information or document(s) are needed, the HA will request the document(s) or information in writing. The family will be given 10 calendar days to supply the information. If the information is not supplied in this time period, the HA will provide the family a notification of denial for assistance.

If an applicant is denied assistance, the applicant will be offered an opportunity to request an informal review.

After the verification process is completed, the HA will make a final determination of eligibility. This decision is based upon information provided by the family, the verification completed by the HA, and the current eligibility criteria in effect. If the applicant is determined eligible, a briefing will be scheduled to issue a Voucher and explain the family's obligations and the program requirements.

During the initial eligibility determination process and any subsequent eligibility reexaminations, all contact such as correspondence, telephone calls, interviews, or inspections will be documented by the Housing Specialist.

**Chapter 4**

**SELECTION OF FAMILIES FROM WAITING LIST**

**INTRODUCTION**

It is the HA's objective to ensure that the families are placed in the proper order on the waiting list so that an offer of assistance is not delayed to any family, or made to any family prematurely. This chapter defines the eligibility criteria for the HA, and it explains the waiting list order which the HA has adopted to meet local housing needs.

By maintaining an accurate waiting list, the HA will be able to perform the activities which ensure that an adequate pool of qualified registrants will be available so that program funds are used in a timely manner.

**A. WAITING LIST PREFERENCES**

The HA has implemented the following preferences for drawing names from the waiting list. In accordance with California State Law [HSC 34322.2 (b)], at each level of preference, families meeting the definition of a veteran according to California Military and Veterans Code, Section 980, will have priority. In accordance with Federal Regulations [24 CFR 982.201 (b) (2)], at each level below, from the families that meet the preference, the Housing Authority will release families to result in a lease up of: 75% of the families will be at or below 30% of the median income (extremely low income), and 25% of the families will be between 30% and 50% of the median income (very low income). If the first level releases do not satisfy the regulations regarding extremely low income families, releases will be done at the second level of preferences until the 75% extremely low income requirement is met.

In order to be compliant with regulatory requirements, the Housing Authority will release families to result in a lease up of 75% of the families being at or below 30% of the median income (extremely low income). If a family has a change in income that results in the family exceeding the 30% income limits for the family size at the time of verification and up until voucher issuance and/or prior to lease up, the family's income will be updated and they will be returned to the waiting list and notified in writing. The family will be eligible for a future release between 30% and 50% of the income limits (very low income).

The waiting list will remain open at all times for registrations meeting an extraordinary local preference [CFR 982.204 (c)], registrations for families meeting the definition of a veteran according to California Military and Veterans Code, Section 980, [HSC 34322.2 (b)] and for HUD-funded specified families (i.e. Family Unification Program (FUP), Project Based Vouchers, Moderate Rehabilitation (Mod Rehab), Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH), discretionary vouchers targeting special needs populations, and Mainstream Vouchers [24 CFR 982.204 (e)]).

**EXTRAORDINARY LOCAL PREFERENCE**

Up to a total of 15% of annual admissions will be targeted for an extraordinary local preference for the following registrants: Referrals by the Court Program (A program run by Riverside County Family and Dependency Drug Courts); Foster Care Youth (A program of the Council for

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Youth Development); registrants—families whose head of household or co-head ~~that~~ are 75 years of age and older; registrants displaced by government action or emergency as certified by a city, county or state agency official (executive level or above), etc. The approval of the Director or designee is necessary for an extraordinary local preference. These admissions must meet the County of Riverside Residency Preference except for those who are displaced by government action. **24 CFR 982.204 (a) and 24 CFR 982.207 (a) (2) and (3).**

### FIRST LEVEL

- 1) County of Riverside Residency Preference, **and**
- 2) Qualified veterans who meet one of the following: Working Families (working at least 20 hours per week) with dependent or minor children or Elderly families, Disabled families **or**
- 3) ~~Qualified~~ Families whose head of household or co-head are 75 years of age and older **or**
- 4) Participants that have utilized a special program for a 5 year term such as Housing Options Program (HOP), Shelter Plus Care Program (S+C), Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) and that no longer require supportive services and are eligible to transition to a regular Housing Choice Voucher provided they meet all other eligibility requirements.

### SECOND LEVEL

- 1) County of Riverside Residency Preference, **and**
- 2) Rent-burdened or homeless, **and**
- 3) Working Families (see Working Families definition) with dependent or minor children or Elderly ~~and or qualified families 75 years of age and older families~~ or Disabled families
- 4) ~~Qualified veterans and/or qualified families 75 years of age and older do not have to meet the rent-burdened or homeless preference.~~

### THIRD LEVEL

- 1) County of Riverside Residency Preference, **and**
- 2) Rent-burdened or homeless, **and**
- 3) Non-Working Families with dependent or minor children

### FOURTH LEVEL

- 1) County of Riverside Residency Preference, **and**
- 2) Rent-burdened or homeless, **and**
- 3) Working families (see Working Families definition) without children

### FIFTH LEVEL

- 1) County of Riverside Residency Preference, **and**
- 2) Rent-burdened or homeless, **and**
- 3) Non-working families without children.

The Housing Authority will exhaust all families at each preference level before releasing from the next lower level except as noted above. Date ~~and time~~ of registration for registrants with equal preferences will determine order of release.

### **Change in Circumstances**

Changes in a registrant's circumstances while on the waiting list may affect the family's

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entitlement to a preference. Registrants are required to notify the HA when circumstances change.

When a registrant claims an additional preference, she/he will maintain the original date of registration and will be updated on the waiting list in the appropriate order determined by the newly claimed preference. The qualification for preference must exist at the time the preference is verified regardless of the length of time an applicant has been on the waiting list because the preference is based on current status. Preference eligibility is verified at the time of completion of the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) Application up until voucher issuance.

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**B. EXCEPTIONS FOR SPECIAL ADMISSIONS**

**24 CFR 982.203**

If HUD awards program funding that is targeted for a specific group, the HA will admit these families under a special admission procedure. The families will be selected in accordance with the Notice of Funding Availability and the HA's application for funding.

Special admissions families will be admitted outside of the regular waiting list process. They do not have to qualify for any preferences, nor are they required to be on the program waiting list. The HA maintains separate records of these admissions.

**C. TARGETED FUNDING**

When HUD awards special funding for certain family types, families who qualify are placed on the regular waiting list. When a specific type of funding becomes available, the waiting list is searched for the first family meeting the targeted funding criteria, based on ~~time~~ and date of registration.

Examples of targeted programs are:

- Disabilities/Mainstream
- Family Unification/Court Referrals
- Moderate Rehabilitation

**D. ORDER OF SELECTION**

Families are selected from the waiting list and sent a Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) Application based on the preferences listed above. The waiting list will be organized by date among registrants with equal preference status regardless of family size. Preference information will be verified when families complete a Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) Application and the qualification for preference must exist at the time the preference is verified up until voucher issuance regardless of the length of time an applicant has been on the waiting list because the preference is based on current status.

**E. IF PREFERENCES ARE NOT MET**

If the applicant does not qualify for a preference, the HA will return the family to the waiting list. The HA will notify the applicant in writing of the reasons why the preference was denied and inform the applicant that they have been returned to the waiting list with their original registration date before they were selected. If the applicant falsifies documents or makes false statements in order to qualify for any preference they will be denied assistance and offered an opportunity to request an informal review in writing within 10 days. Applicants may exercise other rights if they believe they have been discriminated against.

**F. REMOVAL FROM WAITING LIST AND PURGING**

If a registrant fails to respond within 30 calendar days to a mailing from the HA, the registrant will be removed from the waiting list. If a letter is returned by the Post Office without a forwarding address, the registrant will be removed without further notice, and a record will be maintained on the computer. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities.

The waiting list will be purged periodically by a mailing to registrants inquiring as to continued

interest to be on the waiting list to ensure that the waiting list is current and accurate.

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**Chapter 5**

**SUBSIDY STANDARDS**

**INTRODUCTION**

HUD guidelines require that HA's establish subsidy standards for the determination of the Voucher bedroom size, and that such standards provide for a minimum commitment of subsidy while avoiding overcrowding. The standards used for the Voucher size also must be within the minimum unit size requirements of HUD's Housing Quality Standards. This chapter explains the subsidy standards which will be used to determine the Voucher size for various sized families when they are selected from the waiting list, as well as the HA's procedures when a family's size changes, or a family selects a unit size that is different from the Voucher.

**A. DETERMINING VOUCHER SIZE**

The HA does not determine who shares a bedroom/sleeping room, but there must be at least one person per subsidized bedroom. The HA's subsidy standards for determining Voucher size shall be applied in a manner consistent with Fair Housing guidelines. All standards in this section relate to the number of bedrooms on the Voucher, not the family's actual living arrangements.

The unit size on the Voucher remains the same as long as the family composition remains the same, regardless of the actual unit size rented. During the HAP contract term, the unit size on the Voucher (subsidy) may only change at the first full recertification after the change in family unit size. [24 CFR 982.505 (c) (5)]

One bedroom will be assigned to the head of the household and spouse/co-head, and one bedroom will be assigned for each additional two persons. An unborn child (with verification of pregnancy) will be counted as a family member in determining bedroom size.

The HA will not issue a larger Voucher due to additions of family members other than by birth, adoption, marriage, or court-awarded custody. A larger bedroom size will not be issued if a member of the nucleus family moves out and returns as an adult, unless it is to offer a reasonable accommodation for a disabled family member. If a member returns as an adult and brings additional non-nucleus members with them, the voucher size does not increase. Adding additional non-nucleus members will not be approved if it causes the family to be under-housed.

Exceptions will be made in the documented cases of a live-in aide or as a reasonable accommodation to make the program accessible to and usable by the nucleus family member with a disability. The family unit size for any family consisting of a single person must be either a zero or a one-bedroom unit. A PHA may only approve one additional bedroom for a live-in aide. Although a live-in aide may have PHA-approved family member/s live with him/her in the assisted unit, no additional bedrooms will be provided for the family members of the live-in aide. The PHA must ensure that housing quality standards (HQS) will not be violated and that there will be no more than two people per bedroom or living/sleeping space in the unit in accordance with 24 CFR § 982.401(d)(2)(ii). If the approval of additional family members of a live-in aide would result in the violation of HQS, the additional family members of the live-in aide may not be approved. **PIH 2010-51 (HA)**

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Any foster members who are in the home at the time of initial voucher issuance, at the time of relocation or at an annual re-examination, and are determined to be long-term placement, will be considered as family members in the determination of subsidy size. For the purpose of determining subsidy size, long-term placement is defined as 12 or more months.

### **B. CHANGES IN VOUCHER SIZE**

#### **Changes for Applicants and Participants:**

The Voucher size is determined at the time of Voucher issuance by comparing the family composition to the HA subsidy standards. If an applicant or participant requires a change in the Voucher size, the following guidelines will apply:

#### **Requests for Exception to Subsidy Standard**

A family with a disabled family member may request that the HA grant an exception to the subsidy standard. The HA will approve the exception as a reasonable accommodation if the family demonstrates a nexus to the disability is present to make the program accessible to and usable by the family member with a disability. This will be verified through a third party licensed professional's verification. Verification of the need must be provided annually on a Housing Authority approved form. In addition, requests involving separate bedrooms for medical equipment will be verified at the time of a participant's annual inspection or a special inspection may be conducted after an initial lease up to ensure that program funds are being used for the purpose in which they were intended. A PHA may only approve one additional bedroom for a live-in aide. Although a live-in aide may have PHA-approved family member/s live with him/her in the assisted unit, no additional bedrooms will be provided for the family members of the live-in aide. The PHA must ensure that housing quality standards (HQS) will not be violated and that there will be no more than two people per bedroom or living/sleeping space in the unit in accordance with 24 CFR § 982.401(a)(2)(ii). If the approval of additional family members of a live-in aide would result in the violation of HQS, the additional family members of the live-in aide may not be approved. PHH 2010-51 (HA)

**Subsidy Standards Flexibility:** The criteria and standards prescribed for the determination of an applicant's unit size to be listed on the Voucher should apply to the vast majority of families. In some cases, however, the relationship, age, sex, health, or handicap of the family members may warrant the assignment of a different unit size than that which would result from strict application of the criteria. Such flexibility is permissible to the extent the determinations are made on the basis of such factors. Any allowable determinations of this type, however, should be fully documented in the applicant's file.

For example, an elderly, handicapped, or disabled person who requires a live-in aide may be assigned a Voucher to provide a private bedroom for the attendant in addition to the bedroom for the assisted household members who are not disabled or handicapped.

1. **Smaller-Sized Units:** The family may select a smaller-sized unit provided there is at least one sleeping room or living/sleeping room of appropriate size for each two persons in the household. (For example, a 3-bedroom Voucher Holder with 5 family members could select a 2-bedroom unit if there would be two bedrooms for four of the family and a living/sleeping room for the



## **Housing Authority of the County of Riverside Administrative Plan**

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fifth member). The family would need to sign a statement saying that they have requested the smaller unit.

2. Larger-Sized Units: The unit size listed on a Voucher does not preclude the family from selecting a larger size unit provided the gross rent does not exceed the Rent Reasonableness limitation for the bedroom size listed on the Voucher (for example, a 2-bedroom Voucher Holder could select a 3-bedroom unit not to exceed the 2-bedroom Rent Reasonableness Limitation and the family's share of the rent and utilities does exceed 40% of their household's adjusted monthly income.

NOTE: At Initial Lease-Up for a unit, the Family Share of rent and utilities cannot exceed 40% of their Adjusted Monthly Income if the gross rent exceeds the applicable payment standard. The unit size designated on the Voucher must remain unchanged, regardless of the actual unit size selected.

### **Under-housed (unit too small for size of family)**

If a unit does not meet HQS space standards due to an increase in family size by birth, adoption, court awarded custody or marriage, the HA will issue a new Voucher.

### **Over-housed (unit too large for size of family)**

If a participant has a decrease in the family size, the family has the option to be issued a new Voucher or remain in the unit they are currently renting. If the family chooses to remain in the unit, the subsidy standard will be lowered at the next annual re-examination. If the family chooses to move, the Voucher will be issued with the correct subsidy standard. The amount the family pays for rent must be affordable and the tenant portion of rent and the current utility allowance cannot exceed 40% of their adjusted income at the time of lease up. The approved rent will be based on the payment standard for the number of bedrooms the family is eligible for, or the actual number of bedrooms in the unit, whichever is less. In cases where the gross rent is less than the payment standard, it will be used as the payment standard.

**C. UNIT SIZE SELECTED**

The family may select a different size unit than that listed on the Voucher using the HUD criteria for Payment Standards provided the unit is rent reasonable and affordable. The amount of assistance is based on the authorized or actual bedroom size, whichever is less.

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**Chapter 6**

**ELIGIBILITY FACTORS**

**INTRODUCTION**

The accurate calculation of annual income and adjusted income will ensure that families are not paying more or less money for rent than their obligation under the regulations. This chapter defines the allowable deductions from annual income and how the presence or absence of household members may affect the Total Tenant Payment (TTP). Income and TTP are calculated in accordance with 24 CFR Part 5 and further instructions set forth in HUD Notices, Memoranda and Addenda. The formula for the calculation of TTP is specific and not subject to interpretation. The HA's policies in this chapter address those areas which allow the HA discretion to define terms and to develop standards in order to ensure consistent application of the various factors that relate to the determination of TTP.

**A. HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION**

The HA must compute all applicable income of every family member, including those who are temporarily absent. In addition, the HA must count the income of the spouse/co-head or the head of the household if that person is temporarily absent, even if that person is not on the lease. If the spouse/co-head is temporarily absent and in the military, all military pay and allowances (except hazardous duty pay when exposed to hostile fire and any other exceptions to military pay that HUD may define) is counted as income.

Income of persons permanently absent will not be counted.

It is the responsibility of the head of household to report (in writing) changes in income and family composition within 10 calendar days.

The HA will evaluate absences from the unit using this policy.

**Absence of Entire Family**

These policy guidelines address situations when the family is absent from the unit, but has not moved out of the unit. In cases where the family has moved out of the unit, the HA will terminate the contract and/or the assistance in accordance with appropriate termination procedures contained in this Plan.

- Families are required to notify the HA before they move out of a unit.
- Families must notify the HA if they are going to be absent from the unit for more than three weeks.
- If it is determined that the family is absent from the unit, the HA will not continue assistance payments. "Absent" means that no family member is residing in the unit. In order to determine if the family is absent from the unit, the HA may, but is not limited to:
  - Write letters to the family at the unit
  - Telephone the family at the unit
  - Interview neighbors

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- Verify if utilities are in service
- Contact the landlord
- Conduct special inspections

If the absence which resulted in termination of assistance was due to a person's disability, and the HA can verify that the person was unable to notify the HA in accordance with the family's responsibilities, and if funding is available, the HA may reinstate the family if an accommodation is requested by the family.

### **Absence of Any Member**

Any member of the household will be considered permanently absent if s/he is away from the unit for 183 days in a 12 month period, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

### **Absence due to Medical Reasons**

Housing Assistance Payments may continue up to six months when the subsidized unit is vacant due to hospitalization. However, hospitalization more than one month requires written medical verification that there is a reasonable expectation the person will be able to return to independent living within the six-month period. The participant's share of the rent must be paid during the hospitalization period. If the person who is determined to be permanently absent is the sole member of the household, assistance will be terminated in accordance with the HA's "Absence of Entire family" policy.

### **Foster care and Absences of Children**

If the family includes a child or children temporarily absent from the home due to placement in foster care, the HA will determine from the appropriate agency when the child/children will be returned to the home.

Any foster children or foster adults who are in the home at the time of initial voucher issuance, at the time of relocation or, at an annual re-examination, and are determined to be long term placement, will be considered as family members in the determination of subsidy size. For the purpose of determining subsidy size, long-term placement is defined as 12 or more months.

### **Temporary Caretaker for Children**

If neither parent remains in the household, and the appropriate agency has determined that another adult is to be brought into the assisted unit to care for the children for an indefinite period, the HA will treat that adult as a visitor for the first 180 days.

If the appropriate agency cannot confirm the guardianship status of the caretaker, the HA will review the status at six month intervals. If custody or legal guardianship has not been awarded by the court, but the action is in process, the HA will secure verification from social services staff or the attorney as to the status.

After 180 days the HA will approve a person to reside in the unit as caretaker for the child/children, and the income will be counted pending a final disposition. The HA will transfer the Voucher to the caretaker for as long as his/her services are required. The HA will work with the appropriate service agencies and the landlord to provide a smooth transition in these cases.

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When court-awarded custody or legal guardianship has been awarded to the caretaker, the Voucher will be transferred to the caretaker until the child/children become able to care for themselves. In no case will the caretaker be eligible to become the remaining member.

### Absent Adult

If a member of the household is subject to a court order that restricts him/her from the home for more than six months then the person will be considered permanently absent.

The family will be required to notify the HA in writing within 10 calendar days when an adult family member moves out. The notice must contain a certification by the family as to whether the adult is temporarily or permanently absent.

If an adult child goes into the military and leaves the household, or moves out of the household to attend and live elsewhere for college, they will be considered permanently absent.

### Visitors

Any person not included on the HUD 50058 who has been in the unit more than 14 consecutive days, or a total of 30 days in a 12-month period (unless the lease is more restrictive), will be considered to be living in the unit as an unauthorized household member.

Minors and college student family members who live away from the home and who visit up to 182 days per year will be considered eligible visitors (subject to the lease agreement), not family members, and will not be counted in determining the subsidy standard for the family. Eligible visitors must be reported to and approved by the HA prior to visiting the home.

### Reporting Changes in Household Composition to Owner and HA

Reporting changes in household composition to the HA is both a HUD and a HA requirement. The family must submit a written request prior to adding household members. Any person who moves into the assisted unit without written approval from the Housing Authority will be considered an unauthorized household member. Additions to the household by birth, adoption or court-awarded custody must be reported in writing to the HA within 10 calendar days. In addition, the family must obtain prior written approval from the owner when there are members and/or a live-in aide added to the household.

If a family member leaves the household, the family must report this change to the HA, in writing, within 10 calendar days of the change and certify as to whether the member is temporarily absent or permanently absent. The HA will conduct an interim evaluation for changes in accordance with the interim policy. The HA will require verification of the family member's new address. If the head of household is unable to provide this information because the person's whereabouts are unknown, the head of household will be required to complete a Certified Statement to this effect.

### B. INCOME, ALLOWANCES AND MINIMUM FAMILY CONTRIBUTION

HUD regulations define incomes and allowances. The HA will include and exclude income in accordance with 24 CFR Part 5. Once the PHA has verified all income necessary to determine income eligibility and has determined that it is ready to issue the family a voucher, it must

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compute the family's Annual Income in accordance with HUD regulations. Income will be calculated in accordance with the procedures outlined below:

(a) *Annual income* means all amounts, monetary or not, which:

- (1) Go to, or on behalf of, the family head or spouse (even if temporarily absent) or to any other family member; or
  - (2) Are anticipated to be received from a source outside the family during the 12-month period following admission or annual reexamination effective date; and
  - (3) Which are not specifically excluded in paragraph (c) of this section.
- (4) Annual income also means amounts derived (during the 12-month period) from assets to which any member of the family has access.

(b) Annual income includes, but is not limited to:

- (1) The full amount, before any payroll deductions, of wages and salaries, overtime pay, commissions, fees, tips and bonuses, and other compensation for personal services;
- (2) The net income from the operation of a business or profession. Expenditures for business expansion or amortization of capital indebtedness shall not be used as deductions in determining net income. An allowance for depreciation of assets used in a business or profession may be deducted, based on straight line depreciation, as provided in Internal Revenue Service regulations. Any withdrawal of cash or assets from the operation of a business or profession will be included in income, except to the extent the withdrawal is reimbursement of cash or assets invested in the operation by the family;
- (3) Interest, dividends, and other net income of any kind from real or personal property. Expenditures for amortization of capital indebtedness shall not be used as deductions in determining net income. An allowance for depreciation is permitted only as authorized in paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

Any withdrawal of cash or assets from an investment will be included in income, except to the extent the withdrawal is reimbursement of cash or assets invested by the family. Where the family has net family assets in excess of \$5,000, annual income shall include the greater of the actual income derived from all net family assets or a percentage of the value of such assets based on the current passbook savings rate, as determined by HUD;

- (4) The full amount of periodic amounts received from Social Security, annuities, insurance policies, retirement funds, pensions, disability or death benefits, and other similar types of periodic receipts, including a lump sum amount or prospective monthly amounts for the delayed start of a periodic amount (except as provided in paragraph (c)(14) of this section);
- (5) Payments in lieu of earnings, such as unemployment and disability compensation, worker's compensation and severance pay (except as provided in paragraph (c)(3) of this section);

(6) *Welfare assistance payments.*

(i) Welfare assistance payments made under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program are included in annual income only to the extent such payments: (A) Qualify as assistance under the TANF program definition at 45 CFR 260.31; and (B) Are not otherwise excluded under paragraph (c) of this section.

(ii) If the welfare assistance payment includes an amount specifically designated for shelter and utilities that is subject to adjustment by the welfare assistance agency in accordance with the actual cost of shelter and utilities, the amount of welfare assistance income to be included as income shall consist of:

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(A) The amount of the allowance or grant exclusive of the amount specifically designated for shelter or utilities; plus

(B) The maximum amount that the welfare assistance agency could in fact allow the family for shelter and utilities. If the family's welfare assistance is ratably reduced from the standard of need by applying a percentage, the amount calculated under this paragraph shall be the amount resulting from one application of the percentage.

(7) Periodic and determinable allowances, such as alimony and child support payments, and regular contributions or gifts received from organizations or from persons not residing in the dwelling;

(8) All regular pay, special pay and allowances of a member of the Armed Forces (except as provided in paragraph (c)(7) of this section).

(9) For section 8 programs only and as provided in 24 CFR 5.612, any financial assistance, in excess of amounts received for tuition, that an individual receives under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 *et seq.*), from private sources, or from an institution of higher education (as defined under the Higher Education Act of 1965 shall be considered income to that individual, except that financial assistance described in this paragraph is not considered annual income for persons over the age of 23 with dependent children. For purposes of this paragraph, "financial assistance" does not include loan proceeds for the purpose of determining income.

**A. Project the income** from all known sources of income expected to come into the home during the 12-month period following the date of initial certification, annual reexamination, or interim reexamination. Regular periods of seasonal work and layoffs should be included.

**B. Where it is difficult to project income** for the coming 12-month period it may be necessary to:

1. Estimate the anticipated income from all sources, based on verified information. If any estimates are used, based on specific verifications or other information, in computing income or allowable expenses on an annual basis, the PHA should clearly identify the rationale for its estimate and the specific method used;
2. Base the projection on amounts of actual income for the past 12-months if circumstances are expected to remain the same; or
3. Annualize known income amounts for a 12-month period, even though those amounts are not expected to last for the full 12-month. In such cases, an Interim Reexamination would need to be scheduled for a future date.

**C. When the Applicant Family's Total Assets Exceed \$5,000.00**, including imputed amounts of assets disposed of for less than market value during the last 2 years, it is necessary for the PHA to make both of the following calculations:

1. Calculate the dollar amount included in the family's annual income which is specifically derived from assets (i.e., interest derived from saving accounts, dividends, interest portions or sale of property, net income from rental of property, etc.), and;
2. Calculate the dollar amount resulting from multiplying the value of the family's total assets based on the current passbook savings rate, as determined by HUD. The PHA must then use the **larger** of the dollar amounts obtained from these two separate calculations in its final computation of the family's Annual Income. The resultant amount is to be included with other income sources to derive the total family income.

**D. The Total Tenant Payment** shall be the higher of the following, rounded to the nearest dollar:

1. 30 percent of monthly Adjusted Income;

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2. 10 percent of monthly Annual Income; or,
3. The minimum rent established by the PHA.

The Total Tenant Payment shall not be increased by more than 10 percent during any twelve month period as a result of redefinition or changes in government regulations. However, Total Tenant Payment may be increased by more than 10 percent during any twelve month period to the extent that the increase is solely attributable to increases in income.

**E.** Adjusted income is calculated by taking the family's annual income and any or all of the following deduction for which it is eligible:

1. A \$480.00 deduction for each dependent (i.e., each family member (other than head, spouse, or foster children) who is either under 18 years of age, is a full-time student of any age and disabled or handicapped).
2. The annual amount of verified medical expense that exceeds three percent of the family's annual income, for families that qualify as "elderly families" or "disabled family".
3. Amounts of reasonable child care expenses for children age twelve (12) and under incurred to the extent the amount allowed does not exceed the income received by the applicant/participant from employment for which these expenses are incurred, or to allow a family member to attend school.
4. Disability Assistance Expenses to pay for care attendants and/or auxiliary apparatus for disabled family member(s) which enable a family member (including the disabled member) to work. The amount allowable as a deduction is the amount that exceeds 2% of Annual Income and cannot exceed the amount earned. Where there are both, medical and disability assistance expenses, the deduction would equal the total of both amounts, less 3% of annual income.

### INCOME INCLUSIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

**Reference:** *Housing Choice Voucher Program Guidebook; Chapter 5: Eligibility and Denial of Assistance; (EXHIBIT 5-2)*

#### INCOME INCLUSIONS

- (1) The full amount, before any payroll deductions, of wages and salaries, overtime pay, commissions, fees, tips and bonuses, and other compensation for personal services;
- (2) The net income from operation of a business or profession. Expenditures for business expansion or amortization of capital indebtedness shall not be used as deductions in determining net income. An allowance for depreciation of assets used in a business or profession may be deducted, based on straight line depreciation, as provided in Internal Revenue Service regulations. Any withdrawal of cash or assets from the operation of a business or profession will be included in income, except to the extent the withdrawal is reimbursement of cash or assets invested in the operation by the family;
- (3) Interest, dividends, and other net income of any kind from real or personal property. Expenditures for amortization of capital indebtedness shall not be used as a deduction in determining net income. An allowance for depreciation is permitted only as authorized in paragraph (2) of this section. Any withdrawal of cash or assets from an investment will be included in income, except to the extent the withdrawal is reimbursement of cash or assets invested by the family. Where the family has net family assets in excess of \$5,000, annual income shall include the greater of the actual income derived from net family assets or a percentage of the value of such assets based on the current passbook savings rate, as determined by HUD;



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- (4) The full amount of periodic payments received from social security, annuities, insurance policies, retirement funds, pensions, lotteries, disability or death benefits, and other similar types of periodic receipts, including a lump-sum payment for the delayed start of a periodic payment (but see No. 13 under Income Exclusions);
- (5) Payments in lieu of earnings, such as unemployment, worker's compensation, and severance pay (but see No. 3 under Income Exclusions);
- (6) Welfare Assistance.
  - a. Welfare assistance received by the household.
  - b. The amount of reduced welfare income that is disregarded specifically because the family engaged in fraud or failed to comply with an economic self-sufficiency or work activities requirement.
  - c. If the welfare assistance payment includes an amount specifically designated for shelter and utilities that is subject to adjustments by the welfare assistance agency in accordance with the actual cost of shelter and utilities, the amount of welfare income to be included as income shall consist of:
    - (i) The amount of the allowance or grant exclusive of the amount specifically designated for shelter or utilities; plus
    - (ii) The maximum amount that the welfare assistance agency could in fact allow the family for shelter and utilities. If the family's welfare assistance is notably reduced from the standard of need by applying a percentage, the amount calculated under this paragraph shall be the amount resulting from one application of the percentage;
- (7) Periodic and determinable allowances, such as alimony and child support payments, and regular contributions or gifts received from persons not residing in the dwelling; and
- (8) All regular pay, special pay, and allowances of a member of the Armed Forces (whether or not living in the dwelling) who is head of the family, spouse, or other person whose dependents are residing in the unit (but see paragraph (7) under Income Exclusions).

### **INCOME EXCLUSIONS**

- (1) Income from employment of children (including foster children) under the age of 18 years;
- (2) Payments received for the care of foster children or foster adults (usually individuals with disabilities, unrelated to the tenant family, who are unable to live alone); [Note: PIH-2012-1 (HA) was issued 01/06/2012 clarified the Income Exclusion of Kinship, Kin-GAP and Other Guardianship Care Payments. The Department determined that kinship care, Kin-GAP, and similar programs funded by states serve as an alternative to foster care placements and that the compensation to participating relatives or legal guardians is comparable to the compensation to foster care parents. Payments for the care of foster children (including foster adults) are exempt from income. Thus, during annual and/or interim reexamination of family income pursuant to 24 CFR § 960.257 for public housing and 24 CFR § 982.516 for Section 8 programs, kinship, Kin-GAP and similar state guardianship care payments are to be excluded from a household's income under 24 CFR § 5.609(c)(2).]
- (3) Lump-sum additions to family assets, such as inheritances, insurance payments (including payments under health and accident insurance and worker's compensation), capital gains, and settlement for personal or property losses (but see No. 5 under Income Inclusions);
- (4) Amounts received by the family that are specifically for, or in reimbursement of, the cost of medical expenses for any family member;
- (5) Income of a live-in aide (as defined by regulation);

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- (6) The full amount of student financial assistance paid directly to the student or to the educational institution;
- (7) The special pay to a family member serving in the Armed Forces who is exposed to hostile fire;
- (8) (a) Amounts received under training programs funded by HUD;
- (b) Amounts received by a person with disabilities that are disregarded for a limited time for purposes of Supplemental Security Income eligibility and benefits because they are set aside for use under a Plan to Attain Self-Sufficiency (PASS);
- (c) Amounts received by a participant in other publicly assisted programs which are specifically for or in reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred (special equipment, clothing, transportation, child care, etc.) and which are made solely to allow participation in a specific program;
- (d) A resident service stipend. This is a modest amount (not to exceed \$200 per month) received by a resident for performing a service for the owner, on a part-time basis, that enhances the quality of life in the development. This may include, but is not limited to fire patrol, hall monitoring, lawn maintenance, and resident initiatives coordination and serving as a member of the PHA's governing board. No resident may receive more than one such stipend during the same period of time; or
- (e) Incremental earnings and benefits resulting to any family member from participation in qualifying state or local employment training programs (including training programs not affiliated with a local government) and training of a family member as resident management staff. Amounts excluded by this provision must be received under employment training programs with clearly defined goals and objectives and are excluded only for the period during which the family member participates in the employment training program.
- (9) Temporary, nonrecurring, or sporadic income (including gifts). For example, amounts earned by temporary census employees whose terms of employment do not exceed 180 days (PIH Notices 2000-1; 2008-26; 2009-19; 2010-38).
- (10) Reparations payments paid by a foreign government pursuant to claims filed under the laws of that government by persons who were persecuted during the Nazi era;
- (11) Earnings in excess of \$480 for each full-time student 18 years or older (excluding the head of household and spouse);
- (12) Adoption assistance payments in excess of \$480 per adopted child;
- (13) Deferred periodic payments of supplemental security income and social security benefits that are received in a lump-sum payment or in prospective monthly payments;
- (14) Amounts received by the family in the form of refunds or rebates under state or local law for property taxes paid on the dwelling unit;
- (15) Amounts paid by a state agency to a family with a developmentally disabled family member living at home to offset the cost of services and equipment needed to keep the developmentally disabled family member at home; [Note: Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act(42 U.S.C. 6001(5)). DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY.- (A) IN GENERAL. -The term "developmental disability" means a severe, chronic disability of an individual that-
- (i) is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments; **114 STAT. 1684 PUBLIC LAW 106-402-OCT. 30, 2000**
- (ii) is manifested before the individual attains age 22;
- (iii) is likely to continue indefinitely;

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(iv) results in substantial functional limitations in 3 or more of the following areas of major life activity: (I) Self-care; (II) Receptive and expressive language; (III) Learning; (IV) Mobility; (V) Self-direction; (VI) Capacity for independent living; (VII) Economic self-sufficiency; and  
(v) reflects the individual's need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, individualized supports, or other forms of assistance that are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated.

(B) INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN. -An individual from birth to age 9, inclusive, who has a substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired condition, may be considered to have a developmental disability without meeting 3 or more of the criteria described in clauses (i) through (v) of subparagraph (A) if the individual, without services and supports, has a high probability of meeting those criteria later in life].

and

(16) Amounts specifically excluded by any other federal statute from consideration as income for purposes of determining eligibility or benefits under a category of assistance programs that includes assistance under the 1937 Act. A notice will be published in the *Federal Register* and distributed to PHAs identifying the benefits that qualify for this exclusion. Updates will be distributed when necessary. The following is a list of income sources that qualify for that exclusion:

- a) The value of the allotment provided to an eligible household under the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2017 (b));
- b) Payments to Volunteers under the Domestic Volunteer Services Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 5044(g), 5058);
- c) Payments received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1626(c));
- d) Income derived from certain submarginal land of the United States that is held in trust for certain Indian tribes (25 U.S.C. 409e);
- e) Payments or allowances made under the Department of Health and Human Services' Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (42 U.S.C. 8624(f));
- f) Payments received under programs funded in whole or in part under the Job Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1552(b)) (effective July 1, 2000, references to Job Training Partnership Act shall be deemed to refer to the corresponding provision of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2931);
- g) Income derived from the disposition of funds to the Grand River Band of Ottawa Indians (Pub.L- 94-540, 90 Stat. 2503-04);
- h) The first \$2000 of per capita shares received from judgment funds awarded by the Indian Claims Commission or the U. S. Claims Court, the interests of individual Indians in trust or restricted lands, including the first \$2000 per year of income received by individual Indians from funds derived from interests held in such trust or restricted lands (25 U.S.C. 1407-1408);
- i) Amounts of scholarships funded under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, including awards under federal work-study program or under the Bureau of Indian Affairs student assistance programs (20 U.S.C. 1087uu);
- j) Payments received from programs funded under Title V of the Older Americans Act of 1985 (42 U.S.C.

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3056(f));

k) Payments received on or after January 1, 1989, from the Agent Orange Settlement Fund or any other fund established pursuant to the settlement in *In Re Agent*-product liability litigation, M.D.L. No. 381 (E.D.N.Y.);

l) Payments received under the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980 (25 U.S.C. 1721);

m) The value of any child care provided or arranged (or any amount received as payment for such care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care) under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858q);

n) Earned income tax credit (EITC) refund payments received on or after January 1, 1991 (26 U.S.C. 32(j));

o) Payments by the Indian Claims Commission to the Confederated Tribes and Bands of Yakima Indian Nation or the Apache Tribe of Mescalero Reservation (Pub. L. 95-433);

p) Allowances, earnings and payments to AmeriCorps participants under the National and Community

Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12637(d));

q) Any allowance paid under the provisions of 38 U.S.C. 805 to a child suffering from spina bifida who is the child of a Vietnam veteran (38 U.S.C. 1805);

r) Any amount of crime victim compensation (under the Victims of Crime Act) received through crime victim assistance (or payment or reimbursement of the cost of such assistance) as determined under the Victims of Crime Act because of the commission of a crime against the applicant under the Victims of Crime Act (42 U.S.C. 10602); and

s) Allowances, earnings and payments to individuals participating in programs under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2931).

(17) Earned Income Disallowance for persons with disabilities [24CFR5.617]

(a) Initial Twelve Month Exclusion [24CFR5.617(C)(1)]

(b) Second Twelve Month Exclusion and Phase-In [24CFR5.617(C)2]

(c) Maximum Four Year Disallowance [24CFR5.617(C)(3)]

**DRAFT**

There is no minimum rent in the housing programs. The rent is based on the household income in accordance with HUD regulations.

**Averaging Income**

The HA may average income when the income cannot be anticipated using verified sources for a full 12 months.

**Income changes from Welfare**

The HA will not decrease the family's share of the rent when there is a reduction in welfare benefits that is due to fraud or failure to participate in an economic self-sufficiency program or comply with a work activities requirement.

24 CFR 5.615 (b)

This prohibition on reduction of assistance is applicable only if the welfare reduction is neither the result of the expiration of a lifetime time limit on receiving benefits, nor a situation where the family has complied with welfare program requirements but cannot obtain employment (e.g., the family has complied, but loses welfare because of a durational time limit such as a cap on welfare benefits for a period of no more than two years in a five year period).

**Minimum Income**

There is no minimum income requirement.

**Pro-ration of Assistance for "Mixed" Families**

Pro-ration of assistance must be offered to any "mixed" applicant or participant family, provided other eligibility criteria are met. A "mixed" family is one that includes at least one U.S. citizen or eligible immigrant and any number of ineligible members.

**Utility Allowance and Utility Reimbursement Payments**

The Utility Allowance is not a payment issued to the family (except as noted below). It is intended to help defray the cost of utilities not included in the rent and is included in the calculation of the family's rent to the landlord. A Utility Reimbursement payment is made to the participant family in the amount by which the HAP payment exceeds the rent to owner. When there is a Utility Reimbursement, the HA pays the full amount of rent to the owner and sends the participant family, a utility reimbursement payment. The Housing Authority has the discretion to send the utility reimbursement to the utility company should this be a viable option. This occurs only rarely, usually when a participant family has no income.

**Chapter 7**

**VERIFICATION PROCEDURES**

**INTRODUCTION**

HUD regulations (24 CFR 982.516(a)) require that the factors of eligibility and Total Tenant Payment (TTP) be verified by the HA. Applicants and program participants must furnish proof of their eligibility whenever required by the HA, and the information they provide must be true and complete. The HA's verification requirements are designed to maintain program integrity. This chapter explains the HA's procedures and standards for verification of preferences, income, combined assets exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1000.00), allowable deductions, family status, and changes in family members. The HA will ensure that proper authorization from the family is always obtained before making verification inquiries.

**A. RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

The family will be required to sign specific authorization forms when information is needed that is not covered by the HUD form 9886, Authorization for Release of Information.

A copy of the release of information will be provided to a family member upon request.

Family refusal to cooperate with the HUD prescribed verification system will result in denial of admission or termination of assistance because it is a family obligation to supply any information requested by the HA or HUD.

**B. METHODS OF VERIFICATION**

**PIH Notice 2010-19 (HA) & 24 CFR 5.233**

The PHA will verify information through the six methods of verification acceptable to HUD in the following order:

**Level Verification Technique Ranking**

- 6) Upfront Income Verification (UIV)-Highest (Mandatory)** using HUD's Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) system (not available for income verifications of applicants)
- 5) Upfront Income Verification (UIV)** using non-HUD system-**Highest (Optional)**
- 4) Written Third Party Verification-High (Mandatory to supplement EIV-reported income sources and when EIV has no data; Mandatory for non-EIV reported income sources; Mandatory when tenant disputes EIV reported employment and income information and is unable to provide acceptable documentation to support dispute)**
- 3) Written Third Party Verification Form-Medium-Low (Mandatory if written third party verification documents are not available or rejected by the PHA; and when the applicant or tenant is unable to provide acceptable documentation)**
- 2) Oral Third Party Verification-Low (Mandatory if written third party verification is not available)**
- 1) Tenant Declaration-Low (Use as a last resort when unable to obtain any type of third party verification)**

**Third Party Verification Techniques**

**Upfront Income Verification (UIV) (Level 6/5):** The verification of income before or during a family reexamination, through an independent source that systematically and uniformly maintains income information in computerized form for a number of individuals.

It should be noted that the EIV system is available to all PHAs as a UIV technique. PHAs are encouraged to continue using other non-HUD UIV tools, such as The Work Number (an automated verification system) and state government databases, to validate tenant-reported income.

**\*\*For each new admission (form HUD-50058 action type 1), the PHA is required to do the following: i. Review the EIV Income Report to confirm/validate family-reported income within 120 days of the PIC submission date; and ii. Print and maintain a copy of the EIV Income Report in the tenant file; and iii. Resolve any income discrepancy with the family within 60 days of the EIV Income Report date.**

**Written Third Party Verification (Level 4):** An original or authentic document generated by a third party source dated either within the 60-day period preceding the reexamination or PHA request date. Such documentation may be in the possession of the tenant (or applicant), and is commonly referred to as tenant-provided documents. It is the Department's position that such tenant-provided documents are written third party verification since these documents originated from a third party source. The PHA may, at its discretion, reject any tenant-provided documents and follow up directly with the source to obtain necessary verification of information.

Examples of acceptable tenant-provided documentation (generated by a third party source) include, but are not limited to: pay stubs, payroll summary report, employer notice/letter of hire/termination, SSA benefit verification letter, bank statements, child support payment stubs, welfare benefit letters and/or printouts, and unemployment monetary benefit notices. Current acceptable tenant-provided documents must be used for income and rent determinations.

For new income sources or when two pay stubs are not available, the PHA should project income based on the information from a traditional written third party verification form or the best available information.

**Written Third Party Verification Form (Level 3):** Also, known as traditional third party verification (a standardized form to collect information from a third party source). PHAs send the form directly to the third party source by mail, fax, or email.

It is the Department's position that the administrative burden and risk associated with use of the traditional third party verification form may be reduced by PHAs relying on acceptable documents that are generated by a third party, but in the possession of and provided by the tenant (or applicant). Many documents in the possession of the tenant are derived from third party sources (i.e. employers, federal, state and/or local agencies, banks, etc.).

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**Oral Third Party Verification (Level 2):** Independent verification of information by contacting the individual income/expense source(s), as identified through the UIV technique or identified by the family. PHA staff should document in the tenant file, the date and time of the telephone call, the name of the person contacted and telephone number, along with the confirmed information.

This verification method is commonly used in the event that the independent source does not respond to the PHA's faxed, mailed, or e-mailed request for information in a reasonable time frame, i.e., ten (10) business days.

**Non-Third Party Verification Technique Tenant Declaration (Level 1):** The tenant submits an affidavit or notarized statement of reported income and/or expenses to the PHA. This verification method should be used as a last resort when the PHA has not been successful in obtaining information via all other verification techniques. When the PHA relies on tenant declaration, the PHA must document in the tenant file why third party verification was not available.

All original documents will be stamped (or notated) "Viewed Original" and imaged into the family file. Original documents will be photocopied and returned to the applicant/participant if specifically requested and at PHA discretion. When documents cannot be photocopied, staff viewing the documents will annotate the file accordingly. A faxed authentic document from the source will be considered as an original document.

### **C. COMPUTER MATCHING**

In addition to EIV, the HA utilizes computer matching with the Department of Social Services (DPSS), and the INS SAVE system. Other computer matching agreements with federal, state, and local government agencies will be utilized if available and cost-effective.

### **D. ITEMS TO BE VERIFIED**

All eligibility factors will be verified, such as waiting list preference, income, deductions and exclusions, combined assets exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1000.00), and household composition.

### **E. VERIFYING NON-FINANCIAL FACTORS**

#### **Verification of Legal Identity**

In order to prevent program abuse, the HA will require applicants to furnish verification of legal identity for all family members.

#### **Family Relationships**

The HA will require familial relationship verification as appropriate and necessary.

#### **Verification of Permanent Absence of Adult Member**

If an adult member who was formerly a member of the household is reported permanently absent by the family, the HA will require verification of the new address.



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### **Verification of Change in Family Composition**

The HA may verify changes in family composition (either reported or unreported). Third party verification procedures will be used.

### **Verification of Disability**

Third party verification procedures will be used to document permanent disability status.

### **Verification of Citizenship/Eligible Immigrant Status**

To be eligible for assistance, individuals must be U.S. citizens or eligible immigrants. Individuals who are neither may elect not to contend their status. Eligible immigrants must fall into one of the categories specified by the regulations and must have their status verified by Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Each family member must declare his or her status. Assistance cannot be delayed, denied, or terminated while verification of status is pending except that assistance to applicants may be delayed while the HA hearing is pending.

If an applicant or participant family member fails to sign required declarations and consent forms or provide documents, as required, they must be listed as an ineligible member. If any family member fails to provide and sign as required, the family may be denied or terminated from assistance.

If the HA determines that a family member has knowingly permitted an individual who is not eligible for assistance to reside in the family's unit, the family's assistance will be terminated, unless the ineligible individual has already been considered in prorating the family's assistance.

### **Verification of Social Security Numbers**

All applicants and participants are required to disclose a social security number. PHAs will not need to re-verify previously disclosed valid SSNs. PHAs may rely on documentation of the SSN provided by another government agency (federal or state). For the addition of new household members at least 6 years of age or under the age of 6 and who **has an assigned SSN**, the tenant must disclose the SSN and provide documentation of the SSN to the PHA at the time of request to add new household member or during interim re-exam. The new household member **cannot** be added to the family composition until the family has complied with SSN disclosure and verification requirements. Addition of new household members under the age of 6 **and no assigned SSN**, are included as household members and entitled to benefits and the Head of Household is given 90 days to provide documentation of the SSN. Extensions may be given due to unforeseen circumstances.

### **Verification of Reasonable Accommodation**

Reasonable Accommodation requests for families will be considered when a family includes a person with disabilities. The person with a disability, or guardian or responsible party of the person with a disability, must submit a written Reasonable Accommodation request. In cases where a separate bedroom or live-in aide is requested because of reasonable accommodation, the Housing Authority will verify the need through third party verification from the patient's designated licensed professional.

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The HA will approve the exception as a reasonable accommodation if the family demonstrates a nexus to the disability is present to make the program accessible to and usable by the family member with a disability. Verification of the need must be provided annually on a Housing Authority approved form. In addition, requests involving separate bedrooms for medical equipment will be verified at the time of a participant's annual inspection or a special inspection may be conducted after an initial lease up to ensure that program funds are being used for the purpose in which they were intended.

### **Verification of Request for Exception to the Zero Tolerance Policy**

If a family member with criminal activity meets the requirements to be granted an exception to the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside's Zero Tolerance Policy (see Appendix C), they may complete a Request for Exception to Zero Tolerance Policy form to be reviewed by an established committee. In some instances, verification such as a police report, proof of completion of diversion, etc. may be required. Victims of domestic violence, date violence, sexual assault, or stalking requesting an exception to the Zero Tolerance Policy will be required to complete HUD Form 50066 "Certification of Domestic Violence, Date Violence, Stalking" and return it to the HA within 14 days of request.

DRAFT 2012

Chapter 8

**VOUCHER ISSUANCE AND BRIEFINGS**

**INTRODUCTION**

The HA's objectives are to provide families selected to participate with the tools to help them be successful in obtaining an acceptable housing unit, and to give them sufficient knowledge to derive maximum benefit from the program and to comply with program requirements. When families have been determined to be eligible, the HA will conduct a mandatory briefing to ensure that families understand how the program works. The briefing will provide a broad description of owner and family responsibilities, HA procedures, and how to lease a unit. The family will also receive a briefing packet that provides more detailed information about the program. This chapter describes how briefings will be conducted, the information that will be provided to families, and the policies for how changes in the family composition will be handled.

**A. ISSUANCE OF VOUCHERS**

When funding is available, the HA will issue Vouchers to applicants who have been determined eligible. The issuance of Vouchers must be within the dollar limitations set by the Annual Contributions Contract (ACC) budget.

**B. BRIEFING TYPES AND REQUIRED ATTENDANCE (24 CFR 982.301)**

**Initial Applicant Briefing**

A full HUD-required briefing will be conducted for applicant families who are determined to be eligible for assistance as well as participants that utilize portability and transfer into the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside's jurisdiction (port-ins).

**Briefing Packet**

The documents and information provided in the briefing packets for the Voucher programs will comply with all HUD requirements.

The briefing packet includes owner identification documents containing private information, that once submitted to the HA, will not be considered part of the participant file.

The HA may conduct other types of briefings such as relocation and portability briefings for families, and owner briefings.

**Other Information to be Provided at the Briefing**

Family and owner responsibilities are explained to the new applicant and/or port-in client. In addition to literature and the HA's website, applicants and owners may request specific clarification about program issues from the assigned Housing Specialist or Supervisor.

Guidance and materials are offered to assist the family in selecting a unit. Issues to be considered include: Proximity to employment, public transportation, schools, shopping and the accessibility of services. Applicants are encouraged to evaluate the prospective unit, such as the condition, whether the rent is reasonable, average utility expense, energy efficiency and security.

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The Housing Authority of the County of Riverside uses a web-based program which gives the family access to owners who wish to rent their properties to recipients of the program. They may also pick up listings in person at both Housing Authority offices. The family will have access to a list of landlords willing to lease to assisted families and non-profit organizations willing to assist in the housing search. In providing this courtesy list, the HA does not endorse any particular unit or landlord. There is no guarantee that the rents listed are reasonable or approvable, nor any guarantee that the units will pass Housing Quality Standards.

The HA will provide information on the advantages to moving to areas of low poverty. The family will be encouraged to choose a unit carefully and after due consideration.

The family will receive information about the Family Self-Sufficiency program and its advantages.

Families with three or more minors and families with disabled family members will receive additional assistance in locating units suitable for their housing needs.

Owners and participants will be instructed that side payments or any payment not approved by the HA will not be allowed. Acceptance of side payments or additional rent will be grounds for termination from program.

### **C. ENCOURAGING PARTICIPATION IN LOW POVERTY AREAS**

During its tenant briefings the Housing Authority encourages families to move to low poverty areas by explaining the advantages of moving to an area that may offer high-quality housing, education and employment opportunities. To increase the available housing stock to its clients, and to facilitate the opportunity for owners and tenants to gather for the purpose of leasing a unit, the HA convenes periodic Rental Fairs at its main office. This gives current participants who are in the relocation process, as well as families newly released from the waiting list, the opportunity to become acquainted with property owners with available units. In addition, landlords are invited to list their property via the Rental Listing available to all voucher holders. The HA offers Landlord Workshops in order to expand its network of property owners and/or managers. The purpose of these workshops is to make special efforts to provide outreach and education to landlords who may not be familiar with the Section 8 program.

### **D. ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES WHO CLAIM DISCRIMINATION**

The HA provides the family with the HUD Discrimination Complaint form and offers to assist in the completion of the form as well as directing the family to report suspected discrimination to the Fair Housing Council.

### **E. ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES WITH DISABILITIES.**

The HA assists families with disabilities in locating accessible units by:

1. Providing a rental listing (which includes handicapped accessible units) of owners willing to rent to Section 8 participants, and
2. Providing a listing of service agencies that provide services to help the disabled, and
3. Providing reasonable accommodation by extending the term of the voucher, if warranted.

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**F. SECURITY DEPOSIT REQUIREMENTS**

**(24 CFR982.313)**

Security deposits charged by owners may not exceed those charged to unassisted tenants or the maximum prescribed by state or local law.

**G. TERM OF VOUCHER**

**(24 CFR 982.303)**

During the briefing session, each household will be issued a Housing Choice Voucher which represents an agreement between the HA and the family specifying the rights and responsibilities of each party. It does not constitute admission to the program, which occurs when the lease and contract become effective.

**Expirations**

For participants who are relocating, Vouchers are valid for a period of 60 calendar days from the last date that assistance was paid. For those families that have an initial Voucher, the term of the Voucher is also 60 calendar days.

If the family needs and requests an extension of the Voucher term as a reasonable accommodation to make the program accessible to and usable by a family member with disabilities, the HA may extend the Voucher term up to the term reasonably required for that purpose. An extension of up to 60 days may be granted. An extension of the term is granted by HA notice to the family.

If the family requests an extension for the Voucher due to other good cause such as illness of a household member, death of a family member, natural disaster, disapproval of a unit by the HA (i.e. the unit that RTA was submitted for fails to meet HQS, proof of ownership issues, proof of permits for additions/deletions) or other unforeseeable circumstances, the request will be reviewed along with the documentation provided by the family regarding the circumstances requiring the extension. An extension of the term may be granted by HA supervisor and notice to the family.

The family will not be entitled to a review or a hearing if the Voucher has expired. If the family is currently assisted, they may remain as a Section 8 participant in their unit if there is an assisted contract in effect.

**Suspensions**

Suspensions are allowed for reasonable accommodation of persons with disabilities. The HA may grant a suspension for any part of the period after the family has submitted a Request for Tenancy Approval up to the time when the HA approves or denies the request.

**H. VOUCHER ISSUANCE DETERMINATION FOR SPLIT HOUSEHOLDS (CFR 982.315)**

Family break-up.

(a) The PHA has discretion to determine which members of an assisted family continue to receive assistance in the program if the family breaks up. The PHA administrative plan must state PHA policies on how to decide who remains in the program if the family breaks up.

(b) The factors to be considered in making this decision under the PHA policy may include:

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- (1) Whether the assistance should remain with family members remaining in the original assisted unit.
  - (2) The interest of minor children or of ill, elderly or disabled family members.
  - (3) Whether family members are forced to leave the unit as a result of actual or threatened physical violence against family members by a spouse or other member of the household. (*VAWA protects the victim from losing their HUD assisted housing*).
  - (4) Other factors specified by the PHA: (Such as, recommendations of social service professionals).
- (c) If a court determines the disposition of property between members of the assisted family in a divorce or separation under a settlement or judicial decree, the PHA is bound by the court's determination of which family members continue to receive assistance in the program.

~~In those instances when a family assisted under the Section 8 program becomes divided into two otherwise eligible families, and the families cannot agree as to which family unit is to receive the assistance, and there is no determination by a court, the HA shall consider the following factors to determine which family member will continue to be assisted:~~

- ~~1. Which family member has custody of dependent children.~~
- ~~2. Which family member was the head of household when the Voucher was initially issued (listed on the initial application).~~
- ~~3. Which family contains elderly or disabled members.~~
- ~~4. Whether domestic violence was involved in the breakup. (*VAWA protects the victim from losing their HUD assisted housing*).~~
- ~~5. Which family members will remain in the unit.~~
- ~~6. Recommendation of social service professionals.~~

Documentation of these factors will be the responsibility of the requesting parties. If documentation is not provided, the HA will terminate assistance on the basis of failure to provide necessary information.

### **I. REMAINING MEMBER OF TENANT FAMILY-RETENTION OF VOUCHER**

To be considered the remaining member of the tenant family, the person must be an eligible immigrant, have been previously approved as part of the nucleus family by the HA and be currently living in the unit.

A live-in aide, by definition, is not a member of the family and will not be considered a remaining member of the family.

In order for a minor child to continue to receive assistance as a remaining member:

1. The court has to have awarded emancipated minor status to the minor, or
2. The HA has to have verified that the Department of Social Services and/or the Juvenile Court

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has arranged for another adult to be brought into the assisted unit to care for the child/children for an indefinite period.

A reduction in family size may require a reduction in the authorized payment standard.

Retention of a voucher by the remaining member currently living in the unit will only be approved as a result of the death of the Head of Household, or removal of the Head of Household to an assisted living environment, or government facility. To be considered the remaining member of the tenant family, the person must have been previously approved as part of the nucleus family by the HA. In such a situation the remaining family member will retain the voucher.

**DRAFT 2012**

Chapter 9

REQUEST FOR TENANCY APPROVAL (RTA) AND CONTRACT EXECUTION

INTRODUCTION

After a family is issued a Voucher, they may search for a unit anywhere within the jurisdiction of the HA, or outside of the HA's jurisdiction (portability). The family must find an eligible unit under the program rules, with an owner/landlord who is willing to enter into a Housing Assistance Payments Contract with the HA. This chapter defines the types of eligible housing, the HA's policies which pertain to initial inspections, lease requirements, owner disapproval, and the processing of RTA's.

A. REQUEST FOR TENANCY APPROVAL (RTA)

(24 CFR 982.302)

The RTA and a copy of the proposed lease must be submitted by the family prior to the expiration of the Voucher.

Both the owner and Voucher holder must sign the RTA. The HA will not permit the family to submit more than one RTA at a time.

The following timeline must be observed for all incoming RTAs:

- The unit must be ready for inspection **no later than** 14 calendar days from the date the RTA is submitted. Ready for inspection means that ownership is verified, rent is negotiated (if needed) to ensure unit affordability, rent is determined reasonable, **all** utilities are in service and permits (if any) are submitted by the owner for any additions/improvements to the unit.
- The initial inspection will be conducted by HA staff within 6 business days from the date the unit is ready or from the date the RTA is received by the HA, whichever is later.
- If the unit fails the initial inspection, repairs must be made within 10 calendar days and a repair inspection will be conducted by HA staff within 4 business days from the date the HA is notified that repairs are completed.
- The unit must pass inspection **no later than** 20 calendar days from the initial inspection or the date the unit is ready, whichever is later.
- The owner must provide a signed HAP Contract and signed Lease Agreement to the HA either on the date of the passed inspection or **no later than** 7 calendar days from the date the tenant takes occupancy of the unit.
- The tenant must enter into a Lease Agreement **and** take occupancy of the unit **no later than** 60 days from the date the RTA is submitted.

The RTA will be denied if the unit is not ready for inspection within 14 calendar days and/or if the unit does not pass inspection within 20 calendar days and/or if the owner does not provide the signed HAP Contract and signed Lease within 7 calendar days, and/or if the tenant does not take occupancy of the unit within 60 days from the date the RTA is submitted.

The RTA will also be denied if the owner and/or tenant do not provide all HA required information within the requested time frames. The voucher term remains the same unless the



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HA approves an extension with cause.

HUD regulations prohibit the HA from approving a unit if the owner is the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, sister, brother of any member of the tenant family, unless the HA determines that approving the unit would provide reasonable accommodation for a family member who is a person with disabilities. (24 CFR 982.306 (d))

### **Review of the RTA**

(24 CFR 982.507 and 982.508)

HA staff will review the rent amount to ensure the rent is reasonable based upon current rents for comparable unassisted units. The voucher program rule requires that the HA's system for determining comparability and reasonable rent take nine factors into consideration: location, size, type, quality and age, amenities, housing services and maintenance, and utilities provided by the owner under the lease. Also, ~~and~~ that it is affordable as determined by HUD regulations for the family. Affordable for the family means that the family's share of the rent plus the current utility allowance cannot exceed 40 percent of the household's adjusted monthly income. If the unit does not meet the affordability criteria, the HA will attempt to negotiate the rent with the owner. If the owner does not agree on the contract rent after the HA has tried and failed to negotiate a revised rent, the HA will inform the family and owner that the RTA is disapproved. If the voucher has not expired the HA will issue another RTA to the family.

Owners must submit their own lease with the HUD lease addendum attached and a property management agreement (if applicable). The HA may review the lease to ensure compliance with HUD regulations, state and local laws. Responsibility for utilities, appliances and optional services must correspond to those provided on the RTA.

If the HA determines that the RTA cannot be approved for any reason (see above paragraph A of this section) the RTA will be disapproved and the landlord and the family will be notified in writing.

If the HA determines that the RTA is approvable, staff will schedule and perform the initial inspection within six (6) business days of receipt of the RTA, if the unit is currently ready for inspection, or at the earliest possible time when the unit is not currently ready for inspection. Any variance from this time frame will be documented in the family's file.

### **Residence Limitations**

**Interest in Unit:** The owner may not reside in the assisted unit. The owner may reside in a unit in which a voucher family is participating in a "shared housing" type of assistance. However, the owner may not be a resident owner if the Section 8 voucher participant is related to the owner.

**Relative Owner:** The HA must not approve a unit if the owner is the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, sister, or brother of any member of the family, unless the HA determines that approving the unit would provide reasonable accommodation for a family member who is a person with disabilities (24 CFR 982.306 (d)).

## **D. INFORMATION TO OWNERS**

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The HA is required to provide prospective owners with the address of the applicant and the names and addresses of the current and previous landlords if known. The HA will make an exception to this requirement if the family's whereabouts must be protected due to domestic abuse or witness protection.

The HA will inform owners that it is the responsibility of the landlord to determine the suitability of prospective tenants. They will be encouraged to screen applicants for rent payment history, eviction history, damage to units, and other factors related to the family's suitability as a tenant.

### **E. OWNER DISAPPROVAL**

For purposes of this section, "owner" includes a principal or other interested party. The HA will disapprove the owner for the reasons stated in Chapter 16 of this Plan.

### **F. CONTRACT EXECUTION PROCESS**

The HA prepares the Housing Assistance Payment Contract for execution. The family and the owner will execute the lease agreement, and the owner and the HA will execute the HAP Contract with the owner. Copies of the documents will be furnished to the parties who signed the respective documents.

### **G. CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP**

The HA requires written documentation of any change in ownership. Copies of the recorded grant deed and/or escrow closing statement are examples of acceptable documentation. In addition, the new owner must sign an agreement to abide by the terms of the original HA Contract with previous owner.

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**Chapter 10**

**HOUSING QUALITY STANDARDS AND INSPECTIONS**

**INTRODUCTION**

**(24 CFR 982.404)**

Housing Quality Standards (HQS) are the HUD minimum quality standards for tenant-based programs. HQS inspections are required both at initial occupancy and annually during the term of the lease. HQS inspections apply to the building and premises, as well as the unit.

These minimum standards may be enhanced by the HA, provided that by doing so the HA does not overly restrict the number of units available for lease under the program. The use of the term "HQS" in this Administrative Plan refers to the combination of both HUD and HA requirements. This chapter describes the HA's procedures for performing HQS and other types of inspections, and standards for the timeliness of repairs. It also explains the responsibilities of the owner and family, and the consequences of non-compliance with HQS requirements for both families and owners.

**A. TYPES OF INSPECTIONS**

Efforts will be made at all times to encourage owners to provide housing above HQS minimum standards. All utilities and appliances must be in service before the unit will pass HQS.

There are five types of inspections the HA will perform:

1. Initial/Move-in: Conducted within six (6) business days of receipt of Request for Tenancy Approval or as soon as possible from the date the unit will be ready for inspection.
2. Annual: Must be conducted within 12 months of the last inspection date.
3. Special/Complaint: At the request of an owner, family, agency or third-party.
4. Move-Out/Vacate: At the landlord's request, if damage is a result of the tenant not meeting their obligations and such damage would cause tenant to lose their assistance.
5. Quality Control: Quality control inspections are conducted in an amount necessary to meet HUD requirements.

**B. ACCEPTABILITY CRITERIA AND EXCEPTIONS TO HQS**

The HA adheres to the acceptability criteria in the program regulations and HUD Inspection Manual.

Additions to HQS:

- Modifications or adaptations to a unit must meet applicable HQS and building codes.
- All emergency systems must be operable (i.e., pull cords for elderly/disabled complexes).
- Security bars/window bars must have a quick release mechanism.
- Two Earthquake straps (one in the top third and one in the bottom third) are required for all hot water heaters. An exception would be in the case of electric water heaters located inside a cupboard, typically under a countertop and commonly referred to as 30 gallon stubbies (which are half the size of a normal water heater). In these instances, one earthquake strap is preferred but Plumbers tape may be used to secure the water heater.
- A functional cooling system must be in all units located east of, and including Palm Springs.

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- One good screen is required on one window in each room.
- All exterior doors must have working deadbolts (inside cannot be keyed – must be keyless).
- Certified Carbon Monoxide Detectors must be installed in all single family dwellings having a fossil fuel burning heater or appliance (such as a gas stove, or oven), fireplace or attached garage. (SB183)

### **C. INSPECTIONS**

**24 CFR 982.405 (a)**

The HA conducts an inspection in accordance with Housing Quality Standards at least annually, but no sooner than 120 days prior to the anniversary month of the contract. Special or Quality Control inspections may be scheduled between anniversary dates.

The landlord must correct HQS deficiencies that cause a unit to fail unless the fail item is one for which the tenant is responsible. HAP payments will not be made on units that do not meet HQS. The family is responsible for breaches of HQS that are caused by any of the following:

- The family fails to pay for any utilities that the owner is not required to pay for, but which are to be paid for by the tenant;
- The family fails to provide and maintain any appliances that the owner is not required to provide, but which are to be provided by the tenant; or
- Any member of the household or guest damages the dwelling unit or premises (damage beyond ordinary wear and tear).
- The family fails to allow the HA to inspect the unit at reasonable times with reasonable notice.
- If the family does not contact the HA to reschedule the inspection (with good cause), or if the family misses one inspection appointment, the HA will consider the family to have violated a family obligation, and their assistance may be terminated in accordance with the termination procedure in this Plan.

### **Time Standards for Repairs**

**24 CFR 985.3 (f)**

1. Emergency items that endanger the family's health or safety must be corrected within 24 hours of notification.
2. For non-emergency items, all repairs must be completed as specified by the HA, not to exceed 30 days.
3. For major repairs, the Housing Specialist may approve an extension beyond 30 days.

In accordance with the Notice to Repair or Certified Repair Notice, the contract will be terminated if the unit is not in compliance with HQS. If the tenant is the responsible party, a Pre-termination of Assistance Appointment letter will be sent. No payments will be made to the owner after the contract has been terminated.

### **D. EMERGENCY REPAIR ITEMS**

**24 CFR 982.404 (a) (3) (b) (2)**

The following items are considered of an emergency nature and must be corrected by the owner or tenant (whoever is responsible) within 24 hours of notice by the Housing Specialist.

- Lack of security for the unit
- Waterlogged ceiling in imminent danger of falling

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- Major plumbing leaks or flooding
- Natural gas leak or fumes
- Electrical problem which could result in shock or fire
- Utilities not in service
- No running hot water
- Broken glass where someone could be injured
- Obstacle which prevents tenant's entrance or exit
- Lack of at least one functioning toilet
- Any other item deemed an immediate health or safety hazard

In those cases where there is leaking gas or a potential of fire or other threat to public safety, and the responsible party cannot be contacted, the proper authorities will be notified by the HA.

### **E. INITIAL HQS INSPECTION**

An Initial Inspection will be conducted to:

- Determine if the unit and property meet the HQS as defined by HUD regulations and this Plan.
- Determine if the Rent to Owner is reasonable and document the information to be used in that determination.

Also see Chapter 9, paragraph A, for Initial HQS inspection guidelines and timelines.

### **F. SPECIAL/COMPLAINT INSPECTIONS**

If at any time a family, owner, agency, or third party notifies the HA that the unit does not meet Housing Quality Standards, the HA will conduct an inspection.

### **F. QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTIONS**

**24 CFR 982.405 (b)**

The Housing Supervisor or designee will perform Quality Control inspections, in an amount necessary to meet HUD requirements. The purpose of Quality Control inspections is to ascertain that Housing Specialists/Program Assistants are conducting accurate and complete inspections, and to ensure that there is consistency among inspectors in the application of HQS.

**Chapter 11**

**OWNER RENTS, RENT REASONABLENESS, AND PAYMENT STANDARDS**

**INTRODUCTION**

The HA is responsible to ensure that the rents charged by owners are reasonable based upon objective comparables in the rental market. When the HA has determined that the unit meets the minimum HQS, that the lease is approvable, and that the rent is reasonable, it will enter into a Housing Assistance Payment Contract with the owner. This chapter explains the HA's procedures for determination of rent-reasonableness, payments to owners, adjustments to the payment standards, and rent adjustments.

**A. OWNER PAYMENT IN THE VOUCHER PROGRAM**

The Housing Choice Voucher formula for determining maximum subsidy is the lower of the Payment Standard or the Gross rent (contract rent plus current utility allowance) for the unit minus the family's Total Tenant Payment.

- The maximum subsidy for each family is determined by the payment standard for the Voucher size issued to the family (or the gross rent as stated above), less 30 percent of the family's monthly adjusted income. The actual subsidy level could be less if the family is required to pay the minimum total tenant payment (10 percent of the family's monthly income).
- The Voucher size issued to the family is based on the HA's subsidy standards. The payment standard for the family is based on the lesser of the payment standard for the Voucher size issued or the payment standard for the number of bedrooms of the selected unit.
- The housing assistance payment to the owner is the lesser of the subsidy described above or the rent charged by the owner.

**B. LATE PAYMENTS TO OWNERS**

The HA must pay the housing assistance payment promptly when due to the owner in accordance with the HAP contract. Late payments to owners shall be the lesser of 1) the late payment as stated in the lease between the owner and the tenant, or 2) \$50.00. However, the HA shall not be obligated to pay any late payment penalty if HUD determines that late payment by the HA is due to factors beyond the HA's control. The HA has determined that the HAP payment by the HA is deemed received by the owner upon mailing by the HA. Direct deposit is available to landlords to assist in the prompt receipt of HAP payments.

The HA may only use the following sources to pay a late payment penalty from program receipts under the consolidated ACC: administrative fee income for the program or the administrative fee reserve for the program. The HA may not use other program receipts for this purpose.

**C. MAKING PAYMENTS TO OWNERS**

Once ownership is verified and the HAP Contract is executed, the HA begins processing monthly payments to the landlord. The Housing Assistance Payment checks to owners will be processed by the Housing Authority Accounting Department.

**D. EXCEPTION PAYMENT STANDARD**

The HUD field office may approve an exception payment standard up to 120% of the FMR for all units of a given size leased by families in an exception area.

An area exception payment standard may not exceed 120% of the FMR. An area exception payment standard will not be approved unless HUD determines that an exception rent is needed either:

- To help families find housing outside areas of high poverty; or
- Because Voucher holders have trouble finding housing for lease under the program within the term of the Voucher

The HA may approve an exception payment standard up to 110% of the FMR when it has determined that it is needed as a reasonable accommodation to make the program accessible to and usable by the family member with a disability.

**E. RENT REASONABLENESS DETERMINATIONS** **24 CFR 982.507**

Rent reasonableness determinations are made when units are placed under HAP Contract for the first time, before any increase in rent to the owner, if there is a 5% decrease in the published FMR, and if directed by HUD.

The HA determines rent reasonableness through a database of unassisted rental units in all bedroom sizes throughout the county. Staff is required to add units to this database monthly. Newspapers, rental magazines, calls to property owners and managers and the Internet are some of the sources used to add comparables to the database.

The HA will consider the location, quality, size, unit type, age of the unit, amenities, services, maintenance and utilities provided by the owner in determining rent reasonableness.

A printout showing the rental amount of comparable units in the area is put into the family's file, signed and dated by the Housing Specialist, documenting the data used to determine rent reasonableness.

**F. PAYMENT STANDARDS AND ADJUSTMENTS** **24 CFR 982.503**

The subsidy amount is based on a payment standard set by the HA. The HA will review the Payment Standard annually to determine whether an adjustment should be made for some or all unit sizes. The Payment Standard will be reviewed according to HUD's requirements and this Plan, and if an increase is warranted, the Payment Standard will be adjusted within 90 percent to 110 percent of the current HUD-published Fair Market Rent. However, should a HUD waiver be granted to an amount that falls outside the basic range of 90-110%, the HA will adopt the new range as needed to meet funding allocations.

The HA may approve an exception payment standard up to 110% of the FMR when it has determined that it is needed as a reasonable accommodation to make the program accessible to and usable by the family member with a disability. The HA may apply to HUD Headquarters to approve a payment standard up to 120% of the FMR if it determines that the increase is needed

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as a reasonable accommodation so that the program is readily accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities in accordance with 24 CFR part 8.

The HA may use some or all of the measures below in making a determination whether an adjustment should be made to the Payment Standards.

- **Lowering of the Payment Standard**

Statistical analysis may reveal the Payment Standard should be lowered, in which case the Payment Standard should not be less than 90 percent of the current FMR. If the FMR is lowered, the Payment Standard will be decreased in accordance with HUD regulations.

- **Financial Feasibility**

Before increasing the Payment Standard, the HA may review the budget and the project reserve to determine the impact projected subsidy increases would have on available funding for the program and number of families served.

For this purpose, the HA will compare the number of families who could be served under higher Payment Standards with the number assisted under current Payment Standards.

### **G. RENT INCREASES**

**24 CFR 982.507**

Owners may not request rent increases to be effective prior to the expiration of the initial term of the lease. An owner request for a rent increase must be in accordance with the lease, state law, the contract and HUD regulations. The owner must notify the PHA of any changes in the amount of the rent to the owner at least sixty days before any such changes go into effect (see HAP Contract 15-d). The requested rent increase must be reasonable for market conditions. If the HA disapproves the owner's request for a rent increase because the rent is not reasonable, the family may request that the HA issue the family a Voucher to enable them to relocate.

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Chapter 12

REEXAMINATIONS

**INTRODUCTION**

HUD requires the HA to re-certify the income and household composition of all families at least annually. In addition, the HA is required to inspect the assisted unit at least annually, and to process requests for rent adjustments. These activities must be coordinated to ensure that they are completed in accordance with the regulations. It is a HUD requirement that families report all changes in household composition and income at the annual reexamination. The HA decides what other changes must be reported, and the procedures for reporting all income. This chapter defines the HA's policy for conducting annual reexaminations and coordinating the annual activities. It also explains the interim reporting requirements for families, and the standards for timely reporting.

**A. ANNUAL RECERTIFICATION/REEXAMINATION**

24 CFR 982.516

**Requirement to Attend**

All household members are required to attend scheduled interviews. Failure to appear for a scheduled interview is cause to terminate assistance for failure to comply with the family obligation of providing information to the HA.

**Documents Required from the Family**

Failure to provide documents required by the HA is a violation of a family obligation and grounds for termination of assistance. The family will be given 10 calendar days to provide requested information and/or documents.

The HA may make exceptions to these policies if the family is able to document an emergency situation that prevented them from attending a scheduled appointment or providing requested information.

**Tenant Rent Increases**

If the tenant rent increases, a notice of at least 30 days is mailed to the family prior to the effective date of the change whenever possible. If the owner has served the tenant with a Rent Increase Notice, that notice shall serve as the notice to the tenant of the increase in their rent.

If there has been a misrepresentation or a material omission by the family, the family may be terminated and/or required to repay any overpaid HAP to the HA.

**Tenant Rent Decreases**

If tenant rent decreases, it will be effective on the first day of the month after the written notification of the change. If the family causes a delay in the processing of the reexamination, the rent change will be effective on the first day of the month following completion of the reexamination.

**B. REPORTING INTERIM CHANGES**

The HA requires program participants to report all changes in household composition or income in writing within 10 days of the change to the HA. This includes additions due to birth, adoption and court-awarded custody. The family must obtain HA and owner approval prior to all other additions to the household.

The U.S. citizenship/eligible immigrant status of additional family members must be declared and verified as required at the first interim or regular reexamination after moving into the unit.

**Interim Reexamination Policy**

Participants must report all changes in income, assets, and family household composition in writing within 10 days of change. Changes will be processed if they are anticipated to continue for sixty (60) or more days.

If it has been determined that a Tenant has misrepresented to PHA Management the facts upon which the rent is based, so that the rent paid is less than should have been charged, then the increase in rent shall be made retroactive to the date the change should have been made. If Management determines that the Tenant has been subsidized through the Tenant's willful misrepresentation of Income, Assets, or Family Composition, Management shall notify the Tenant that Rental Assistance will be terminated, and that the Tenant has the right to request a Hearing.

**Decreases in Income**

The HA will process the change if the decrease in income is \$100 monthly or more and anticipated to continue for sixty (60) or more days.

**Increases in Income**

The HA will conduct interim reexaminations for participants who have an increase in income of \$100 monthly or more and anticipated to continue for sixty (60) or more days.

**ZERO INCOME FAMILIES.**

Families reporting no household income will be asked how the family pays for necessary living expenses. If it is determined that the family is receiving regular monetary or non-monetary contributions and/or gifts from non-household members, the value of these gifts will be annualized to estimate household income. If it is determined that the family receives no income from gifts, contributions, or any other source, the family will be required to complete, sign and date the Certification of Zero Income Form. Such families will be required to provide documentation to HA every 30 days that all normal household expenses such as food, utility bills, telephone bills, cable bills, car payment, and car/ life insurance payments are being paid and documentation showing where the money comes from to pay these expenses. Zero income families will be reevaluated every 30 days to determine if there are any new sources of income including an inquiry to the Department of Labor. Failure to provide required information may be cause for termination of rental assistance. Families reporting only excluded income will be subject to an interim revision if a source of non-excluded income is reported.

**HA Errors**

When the HA finds that an error has been made, an interim reexamination will be conducted to correct the error. A minimum of thirty (30) days notice will be given to Tenant and Owner if the correction results in a decrease in the HAP payment.

**Administrative Errors and Omissions:** It is crucial that the PHA establish and maintain a high degree of accuracy in administering its Program. From time to time minor administrative errors or omissions may be discovered which require immediate PHA action. Administrative errors, omissions, or mistakes made by PHA Staff, Owners, or Tenant may include.

1. PHA Errors and Omissions (examples):
  - a. Errors in calculations of Assistance levels;
  - b. Inappropriate determinations of Family eligibility;
  - c. Miscalculation of Gross Rents; or,
  - d. Approval of Gross Rents above allowable limitations.
  
2. Owner Errors and Omissions (examples):
  - a. Not informing the PHA that the Tenant has vacated the unit.
  - b. Not informing the PHA that an error in contract rent has occurred within 10 days of receiving a rent change notification.
  
3. Tenant Errors and Omissions (examples):
  - a. Omission of a particular Asset or Income because of lack of information;
  - b. Miscalculation of Income; or,
  - c. Misinformation regarding Family composition.

**Changes in family size/subsidy standards**

A larger bedroom size will not be issued if a member of the nucleus family moves out and returns as an adult. In these cases, the HA will not approve the addition of household members that would result in overcrowding according to HQS maximum occupancy standards.

For additions to the family in the following cases, the HA will issue the family a relocation Voucher when the change causes overcrowding according to HQS maximum occupancy standards:

- Additions by marriage
- Addition of a minor who is a member of the nucleus family who had been living elsewhere
- Addition of a HA-approved live-in aide
- Addition due to birth, adoption or court-awarded custody
- Addition of long term placement foster care children or adults

**Family Member moves out**

Families are required to notify the HA in writing within 10 days if any family member leaves the assisted household. When the family notifies the HA, they must furnish the following information:

- The date the family member moved out
- The new address, if known, of the family member
- A statement as to whether the family member is temporarily or permanently absent

**C. TIMELY REPORTING OF CHANGES IN INCOME AND ASSETS**

Families who do not report required changes within time frames established by the HA are considered in violation of a family obligation, and are subject to termination of assistance.

**D. NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS OF REEXAMINATIONS**

The HUD form 50058 will be completed and transmitted as required by HUD.

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**Chapter 13**

**MOVES WITH CONTINUED ASSISTANCE/PORTABILITY**

**INTRODUCTION**

HUD regulations permit families to move with continued assistance to another unit within the HA's jurisdiction, or to a unit outside of the HA's jurisdiction under portability procedures. The regulations also allow the HA the discretion to develop policies which define any limitations on moves. This chapter defines the procedures for moves, both within and outside of the HA's jurisdiction, and the policies and limitations on moves.

A family may move (relocate) to a new unit when the owner has given the family a notice to vacate and the family is eligible for continued assistance or when the family has given proper notice of lease termination and is eligible for continued assistance (see A. Allowable Moves for additional information). A notice of lease termination must be thru the end of a month. Notices to vacate will not be accepted for a mid month move and will be returned so that the tenant and/or owner can reissue a new notice thru the end of a month. All Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) Contracts for new units will be effective on the 1<sup>st</sup> of a month (no mid month effective dates). Special circumstances such as reasonable accommodations for the elderly/disabled will be considered.

**A. ALLOWABLE MOVES**

A family may move to a new unit if:

1. The assisted lease for the old unit has terminated because the HA has terminated the HAP contract for owner breach.
2. The HA has terminated the HAP contract because the family is no longer eligible for the current number of bedrooms.
3. To determine whether the family is eligible for continued assistance, a full reexamination will be done prior to approval of any relocation, unless the Eligibility Questionnaire and verifications in the file are dated within the last 60 days.
4. The owner has given the family a notice to vacate and the family is eligible for continued assistance.
5. The family has given proper notice of lease termination and is eligible for continued assistance.
6. The family:
  - a. has an income change that will result in a Zero HAP at the new assisted unit. In these cases, the contract with the owner will be for a six-month period only (180 days).
  - b. is currently at Zero HAP and must relocate because the current assisted unit is either in foreclosure or up for sale. In these cases, the new contract will only be for the remaining time period left of the original 180 days since the last HAP paid (i.e. the 180 day time period at Zero HAP does not restart and includes but is not limited to the time spent searching for a new unit as well as any inspection time and RTA disapprovals).
7. A mutual agreement has been signed by both the Owner and Tenant. This applies when a participant is requesting to move before the expiration of the lease term or the owner

wishes a tenant to move before the expiration of the lease term.

**B. RESTRICTIONS ON MOVES**

Families will not be permitted to move during the initial term of the lease. Families will not be permitted to move more than once in a 12-month period unless a 6 month lease is in place according 24 CFR 982.309 (a). The HA will deny permission to move if:

- The family owes the HA money
- The family has violated a Family Obligation
- The family is in violation of their lease

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The HA may make exceptions to these restrictions if there is an emergency or safety reason for the move or as a reasonable accommodation for a disabled family member.

### **C. PORTABILITY**

Portability applies to families moving out of or into the HA's jurisdiction within the United States and its territories. Under portability, families are eligible to receive assistance to lease a unit outside of the initial HA's jurisdiction.

### **D. OUTGOING PORTABILITY**

When a family requests to move outside of the HA's jurisdiction, the request must specify the area to which the family wants to move. Portability outside of HACR's jurisdiction will be approved if the family is eligible for continued assistance and if funding is available. The HA may deny a family's request to move under portability if the PHA does not have sufficient funding for continued assistance to support the move in accordance with CFR 982.314 (e)(1) and PIH 2008-43.

If a family, within two (2) weeks of the voucher effective date, requests to transfer their rental assistance (exercise portability) to another jurisdiction, a full sixty (60) day voucher term will be granted.

The Violence Against Women Act of 2005 provides that the family may receive a voucher and move in violation of the lease under the portability procedures if the family has complied with all other obligations of the voucher program and has moved out of the assisted dwelling unit in order to protect the health or safety of an individual who is or has been the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking and who reasonably believed he or she was imminently threatened by harm from further violence if he or she remained in the assisted dwelling unit.

### **E. INCOMING PORTABILITY**

#### **Absorption or Administration**

The HA will accept a family with a valid Voucher from another jurisdiction and either administer or absorb the Voucher. When administering assistance for the family, a Portability Voucher will be issued with the same start date as the initial HA. The HA may grant extensions in accordance with this Administrative Plan and Federal Regulations.

Initially, the HA will issue a subsidy based on the family composition listed in the initial PHA's 50058. The subsidy issued will be based on the receiving HA's current subsidy standards. If the receiving PHA is not absorbing, any changes must be approved by the initial PHA.

Chapter 14

CONTRACT TERMINATIONS

**INTRODUCTION**

The Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Contract is the contract between the owner and the HA which defines the responsibilities of both parties. This chapter describes the circumstances under which the contract can be terminated by the HA and the owner, and the policies and procedures for such terminations.

**A. CONTRACT TERMINATION**

The term of the HAP Contract is the same as the term of the lease. The Contract between the owner and the HA may be terminated by the HA, or by the owner terminating the lease.

No future subsidy payments on behalf of the family will be made by the HA to the owner after the month in which the Contract is terminated. The owner must reimburse the HA for any subsidies paid by the HA for any period after the contract termination date.

If the family continues to occupy the unit after the Section 8 contract is terminated, the family is responsible for the total amount of rent due to the owner.

After a contract termination, if the family meets the criteria for a move with continued assistance, the family may lease-up in another unit. The contract for the new unit may begin during the month in which the family moved from the old unit.

**B. TERMINATION OF LEASE BY OWNER**

Upon proper notice, the lease may provide for termination without cause after the initial term of the lease or may terminate by mutual consent between the owner and participant during the initial lease term. In the event that the participant passes away and there are no remaining nucleus family members, the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) will be paid in full (thru the end of the month) in which the participant becomes deceased. An owner is not eligible to retain any portion of HAP for any time period beyond the month in which the participant became deceased.

If it is during the initial lease term, or subsequent lease term, the owner must provide the tenant a written notice specifying the grounds for the termination of tenancy. A copy of the notice to vacate and verification of the tenant violations must be provided to the HA. If it is *not* during a lease term, the owner must only provide the tenant with a written notice for a time period that is compliant with the lease or rental agreement that was signed with the tenant (i.e. 30 days in most cases). A copy must be provided to the HA. "Good cause" does not need to be demonstrated when the tenant is not in a lease term. If the tenant does not vacate based on the owner's notice, the owner must follow state/local laws to evict the tenant.

The HA will continue to make housing assistance payments until the participant vacates the unit or the eviction is concluded, whichever occurs first. In no instance will a housing assistance payment be made for any period beyond the contract termination date, or for the month



following the month the tenant vacates the unit.

Federal Regulations 24CFR 982.552 (c) Authority to deny admission or terminate assistance (1) Grounds for denial or termination of assistance states, "The PHA may at any time deny program assistance for an applicant or termination program assistance for a participant, for any of the following grounds: (ii) If any member of the family has been evicted from federally assisted housing in the last five years".

**C. TERMINATION OF THE CONTRACT BY HA**

The term of the HAP contract terminates when the lease terminates, when the family vacates the unit, or when the owner has breached the HAP contract.

The HA may also terminate the contract if:

- The HA terminates assistance to the family
- The family is required to move from a unit which is under-occupied or is overcrowded
- Funding is no longer available under the ACC
- The participant has requested their assistance be terminated
- The participant passes away and there are no remaining nucleus family members

The contract will terminate automatically if 180 days have passed since the last housing assistance payment to the owner (24 CFR 982.455).

In the event that funding is no longer available under the ACC, the HA will implement a "first on, first off" policy on terminating families, meaning that those families who have benefited the longest will be the first to be terminated, excluding any disabled and/or elderly families. All efforts will be made to give a family no less than a 90 day notice in order to allow them substantial time to prepare. This policy is consistent with Fair Housing guidelines.

**EVICCTIONS**

The Contract and the Assisted Lease shall provide that the Owner shall not terminate the tenancy except for:

- A. Serious or repeated violation of the terms and conditions of the lease;
- B. Violations of Federal, State or Local Law which imposes obligations on the Tenant in connection with the occupancy or use of the dwelling unit and surrounding premises; or,
- C. Other good cause as provided in the Lease including, but not limited to, the following:
  1. Failure by the Family to accept the offer of a new Lease by the Owner;
  2. A Family history of disturbance of neighbors or destruction of property, or of living or housekeeping habits resulting in damage to the unit or property;
  3. Criminal activity by Family members involving crimes of physical violence to persons or property and any illegal drug activity;
  4. The Owner's desire to utilize the unit for personal or family use or for a purpose other than for use as a residential rental unit; or,
  5. A business or economic reason for termination of the tenancy (such as sale of the property, renovation of the unit, desire to rent the unit at a higher rental rate).
- D. The Owner must give the PHA a copy of any Eviction Notices served to the Tenant.

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**E. Family Eligibility for Continued Assistance:** Termination of tenancy is not automatically termination of Assistance:

1. The Family is eligible for another Voucher to use at a new location regardless of whether the PHA authorizes the eviction as long as the Family is eligible, as established in the PHA's Administrative and Equal Opportunity Housing Plan;
2. If the Family is evicted and owes money to the landlord (i.e, unpaid rent), the PHA may determine the Family ineligible for issuance of another Voucher.
3. If the Family is determined to be ineligible for continued Assistance at the time of Termination of Tenancy, the PHA is required to notify the Family and provide an Informal Hearing on the determination.

**D. TERMINATIONS DUE TO INELIGIBLE IMMIGRATION STATUS**

The HA will follow HUD rules for terminations due to ineligible immigration status.

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Chapter 15

**DENIAL OR TERMINATION OF ASSISTANCE**

**INTRODUCTION**

The HA may deny assistance for an applicant or terminate assistance for a participant because of the family's action or failure to act. An applicant who was previously a participant in the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program and whose assistance was terminated by any Housing Authority may not receive HCV assistance for a minimum of five (5) years (**24 CFR 982.552 (c)(1)(iii)**). This applies to all members of the previously assisted household, not just those who were adult members at the time of termination. For members who were minors at the time of termination, or as a reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities, the HA may allow participation if the member was not involved in the action that led to the termination. The HA will consider all relevant circumstances such as the seriousness of the case, the extent of participation or culpability of individual family members, mitigating circumstances related to the disability of a family member, and the effects of denial or termination of assistance on other family members who were not involved in the action or failure.

The HA will provide families with a written description of the family obligations under the program, the grounds under which the HA can deny or terminate assistance, and the HA's informal hearing procedures. This chapter describes when the HA is required to deny or terminate assistance, and the HA's policies for the denial of assistance and the grounds for termination of assistance under an outstanding HAP contract.

**A. GROUNDS FOR DENIAL OF ASSISTANCE**

**24 CFR 982.552-553**

**Form of Denial of Assistance**

Denial of assistance for an applicant may include any or all of the following:

1. Denial for placement on the HA waiting list
2. Denying or withdrawing a Voucher
3. Refusing to enter into a HAP contract or approve a lease
4. Refusing to process or provide assistance under portability procedures

**Mandatory Denial of Assistance**

The HA must deny assistance to applicants for the following reasons:

1. If any member of the family fails to sign and submit HUD or HA required consent forms for obtaining information.

2. If any family member fails to meet the eligibility requirements concerning individuals enrolled at an institution of higher learning

The applicant is a student enrolled at an institution of higher education, is under the age of 24, is not a veteran, unmarried and does not have a dependent child, is individually ineligible for section 8 assistance, or the student's parents are, individually or jointly, ineligible for assistance, as specified in 24 CFR 5.612.

3. If an applicant or any household member has been evicted from federally assisted housing for drug-related criminal activity within three years unless the PHA determines:
  - a. That the evicted household member who engaged in the drug-related criminal activity has

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- successfully completed a supervised drug rehabilitation program; or,
- b. That the circumstances leading to the eviction no longer exist (for example, the criminal household member has died or is imprisoned).
4. If the HA determines that any household member is currently engaging in illegal use of a drug.
  5. If the HA determines that it has reasonable cause to believe that a household member's illegal drug use or a pattern of illegal drug use may threaten the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents.
  6. Any household member has ever been convicted of drug-related criminal activity for manufacture or production of methamphetamine on the premises of federally assisted housing.
  7. If any member of the household (including minors) is subject to a registration requirement under a State sex offender registration program. (In this screening of applicants, the HA must perform criminal history background checks necessary to determine whether any household member is subject to a sex offender registration requirement in the State where the housing is located and in other States where the household members are known to have resided.)
- Registered Sex Offender Notice:** The California Department of Justice, sheriff's departments, police departments serving jurisdictions of 200,000 or more and many other law enforcement authorities maintain for public access a data base of locations of persons required to register pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 290.4 of the Penal Code. The data base is updated on a quarterly basis and is a source of information about the presence of these individuals in any neighborhood. Notice Pursuant to Section 290.46 of the Penal Code, information about specified registered sex offenders is made available to the public via an Internet Web site maintained by the Department of Justice at [www.meganslaw.ca.gov](http://www.meganslaw.ca.gov). Depending on an offender's criminal history, this information will include either the address at which the offender resides or the community of residence and ZIP Code in which he or she resides.

### Permissive Grounds for Denial of Assistance

The HA may at any time deny program assistance for an applicant, or terminate program assistance for a participant, for any of the reasons listed below.

1. If the family violates any family obligation under the program.
2. If any member of the family has been evicted from federally assisted housing in the last five years.
3. If a PHA has ever terminated assistance under the program for any member of the family.
4. If any member of the family commits fraud, bribery or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with any federal housing program.
6. If the family currently owes rent or other amounts to the HA or to another PHA in connection with Section 8 or Public Housing Assistance under the 1937 Act. The family may be given an opportunity to repay the balance in full within 10 calendar days. If the family fails to do so, it will result in the denial of assistance and the family's name being removed (withdrawn) from the waiting list.
7. If the family has not reimbursed any PHA for amounts paid to an owner under a HAP contract for rent, damages to the unit, or other amounts owed by the family under the lease.
8. If the family breaches an agreement with the HA to pay amounts owed to a PHA, or amounts

paid to an owner by a PHA.

9. If the family has engaged in or threatened abusive or violent behavior toward HA personnel "Abusive or violent behavior towards HA personnel" include verbal as well as physical abuse or violence. Use of expletives that are generally considered insulting, racial epithets, or other language, written or oral, that is customarily used to insult or intimidate, may be cause for termination or denial. "Threatening" refers to oral or written threats or physical gestures that communicate intent to abuse or commit violence. Actual physical abuse or violence will always be cause for termination.
10. If the family has been engaged in criminal activity or alcohol abuse as described in 24 CFR 982.553.
11. If the HA determines that any household member is currently engaged in, or has engaged in during a reasonable time before the admission: i) Drug-related criminal activity; ii) Violent criminal activity; iii) other criminal activity which may threaten the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents or persons residing in the immediate vicinity; or iv) other criminal activity which may threaten the health or safety of the owner, property management staff, or persons performing a contract administration function or responsibility on behalf of the HA (including a HA employee or HA contractor, subcontractor, or agent). For purposes of this prohibition, a household member is "currently engaged in" criminal activity if that person has engaged in the behavior recently enough to justify a reasonable belief that the behavior is current.
12. If the HA determines that it has reasonable cause to believe that a household member's abuse or pattern of abuse of alcohol may threaten the health, safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents

**B. GROUNDS FOR TERMINATION OF ASSISTANCE 24 CFR 982.552-553**

**Form of Termination of Assistance**

Termination of assistance for a participant may include any or all of the following:

1. Refusing to enter into a HAP contract or approve a lease.
2. Terminating housing assistance payments under an outstanding HAP contract.
3. Refusing to process or provide assistance under portability procedures.

**Mandatory Termination of Assistance**

The HA must terminate program assistance for the following reasons:

1. If a family is evicted from housing assisted under the program for serious violation of the lease.
2. If any member of the family fails to sign and submit HUD or HA required consent forms for obtaining information.
3. If any family member fails to meet the eligibility requirements concerning individuals enrolled at an institution of higher learning

The applicant is a student enrolled at an institution of higher education, is under the age of 24, is not a veteran, unmarried and does not have a dependent child, is individually ineligible for section 8 assistance, or the student's parents are, individually or jointly, ineligible for assistance, as specified in 24 CFR 5.612.

4. If the HA determines that any member of the household has ever been convicted of drug-

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related criminal activity for manufacture or production of methamphetamine on the premises of federally assisted housing.

### **Permissive Grounds for Termination of Assistance**

The HA may at any time deny program assistance for an applicant, or terminate program assistance for a participant, for any of the reasons listed below.

1. If the family violates any family obligation under the program.
2. If any member of the family has been evicted from federally assisted housing in the last five years.
3. If a PHA has ever terminated assistance under the program for any member of the family.
4. If any member of the family commits fraud, bribery or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with any federal housing program
6. If the family currently owes rent or other amounts to the HA or to another PHA in connection with Section 8 or Public Housing Assistance under the 1937 Act
7. If the family has not reimbursed any PHA for amounts paid to an owner under a HAP contract for rent, damages to the unit, or other amounts owed by the family under the lease
8. If the family breaches an agreement with the HA to pay amounts owed to a PHA, or amounts paid to an owner by a PHA
9. If the family has engaged in or threatened abusive or violent behavior toward HA personnel "Abusive or violent behavior towards HA personnel" include verbal as well as physical abuse or violence. Use of expletives that are generally considered insulting, racial epithets, or other language, written or oral, that is customarily used to insult or intimidate, may be cause for termination or denial. "Threatening" refers to oral or written threats or physical gestures that communicate intent to abuse or commit violence. Actual physical abuse or violence will always be cause for termination.
10. If any household member is currently engaged in any illegal use of a drug; or if a pattern of illegal use of a drug by any household member interferes with the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents.
11. If the HA determines that any family member has violated the family's obligation under 24 CFR 982.551 not to engage in any drug-related criminal activity.
12. If an applicant or family violates the Amended Policy on Zero Tolerance Policy of Criminal Activity.

### **C. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 2005**

Denial of assistance to an applicant or termination of assistance of a participant for criminal activity are subject to the provisions of the Violence Against Women Act of 2005 as described below:

1. Being a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking (see glossary for legal definitions) is not a basis for denial of assistance or admission to public or assisted housing if the applicant otherwise qualifies for assistance or admission
2. Incidents or threats of abuse will not be construed as serious or repeated violations of the lease or other "good cause" for termination of the assistance, tenancy, or occupancy rights of a victim of abuse
3. Criminal activity directly relating to abuse, engaged in by a member of a tenant's household or any guest or other person under the tenant's control, shall not be cause for termination of assistance, tenancy, or occupancy rights if the tenant or an immediate member of the tenant's

family is the victim of that abuse

4. Notwithstanding the restrictions that VAWA places, the HA may “bifurcate” a lease without regard to whether a household member is a signatory to the lease, in order to evict, remove, terminate occupancy rights, or terminate assistance to any individual who is a tenant or lawful occupant and who engages in criminal acts of physical violence against family members or others, without evicting, removing, terminating assistance to, or otherwise penalizing the victim of such violence who is also a tenant or lawful occupant, and such eviction, removal, termination of occupancy rights, or termination of assistance shall be effected in accordance with the procedures prescribed by federal, state, and local law for the termination of leases or assistance under the relevant program of HUD-assisted housing. Neither the authority nor the procedures under any other law is necessary to bifurcate or otherwise remove an individual from the lease. Furthermore, this federal statutory authority to bifurcate a lease or otherwise remove an individual takes precedence over any federal, state, or local law to the contrary.
5. The HA has authority to terminate voucher assistance for certain family members while permitting other members of a participant family to continue receiving assistance (providing the culpable family member will no longer reside in the unit). The HA’s right to exercise this administrative discretion is not dependent on a bifurcated lease or other eviction action by the owner against an individual family member.
6. Certification of Abuse: The HA will request that the victim complete the HUD form 50066 -- Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence or Stalking. This form must be provided within 14 business days from the date the HA requests it. Without the certification, the HA may terminate assistance.

**Family Self Sufficiency (FSS)**

The HA will not terminate assistance for FSS families who fail to comply with the FSS Contract of Participation unless participation in FSS is a requirement or condition of the program under which the family was admitted.

**D. FAMILY OBLIGATIONS**

24 CFR 982.551

1. The family must supply any information that the HA or HUD determines is necessary in the administration of the program, including submission of required evidence of citizenship or eligible immigration status (as provided by 24 CFR Part 5). “Information” includes any requested certification, release or other documentation.  
The family must supply any information requested by the HA or HUD for use in a regularly scheduled reexamination or interim reexamination of family income and composition in accordance with HUD requirements.
2. The family must disclose and verify Social Security numbers and must sign and submit consent forms for obtaining information in accordance with HUD regulations.
3. Any information supplied by the family must be true and complete.
4. The family is responsible for an HQS breach caused by the family or their invitees.
5. The family must allow the HA to inspect the unit at reasonable times and after reasonable notice.
6. The family may not commit any serious or repeated violation of the lease.
7. The family must notify the PHA and the owner before the family moves out of the unit or terminates the lease on notice to the owner.

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8. The family must promptly give the HA a copy of any owner eviction notice.
9. The family must use the assisted unit for residence by the family. The unit must be the family's only residence.
10. The composition of the assisted family residing in the unit must be approved by the HA. The family must promptly inform the HA of the marriage (or the addition of a co-head), birth, adoption or court-awarded custody of a child. The family must request HA approval to add any family member as an occupant of the unit. No other person may reside in the unit (except for a foster child or live-in aide).
11. The family must promptly notify the HA if any family member no longer resides in the unit.
12. If the HA has given approval, a foster child or a live-in aide may reside in the unit. If the family does not request approval or HA approval is denied, the family may not allow a foster child or live-in aide to reside with the assisted family.
13. Members of the household may engage in legal profit-making activities in the unit, but only if such activities are incidental to primary use of the unit as a residence by members of the family.
14. The family must not sublease or let the unit.
15. The family must not assign the lease or transfer the unit.
16. The family must supply any information or certification requested by the HA to verify that the family is living in the unit, or relating to family absence from the unit, including any HA-requested information or certification on the purposes of family absences. The family must cooperate with the HA for this purpose. The family must promptly notify the HA of absence from the unit.
17. The family must not own or have any interest in the unit.
18. The members of the family must not commit fraud, bribery or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with the programs.
19. The members of the family may not engage in alcohol or drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity or other criminal activity that threatens the health, safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of other residents and persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises.
20. An assisted family, or members of the family, may not receive Section 8 tenant-based assistance while receiving another housing subsidy, for the same unit or for a different unit, under any duplicative (as determined by HUD or in accordance with HUD requirements) federal, state or local housing assistance program.
21. The members of the household must not abuse alcohol in a way that threatens the health, safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of the other residents and persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises.

### **Explanations and Terms**

The term "promptly" when used with the family obligations always means "within 10 calendar days."

### **Housing Authority Discretion**

In deciding whether to deny or terminate assistance because of action or failure to act by members of the family, the HA may consider all relevant circumstances such as the seriousness of the case, the extent of participation or culpability of individual family members, mitigating circumstances related to the disability of a family member, the length of time since the violation occurred and more recent record of compliance, and the effects of denial or termination of



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assistance on other family members who were not involved in the action or failure to act. All denials or terminations of assistance will be consistent with fair housing and equal opportunity provisions.

The HA may impose, as a condition of continued assistance for other family members, a requirement that other family members who participated in or were culpable for the action or failure will not reside in the unit.

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In determining whether to deny admission or terminate assistance for illegal use of drugs or alcohol abuse by a household member who is no longer engaged in such behavior, the HA may consider whether such household member is participating in or has successfully completed a supervised drug or alcohol rehabilitation program, or has otherwise been rehabilitated successfully. For this purpose, the HA may require the applicant or participant to submit evidence of the household member's current participation in, or successful completion of, a supervised drug or alcohol rehabilitation program or evidence of otherwise having been rehabilitated successfully.

If the family includes a person with disabilities, the HA will determine if such action is subject to consideration of reasonable accommodation.

### **Lease Violations**

In determining whether a serious or repeated violation of the lease will cause a termination of assistance, the HA will consider all circumstances including whether the owner terminates tenancy through court action for serious or repeated violation of the lease, the tenant's statements and documents, verifications provided by either the owner or the tenant, and any reports of lease violations, neighborhood complaints or other third party information.

### **HQS Breach**

The HA will determine if an HQS breach as identified in HUD Regulations is the responsibility of the family. Families may be given extensions to cure HQS breaches by the HA in accordance with HUD regulations.

### **Denial of Additions to the Household**

Proposed additions to the family may be denied to:

- Persons who have been evicted from public housing.
- Persons who engage in or have engaged in, alcohol or drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity.
- Persons who do not meet the HA's definition of family.
- Persons who commit or have committed fraud, bribery or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with any federal housing program.
- Persons who currently owe rent or other amounts to the HA or to another HA in connection with Section 8 or Public Housing Assistance under the 1937 Act.
- Persons who have engaged in or threatened abusive or violent behavior toward HA personnel.

## **E. PROCEDURES FOR NON-CITIZENS**

### **Termination due to Ineligible Immigrant Status**

Assistance may not be terminated while verification of the participant family's eligible immigration status is pending. Participant families in which all members are neither U.S. citizens nor eligible immigrants must have their assistance terminated; however, they will be given an opportunity for a hearing.

**False or Incomplete Information**

When the HA has clear, concrete, or substantial documentation (such as permanent resident card or information from another agency) that contradicts the declaration of citizenship made by an applicant or participant, an investigation will be conducted and the individual given an opportunity to present relevant information.

If the individual is unable to verify their citizenship, the HA may give him/her an opportunity to provide a new declaration as an eligible immigrant or to elect not to contend their status. The HA will then verify eligible status, deny, terminate, or prorate as applicable. The HA will deny or terminate assistance based on the submission of false information or misrepresentations.

**F. ZERO HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT FOR TENANTS**

The HAP contract terminates automatically 180 calendar days after the last housing assistance payment to the owner. If within the 180 day time frame, the Total Tenant Payment causes the family to be eligible for a housing assistance payment, the HA will resume assistance payments for the family.

**G. MISSED APPOINTMENTS AND DEADLINES**

It is a family obligation to supply information, documentation, and certification as needed for the HA to fulfill its responsibilities. The HA schedules appointments and sets deadlines in order to obtain required information. The obligations also require that the family allow the HA to inspect the unit and appointments are made for this purpose.

If an applicant or participant does not keep an appointment, does not supply information required by a deadline or does not allow the HA to inspect the unit, the HA may deny or terminate assistance. The family will be given information about the requirement to keep appointments as specified in this Plan.

Appointments may be scheduled and time requirements will be imposed for the following events and circumstances:

- Eligibility for Admissions
- Verification Procedures
- Voucher Issuance and Briefing
- Housing Quality Standards and Inspections
- Re-certifications
- Appeals

**Procedure when Family Obligations are not met**

When the participant family fails to fulfill their obligations within the time frames established by the HA, a "Pre-Termination of Assistance" appointment will be scheduled for the family. The appointment notice shall inform the family of the obligation not met and the necessary remedy. If the obligation is still not met, a Notice of Intent to Terminate Assistance will be issued. If the family corrects the breach within the time frame allowed for requesting a hearing, the notice may be rescinded. The HA will consider whether the family has a history of non-compliance in making determinations to terminate assistance.

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At the same time that the family is notified of a breach in their obligations, a “Conditional Termination of Contract” notice will be sent to the owner. This notice will inform the owner that should the family fail to comply with their obligations, the contract will end.

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**Chapter 16**

**OWNER DISAPPROVAL AND RESTRICTIONS**

**INTRODUCTION**

It is the policy of the HA to recruit owners to participate in the program, and to provide owners with prompt and professional service in order to maintain an adequate supply of available housing throughout the jurisdiction of the HA. The regulations define when the HA must disallow an owner participation in the program, and they provide the HA discretion to disapprove or otherwise restrict the participation of owners in certain categories. This chapter describes the criteria for owner disapproval and the various penalties for owner violations.

**A. DISAPPROVAL OF OWNER**

The owner does not have a right to participate in the program. For purposes of this section, "owner" includes a principal or other interested party.

The HA will disapprove the owner for the following reasons:

- HUD has informed the HA that the owner has been disbarred, suspended, or subject to a limited denial of participation under 24 CFR part 24.
- HUD has informed the HA that the Federal Government has instituted an administrative or judicial action against the owner for violation of the Fair Housing Act or other federal equal opportunity requirements and such action is pending.
- HUD has informed the HA that a court or administrative agency has determined that the owner has violated the Fair Housing Act or other federal equal opportunity requirements.
- The owner has violated obligations under a housing assistance payments contract under Section 8 of the 1937 Act (42 U.S.C. 1437f).
- The owner has committed fraud, bribery or any other corrupt act in connection with any federal housing program.
- The owner has engaged in any drug-related criminal activity or any violent criminal activity.
- The owner has a history or practice of non-compliance with the HQS for units leased under the tenant-based programs or with applicable housing standards for units leased with project-based Section 8 assistance or leased under any other federal housing program.
- The owner has a history or practice of renting units that fail to meet state or local housing codes.
- The owner has not paid state or local real estate taxes, fines or assessments.
- HA has received evidence that owner is requesting and accepting side payments for rent.
- The owner has a history or practice of failing to terminate tenancy of tenants of units assisted under Section 8 or any other federally assisted housing program for activity by the tenant, any member of the household, a guest or another person under the control of any member of the household that:
  - Threatens the health or safety of, or the right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents
  - Threatens the health or safety of other residents, or employees of the HA, or of owner employees or other persons engaged in management of the housing

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- Threatens the health or safety of, or the right to peaceful enjoyment of their residences, by persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises
- Engages in drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity
- HUD regulations prohibit the HA from approving a unit if the owner is the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, sister, brother, uncle, aunt, or in-law of any member of the tenant family, unless the HA determines that approving the unit would provide reasonable accommodation for a family member who is a person with disabilities.

### **B. OWNER RESTRICTIONS AND PENALTIES**

If an owner commits fraud or abuse or is guilty of frequent or serious contract violations, the HA will restrict the owner from future participation in the program. The HA may also terminate some or all contracts with the owner.

Before imposing a penalty against an owner, the HA will review all relevant factors pertaining to the case, and will consider such factors as the owner's record of compliance and the number of violations.

### **C. OTHER REMEDIES FOR OWNER VIOLATIONS**

#### **Overpayments**

If the landlord has been overpaid as a result of fraud, misrepresentation or violation of the Contract, the HA may terminate the Contract and arrange for restitution to the HA and/or family as appropriate.

The HA will make every effort to recover any overpayments made as a result of landlord fraud or abuse. Payments otherwise due to the owner may be debited from future payments in order to repay the HA or the tenant, as applicable. The HA will take court action to recover overpayments when other means fail to result in such collection.

**Chapter 17**

**OWNER OR FAMILY DEBTS TO THE HA**

**INTRODUCTION**

This chapter describes the HA's policies for the recovery of monies which have been overpaid to an owner on behalf of an assisted family. It describes the methods that will be utilized for collection of monies and the guidelines for different types of debts. Before a debt is assessed against a family or owner, the file must contain documentation to support the HA's claim that the debt is owed. The file must further contain written documentation of the method of calculation, in a clear format for review by the owner, the family or other interested parties.

The HA will make every effort to collect monies owed to the HA. The HA will use a variety of collection tools to recover debts including, but not limited to:

- Requests for lump sum payments
- Civil suits
- Repayment agreements
- Abatements
- Collection agencies
- Credit bureaus
- Income tax set-off programs

**A. REPAYMENT AGREEMENT FOR FAMILIES**

A Repayment Agreement as used in this Plan is a document entered into between the HA and a person who owes a debt to the HA. It is similar to a promissory note, but contains more details regarding the nature of the debt, the terms of repayment, any special provisions of the agreement, and the remedies available to the HA upon default of the agreement.

The maximum amount the Housing Authority will enter into a repayment agreement with a family is \$4800.00. The maximum length of time the HA will enter into a repayment agreement with a family is 24 months. The family will be required to make monthly payments of \$200.00 for a period not to exceed 24 months until paid in full. If the family owes more than \$4800.00, the portion that exceeds \$4800.00 must be paid in full immediately as the Housing Authority will not enter into an agreement for more than \$4800.00. Furthermore, 10% of the Repayment Agreement, regardless of whether it exceeds \$4800.00 or not must be paid in full immediately. The HA reserves the right to modify the terms of the repayment agreement on a case by case basis. Signing a Repayment Agreement does not guarantee continued assistance.

**Late Payments**

A payment will be considered to be in arrears if it is two months in default and if the payment has not been received by the close of the business day on which the payment was due. If the due date is on a weekend or holiday, the due date will be at the close of the next business day.

If the family's repayment agreement is in arrears, the HA may require the family to pay in full. If the family requests a move to another unit and has a repayment agreement in place, the family will be required to pay the balance in full prior to the issuance of a Voucher.

**B. DEBTS DUE TO FRAUD/NON-REPORTING OF INFORMATION**

HUD's definition of program fraud and abuse is a single act or pattern of actions that constitutes false statement, omission, or concealment of a substantive fact, made with intent to deceive or mislead.

**Program Fraud**

Families who owe money to the HA due to program fraud will be required to repay in accordance with the guidelines in the Repayment Section of this chapter and may be terminated from the housing assistance program.

If a family owes \$5,000 or more as a result of program fraud, the case may be referred to the HUD Inspector General. Where appropriate, the HA may refer the case for criminal prosecution.

**C. OWNER DEBTS TO THE HA**

If the HA determines that the owner has retained Housing Assistance Payments the owner is not entitled to, the HA may reclaim the amounts from future Housing Assistance Payments owed the owner for any units under contract.

If future Housing Assistance Payments are insufficient to reclaim the amounts owed, the HA may:

- Require the owner to pay the amount in full within a maximum of 12 months
- Pursue collections through the court system, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Franchise Tax Board (FTB), or any other available method
- Restrict the owner from future participation

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**Chapter 18**

**COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS**

**INTRODUCTION**

The informal hearing requirements defined in HUD regulations are applicable to participating families who disagree with an action, decision, or inaction of the HA. This chapter describes the policies, procedures and standards to be used when families disagree with a HA decision. The procedures and requirements are explained for preference denial meetings, informal reviews and hearings. It is the policy of the HA to ensure that all families have the benefit of all protections due to them under the law.

**A. COMPLAINTS TO THE HA**

The HA will respond promptly to complaints from families, owners, employees, and members of the public. All complaints will be documented. The HA prefers that all complaints be put in writing, however, they may be reported by telephone. Complaints that cannot be substantiated will be so noted.

Complaints from families, owners, or the general public will be referred to the Housing Specialist first. Unresolved complaints or those involving a staff member will be referred to a Housing Supervisor or Program Integrity Monitoring (PIM).

Any complaints of racial, ethnic or sexual harassment involving staff will be handled according to County personnel policies. Any complaints regarding racial, ethnic or sexual harassment not involving staff will be documented, referred to Fair Housing and/or Legal Aid, and will be reviewed by supervisory staff.

**B. NOT MEETING PREFERENCES**

When it is verified by the HA that an applicant does not meet a preference that they self-certified they did, they will be returned to the waiting list and will be notified in writing of the specific reason.

**C. INFORMAL REVIEW**

The HA must give an applicant an opportunity for an informal review of the HA decision denying assistance to the applicant. After review, the applicant will be furnished with a written final decision including a statement of the reasons for the final decision.

The HA is not required to provide the applicant an opportunity for an informal review for any of the following:

1. Discretionary administrative determinations by the HA.
2. General policy issues or class grievances.
3. A determination of the family unit size under the HA subsidy standards.
4. An HA determination not to approve an extension or suspension of a voucher term.
5. An HA determination not to grant approval to lease a unit under the program or to approve a proposed lease.

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6. HA determination that a unit selected by the applicant is not in compliance with HQS.
7. An HA determination that the unit is not in accordance with HQS because of the family size or composition.

Reviews are provided for applicants who are denied assistance before the effective date of the HAP Contract. The exception is that when an applicant is denied assistance for citizenship or eligible immigration status, the applicant is entitled to an informal hearing.

### **D. INFORMAL HEARING**

The HA must provide participants with the opportunity for an informal hearing for decisions related to any of the following:

1. A determination of the family's annual or adjusted income, and the use of such income to compute the housing assistance payment.
2. A determination of the appropriate utility allowance (if any) for tenant-paid utilities from the HA utility allowance schedule.
3. A determination of the family unit size under HA subsidy standards.
4. A determination to terminate assistance for a participant family because of the family's action or failure to act.
5. A determination to terminate assistance because the participant family has been absent from the assisted unit for longer than the maximum period permitted under HA policy and HUD rules.

The HA will give the family prompt notice of such determinations which will include:

- The proposed action or decision of the HA.
- The date the proposed action or decision will take place.
- The family's right to an explanation of the basis for the HA's decision.
- The procedures for requesting a hearing if the family disputes the action or decision.
- The time limit for requesting the hearing.
- To whom the hearing request should be addressed.

The HA is not required to provide a participant family an opportunity for an informal hearing for any of the following:

1. Discretionary administrative determinations by the HA.
2. General policy issues or class grievances.
3. Establishment of the HA schedule of utility allowances for families in the program.
4. An HA determination not to approve an extension or suspension of a Voucher term.
5. An HA determination not to approve a unit or lease.
6. An HA determination that an assisted unit is not in compliance with HQS. However, the HA must provide the opportunity for an informal hearing for a decision to terminate assistance for a breach of the HQS caused by the family as described in 24 CFR 982.551.
7. An HA determination that the unit is not in accordance with HQS because of the family size.
8. A determination by the HA to exercise or not to exercise any right or remedy against the owner under a HAP contract.

**E. INFORMAL REVIEW/HEARING PROCEDURES**

It is the HA's objective to resolve disputes at the lowest level possible. Informal reviews are granted to applicants and informal hearings are granted to participants. The HA will ensure that applicants and participants will receive all of the protections and rights afforded by the law and the regulations.

Notification of Review/Hearing

When the HA determines that an applicant is denied assistance, and for participants, other specified actions, the family must be notified in writing. The notice must contain:

- The reason(s) the action is being taken,
- The procedure for requesting an informal review/hearing if the applicant/participant does not agree with the decision, and
- The time limit for requesting a review/hearing.

A request for an informal review/hearing must be received in writing by the close of the business day, no later than 10 calendar days from the date of the HA's notification of denial of assistance or intent to terminate assistance. For informal hearings, the information packet must be submitted to the hearing officer by the HA within 7 business days of receipt of the request for hearing. An appointment will be scheduled and a letter will be sent by the hearing officer within 5 business days from the date the information packet is received and the informal hearing will be conducted no more than 14 calendar days from the date the appointment letter is sent. For informal reviews, the review must be performed within 14 calendar days from the date the review is requested and the results sent to the applicant by mail within 10 business days after the review. The review will be performed in person unless the applicant requests either a review by phone or letter. The informal review/hearing shall be conducted by the review/hearing officer appointed by the HA who is neither the person who made nor approved the decision, nor a subordinate of that person. The HA appoints a review/hearing officer who is a staff person at the Housing Specialist II level or above, or an individual from outside the HA.

The review/hearing shall concern only the issues for which the family has received the opportunity for a review/hearing. Evidence presented at the review/hearing may be considered without regard to admissibility under the rules of evidence applicable to judicial proceedings.

The applicant/participant will be given the opportunity to present oral or written objections to the decision. Both the HA and the family may present evidence and witnesses. Both the HA and the family may use an attorney or other representative to assist them at their own expense.

A representative with written authorization to act on behalf of the applicant/participant may conduct an informal review/hearing in the absence of the applicant/participant, unless the representative has an interest in the rental assistance, i.e., the owner of the assisted unit.

When the hearing officer receives an information packet for an informal hearing, an informal hearing date will be scheduled and the notification will contain:

1. The date and time of the hearing.
2. The location where the hearing will be held.

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3. The family's right to bring evidence, witnesses, legal or other representation at the family's expense.
4. The right to view any documents or evidence in the possession of the HA upon which the HA based the proposed action, and to obtain a copy of such documents prior to the review/hearing. Such documents or evidence must be sent to the family no later than 7 days before the review/hearing date.
5. A notice to the family that the HA will request a copy of any documents or evidence the family will use at the review/hearing. Such documents or evidence must be received by the HA no later than 7 days before the review/hearing date.

After a review/hearing date is scheduled, the family may request to reschedule only upon showing "good cause," which is defined as an unavoidable conflict which seriously affects the health, safety or welfare of the family.

### Family rights:

- Examine the documents in the file which are the basis for the HA's action, and all documents submitted to the Hearing Officer.
- The family must be allowed to copy any such document at the family's expense.

If the HA does not make the document available for examination on request of the family, the HA may not rely on the document at the hearing.

### HA rights:

- Examine at HA offices before the HA hearing any family documents that are directly relevant to the hearing.
- The HA must be allowed to copy any such document at the HA's expense.

If the family does not make the document available for examination on request of the HA, the family may not rely on the document at the hearing.

The review/hearing officer will determine whether the action, inaction or decision of the HA is legal in accordance with HUD regulations and this Administrative Plan based upon the evidence and testimony provided at the review/hearing.

A notice of the review/hearing findings shall be provided in writing to the HA and the family within 10 business days and shall include a clear summary of the decision, reasons for the decision, and the amount of any money owed, if applicable.

### When the HA is not bound by review/hearing decisions:

- Concerning matters in which the HA is not required to provide an opportunity for a hearing.
- Which conflict with or contradict HUD regulations or requirements.
- Which conflict with or contradict federal, state or local laws.
- Which exceed the authority of the person conducting the review/hearing.

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The HA shall send a letter to the applicant/participant if it determines the HA is not bound by the review/hearing officer's determination within 21 calendar days. The letter shall include the HA's reasons for the decision with a copy to the review/hearing officer. All requests for a review/hearing, supporting documentation, and a copy of the final decision will be retained in the family's file.

### **F. HEARING AND APPEAL PROVISIONS FOR RESTRICTIONS ON ASSISTANCE TO NON-CITIZENS**

Assistance to the family may not be delayed, denied or terminated on the basis of immigration status at any time prior to the receipt of the decision of the INS appeal. Assistance to a family may not be terminated or denied while the informal hearing is pending but assistance to an applicant may be delayed pending the informal hearing.

#### **INS Determination of Ineligibility**

If a family member claims to be an eligible immigrant and the INS SAVE system and manual search do not verify the claim, the HA notifies the applicant or participant within 10 calendar days of their right to appeal to the INS within 30 calendar days or to request an informal hearing with the HA either in lieu of or subsequent to the INS appeal.

If the family appeals to INS, they must give the HA a copy of the appeal and proof of mailing or the HA may proceed to deny or terminate. The time period to request an appeal may be extended by the HA for good cause.

The request for an HA hearing must be made within 10 calendar days of receipt of the notice offering the hearing or, if an appeal was made to the INS, within 10 calendar days of receipt of that notice.

After receipt of a request for an informal hearing, the hearing is conducted as described in this plan for both applicants and participants. If the hearing officer decides that the individual is not eligible, and there are no other eligible family members, the HA will deny the applicant family. If there are eligible members in the family, the HA will offer to prorate assistance or give the family the option to remove the ineligible members.

If any family member fails to provide documentation or certification of eligible citizenship/immigration as required by the regulation, that member is treated as ineligible. If all family members fail to provide documentation or certification, the family will be denied or terminated.

Participants whose assistance is prorated (either based on their statement that some members are ineligible or due to failure to verify eligible immigration status for some members after exercising their appeal and hearing rights described above) are entitled to a hearing based on the right to a hearing regarding determinations of tenant rent and total tenant payment.

Families denied or terminated for fraud in connection with the non-citizens rule are entitled to a review or hearing in the same way as terminations for any other type of fraud.

**Chapter 19**

**FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY (FSS) PROGRAM**

**INTRODUCTION**

Family self-sufficiency (FSS) is a HUD program that encourages communities to develop local strategies to help voucher families obtain employment that will lead to economic independence and self-sufficiency. Public housing agencies (PHAs) work with welfare agencies, schools, businesses, and other local partners to develop a comprehensive program that gives participating FSS family members the skills and experience to enable them to obtain employment that pays a living wage.

The purpose of Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program is to provide housing assistance combined with public and private resources that will help families achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency. We believe that when a family's basic needs for affordable and stable housing are met, the family can better focus on other needs, such as skill development and job search.

At this time HACR manages the FSS Program for Section 8 Program participants only. Though only the designated head of the household must sign the FSS Contract of Participation, the program is designed for the whole family and everybody's needs are taken into account. FSS programs partner with other service providers, such as: employment and training agencies, community colleges, job search and placement organizations, alcohol and drug services, childcare providers, youth organizations, older adult services, health services, emergency services, credit and homeownership counselors, the local CalWORKs office, and many more.

**ENROLLMENT AND RECRUITMENT**

All Section 8 participants are eligible for FSS program. A participant cannot be excluded from the program for such reasons as poor work history or lack of basic literacy skills. The FSS Program is a voluntary program; the premise of this program is that everyone deserves a chance for self-sufficiency, regardless of his or her current skill level, ability, or past work performance. In order to enroll in the program, participant's income update must have been completed within the last 90 days along with attending a mandatory one hour informational orientation.

**CONTRACT OF PARTICIPATION**

The participant must sign a five-year Contract of Participation, which states all the agreed upon terms between the participant and the Housing Authority (HA). Participants are expected to complete their goals within five years, though the Contract of Participation may be extended up to two years for good cause. To qualify for an extension, the participant must make the request in writing and include justification for the need for additional time. Contract extensions will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

**INDIVIDUAL TRAINING AND SERVICE PLAN (ITSP)**

The ITSP consists of the participant's final goal, interim goals, and specific steps the participant needs to take in order to accomplish those goals. Typically, goals are focused on attaining full-time employment, job advancement, training and education, financial stability, childcare, and

personal growth and development.

**CASE MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

The FSS Coordinator works in partnership with participants to identify and secure resources that yield self-sufficiency. Case management includes supportive counseling, information and referrals, and ongoing goal development and planning, which will ultimately help participants gain skills and lifelong learning that continue beyond their participation in FSS. Participants will be referred to community agencies for additional services to support their self-sufficiency efforts.

**ESCROW ACCOUNTS**

In general, as a family's earned income increases, the amount the family must pay for rent increases. When this happens, HACR takes a portion of the rent subsidy and places it in an interest-bearing escrow account on a monthly basis. The account is held for the family until they have completed all goals set in the Self-Sufficiency Plan. Once the family has met its goals and become independent of government assistance (ex: AFDC, GA, etc.) for a minimum of one year, they may cash out the escrow account. A participant must put their request to graduate from the program and cash out the escrow account in writing. If a family is unable to complete their goals in the prescribed time period the escrow account will be forfeited and the funds will be returned to HACR.

**SUPPORTIVE SERVICES**

- A. For each family that is a non-elderly, non-disabled family living in a unit receiving Project Based rental assistance, the family shall participate in the development and implementation of the service plan.
- B. Families will be informed of HUD's Family Self-Sufficiency program (FSS) and will be asked to participate in FSS so as to expand their access to services in their communities;
- C. For each family that is a non-elderly, non-disabled family living in a unit receiving Project Based rental assistance, the Housing Authority (HA) shall ensure that an individual service plan is established in consultation with the family and in place within 3 months after lease-up. This plan must include an assessment, an action plan for addressing the family's needs including services to be received, and the identification of long term housing goals. The agreement may require mandatory attendance at self-sufficiency counseling and training sessions;
- D. The HA shall ensure that the following services are available directly or by referral/agreement with another agency to each non-elderly, non-disabled family living in a unit receiving Project Based rental assistance:

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- Basic life skills information/counseling on money management, use of credit, housekeeping, proper nutrition/meal preparation; and access to health care (e.g. doctors, medication, and mental and behavioral health services);
  - Counseling on compliance with rental lease requirements and with HCV program participant requirements, including assistance/referrals for assistance on security deposits, utility hook-up fees, and utility deposits;
  - Job preparation and attainment counseling (where to look/how to apply, dress, grooming, relationships with supervisory personnel, etc);
  - Education and career advancement counseling regarding attainment of general equivalency diploma (GED); attendance/financing of education at technical school, trade school or college; including successful work ethic and attitude models; and
  - Participation in the assessment and implementation of actions to address their needs, including the development of an individual case plan for each adult and the adult's commitment to the plan (each adult is required to sign a service plan agreeing to attend FSS counseling/training sessions and to take other actions as deemed appropriate to the adult's successful transition to self-sufficiency); and
- E. The HA shall ensure either directly or by referral/agreement with another agency that each family living in a unit receiving Project Based rental assistance that is a non-elderly, non-disabled family are regularly case managed and evaluated during the lease term.

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**APPENDIX A: GLOSSARY**

**ABSORPTION:** The point at which a receiving HA stops billing the initial HA for assistance on behalf of a portability family. The receiving HA uses funds available under the receiving HA consolidated ACC.

**ACC RESERVE ACCOUNT (formerly Project Reserve):** Account established by HUD from amounts by which the maximum payment to the HA under the consolidated ACC (during an HA fiscal year) exceeds the amount actually approved and paid. This account is used as the source of additional payments for the program.

**ADJUSTED INCOME:** Annual income, less allowable HUD deductions.

**ADMINISTRATIVE FEE:** Fee paid by HUD to the HA for administration of the program.

**ADMINISTRATIVE FEE RESERVE (formerly Operating Reserve):** Account established by HA from excess administrative fee income. The administrative fee reserve must be used for housing purposes.

**ADMISSION:** The effective date of the first HAP contract for a family (first day of initial lease term) in a tenant-based program. This is the point when the family becomes a participant in the program.

**ALCOHOL ABUSE:** HACR has determined that a pattern of alcohol abuse exists when there are two or more criminal charges involving alcohol during a three year period.

**ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS CONTRACT (ACC):** A written contract between HUD and an HA. Under the contract HUD agrees to provide funding for operation of the program, and the HA agrees to comply with HUD requirements for the program.

**ANNUAL INCOME:** The anticipated total Annual Income of an eligible family from all sources for the 12-month period following the date of determination of income, computed in accordance with the regulations.

**APPLICANT (or applicant family):** A family that has applied for admission to a program, but is not yet a participant in the program.

**ASSETS:** (See Net Family Assets.)

**ASSISTED TENANT:** A tenant who pays less than the market rent as defined in the regulations. Includes tenants receiving rent supplement, Rental Assistance Payments, or Section 8 assistance and all other 236 and 221 (d)(3) BMIR tenants, except those paying the 236 market rent or 120 percent of the BMIR rent, respectively.

**BUDGET AUTHORITY:** An amount authorized and appropriated by the Congress for payment to the HA under the program. For each funding increment in an HA program, budget

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authority is the maximum amount that may be paid by HUD to the HA over the ACC term of the funding increment.

**CHILD:** A member of the family other than the head or spouse/co-head who is under 18.

**CHILD CARE EXPENSES:** Reasonable amounts (based on average county wide costs determined by a yearly survey of child care providers and not exceeding the earned income) paid by the family for the care of minors under 13 years of age where such care is necessary to enable a family member to be employed or for a household member to further his/her education.

**CITIZEN:** A citizen or national of the United States.

**CO-HEAD:** A co-head is the boyfriend, girlfriend, or significant other of the head of the household. This person has equal responsibility for the lease. A family may have a spouse or co-head, but not both. A co-head never qualifies as a dependent (50058 Instruction Booklet-3h). A Co-head may qualify the family as a disabled or elderly household and consequently receive a \$400 annual allowance. (24CFR 5.403 for disabled/elderly definition of a "family"—"two or more persons living together").

**CONTINUOUSLY ASSISTED:** If the family is already receiving assistance under any 1937 Housing Act program when admitted to the Voucher program the applicant is considered continuously assisted under the 1937 Housing Act.

**CONTRACT:** (See Housing Assistance Payments Contract.)

**CONTRACT AUTHORITY:** The maximum annual payment by HUD to an HA for a funding increment.

**CONTRACT RENT:** Contract Rent is the total rent paid to the owner, including the tenant payment and the HAP payment from the HA.

**COURT PROGRAM:** A program run by Riverside County Family and Dependency Drug Courts

**COVERED PERSON:** A tenant, any member of the tenant's household, a guest or another person under the tenant's control.

**CREDIBLE EVIDENCE:** May be obtained from police and/or court records. Testimony from neighbors, when combined with other factual evidence can be considered credible evidence. Other credible evidence includes documentation of drug raids or arrest warrants.

**DATING VIOLENCE:** Violence committed by a person (A) who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and (B) where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: (i) The length of the relationship; (ii) the type of the relationship; and (iii) the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

**DEPENDENT:** A member of the family household (excluding foster children) other than the family head or spouse/co-head, who is under 18 years of age or is a disabled person or handicapped person, or is a full-time student 18 years of age or over.

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**DISABLED PERSON:** A person who is any of the following:

1. A person who has a disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act. (42 U.S.C. 423).
2. A person who has a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that:
  - a. Is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration;
  - b. Substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently; and
  - c. Is of such a nature that ability to live independently could be improved by more suitable housing conditions.
3. A person who has a developmental disability as defined in section 102(7) of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (42 U.S.C. 6001(7)).

**DISABLED FAMILY:** A family whose head (including co-head), spouse, or sole member is a person with a disability. It may include two or more persons with disabilities living together, or one or more persons with disabilities living with one or more live-in-aides.

**DISPLACED PERSON:** A person displaced by governmental action or a person whose dwelling has been extensively damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster declared or otherwise formally recognized under federal disaster relief laws.

**DOMICILE:** The legal residence of the household head or spouse/co-head as determined in accordance with state and local law.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:** Felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse/co-head of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse/co-head, by a person similarly situated to a spouse/co-head of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

**DRUG:** A controlled substance as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802).

**DRUG-RELATED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY:** The illegal manufacture, sale, distribution, or use of a drug, or the possession of a drug with intent to manufacture, sell, distribute or use the drug.

**ELDERLY/DISABLED FAMILY:** A family whose head (including co-head), ~~or spouse/co-head~~ or whose sole member is a ~~an elderly~~ person who is at least 62 years of age. It may include two or more persons who are at least 62 years of age living together, or one or more persons who are at least 62 years of age living with one or more live-in-aides. ~~a disabled person, or a handicapped person as defined in this section; or may be two or more elderly, disabled or handicapped persons living together; or one or more such persons living with another person who is determined to be essential to his/her care and well being.~~

**ELDERLY PERSON:** A person who is at least 62 years old.

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**EVIDENCE OF CITIZENSHIP:** Evidence of citizenship or eligible immigration status means the documents that must be submitted to verify citizenship or eligible immigration status.

**EXCESS MEDICAL EXPENSES:** Any medical expenses incurred by elderly or disabled families only, in excess of 3 percent of annual income that are not reimbursable from any other source.

**EXTREMELY LOW INCOME:** A family whose annual income does not exceed 30 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD, with adjustments for smaller and larger families.

**FAIR MARKET RENT (FMR):** The rent including the cost of utilities (except telephone) that would be required to be paid in the housing market area to obtain privately owned existing decent, safe and sanitary rental housing of modest (non-luxury) nature with suitable amenities. Fair market rents for existing housing are established by HUD for housing units of varying sizes (number of bedrooms) and are published annually in the *Federal Register* in accordance with HUD regulations.

**FAMILY:** The applicant must qualify as a family as defined in Chapter 2 of this Administrative Plan. Family is used interchangeably with "Applicant" or "Participant" and can refer to a group of persons or a single person family.

**FAMILY OF VETERAN OR SERVICE PERSON:** A family is a family of a veteran or service person when:

1. The veteran or service person (a) is either the head of household or related to the head of the household; or (b) is deceased and was related to the head of the household, and was a family member at the time of death.
2. The veteran or service person, unless deceased, is living with the family or is only temporarily absent unless she/he was (a) formerly the head of the household and is permanently absent because of hospitalization, separation, or desertion, or is divorced; provided, the family contains one or more persons for whose support she/he is legally responsible and the spouse/co-head has not remarried; or (b) not the head of the household, but is permanently hospitalized; provided, that she/he was a family member at the time of hospitalization and at least one related person remains in the family.

**FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM (FSS PROGRAM):** The program established by an HA to promote self-sufficiency of assisted families, including the provision of supportive services.

**FAMILY UNIFICATION PROGRAM:** A HUD-specified funded program (CFR 982.204 (e)) for families for whom of lack of adequate housing is a primary factor in the separation, or threat of imminent separation, of children from their families or in the prevention of reunifying the children with their families.

**FOSTER CARE YOUTH (for purposes of the HUD-funded FUP allocation):** A youth at least 18 years old and not more than 21 years old (have not reached their 22 birthday) who left

foster care at age 16 or older and who do not have adequate housing.

**FOSTER CHILD:** Child whose care, comfort, education, and upbringing has been left to persons other than his natural parents. All foster care income of is excluded.

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**FOSTER CHILD CARE PAYMENT:** Payment to eligible households by state, local, or private agencies appointed by the State, to administer payments for the care of foster children.

**FULL-TIME STUDENT:** A person who is carrying a subject load that is considered full time for day students under the standards and practices of the educational institution attended. An educational institution includes a vocational school with a diploma or certificate program, as well as an institution offering a college degree.

**FUNDING INCREMENT:** Each commitment of budget authority by HUD to an HA under the consolidated annual contributions contract for the HA program.

**GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT:** Employed and working an average of 30-32 hours per week.

**GROSS RENT:** The sum of the Contract Rent plus the current utility allowance. If there is no utility allowance, Contract Rent equals Gross Rent. The Gross Rent will be used as the payment standard when it is less than the authorized payment standard.

**GUEST:** A person temporarily staying in the unit with the consent of a tenant or other member of the household who has express or implied authority to so consent on behalf of the tenant.

**HA:** A Housing Authority - either a Public Housing Agency or an Indian Housing Authority or both. The Housing Authority of the County of Riverside is referred to as "HA" or "Housing Authority" throughout this document.

**HANDICAP ASSISTANCE:** Anticipated costs for care aides and auxiliary apparatus for handicapped or disabled family members that enable a family member (including the handicapped family member) to work.

**HANDICAPPED PERSON:** [Referred to as a Person with a Disability]. A person having a physical or mental impairment which:

1. Is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration;
2. Substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently; and
3. Is of such nature that such ability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions.

**HAP CONTRACT:** (See Housing Assistance Payments Contract.)

**HARD TO HOUSE:** Families with three or more minor children are considered a hard to house family. Families that have a disabled person are considered as a hard to house family. Special assistance will be given to these families in finding a rental unit other than their pre-program unit.

**HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD:** The head of household is the person who assumes legal and financial responsibility for the household and is listed on the application as head.

**HOMELESS:** Any person or family that: 1) lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence; and 2) has a primary nighttime residence that is: (a) a supervised publicly or privately

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operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing); (b) an institution that provides a temporary residence for persons intended to be institutionalized; or (c) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

**HOUSEHOLD:** All persons living in the assisted home who have been authorized by the HA. Any person living in the household without permission of the HA is considered an unauthorized household member.

**HOUSING AGENCY:** A state, county, municipality or other governmental entity or public body authorized to administer the program. The term "HA" includes an Indian housing authority (IHA). (HA and PHA mean the same thing.)

**HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974:** Act in which the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (sometimes referred to as the Act) was recodified, and which added the Section 8 Programs.

**HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT:** The monthly assistance payment by an HA. The total assistance payment consists of:

1. A payment to the owner for rent to owner under the family's lease.
2. An additional payment to the family if the total assistance payment exceeds the rent to owner. The additional payment is called a utility reimbursement payment.

**HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS (HAP) CONTRACT:** A written contract between the HA and an owner in the form prescribed by HUD, in which the HA agrees to make housing assistance payments to the owner on behalf of an eligible family.

**HOUSING ASSISTANCE PLAN:** (1) A Housing Assistance Plan submitted by a local government participating in the Community Development Block Program as part of the block grant application, in accordance with the requirements of 570.303(c) submitted by a local government not participating in the Community Development Block Grant Program and approved by HUD. (2) Housing Assistance Plan meeting the requirements of 570.303(c) submitted by a local government not participating in the Community Development Block Grant Program and approved by HUD.

**HOUSING QUALITY STANDARDS (HQS):** The HUD minimum quality standards for housing assisted under the tenant-based programs.

**HUD:** The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**HUD REQUIREMENTS:** HUD requirements for the Section 8 programs. HUD requirements are issued by HUD headquarters as regulations, Federal Register notices or other binding program directives.

**IMPUTED ASSET:** Asset disposed of for less than Fair Market Value during the two years preceding examination or reexamination and valued at more than \$5,000.



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**IMPUTED ASSET INCOME:** HUD passbook rate times total cash value of assets. Imputed asset income is used when assets exceed \$5,000.

**IMPUTED WELFARE INCOME:** The difference between the actual welfare grant received by the family and the amount that would be received by the family if a family member was not sanctioned for fraud, or failure to participate in an economic self sufficiency program, or comply with a work activities requirement.

**INCOME:** Income from all sources of each member of the household as determined in accordance with HUD regulations for included and excluded income.

**INCOME FOR ELIGIBILITY:** Annual Gross Income.

**INDIAN:** Any person recognized as an Indian or Alaska Native by an Indian Tribe, the Federal Government, or any State.

**INDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY (IHA):** A housing agency established either:

1. By exercise of the power of self-government of an Indian Tribe, independent of state law, or
2. By operation of state law providing specifically for housing authorities for Indians

**INTEREST REDUCTION SUBSIDIES:** The monthly payments or discounts made by HUD to reduce the debt service payments and, hence, rents required on Section 236 and 221 (d)(3) BMIR projects. Includes monthly interest reduction payments made to mortgagees of Section 236 projects and front-end loan discounts paid on BMIR projects.

**INS:** The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service

**LANDLORD:** This term means either the owner of the property or his/her representative or the managing agent or his/her representative, as shall be designated by the owner. "Landlord" and "Owner" are used interchangeably. See definition of Owner.

**LEASE:** A written agreement between an owner and an eligible family for the leasing of a housing unit. The Section 8 voucher program has an Addendum to the Lease that has mandatory language that must be incorporated into any lease the HA uses.

**LEGAL GUARDIAN:** A guardian appointed by the court to represent the interests of infants, the unborn, or incompetent persons in legal actions. Guardians are adults who are legally responsible for protecting the well-being and interests of their ward, who is usually a minor.

**LIVE-IN AIDE:** A person who resides with an elderly person or disabled person and who:

1. Is determined to be essential to the care and well being of the person
2. Is not obligated for the support of the person
3. Would not be living in the unit except to provide necessary supportive services
4. Is recommended by a medical professional

**LOCAL PREFERENCE:** A preference used by the HA to select among applicant families.

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**LOW-INCOME FAMILY:** A family whose annual income does not exceed 80 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD, with adjustments for smaller and larger families. For admission to the Section 8 program, HUD may establish income limits higher or lower than 80 percent of the median income for the area on the basis of its finding that such variations are necessary because of the prevailing levels of construction costs or unusually high or low family incomes.

**MARKET RENT:** The rent HUD authorizes the owner of FHA insured/subsidized multi-family housing to collect from families ineligible for assistance. For unsubsidized units in a FHA-insured multi-family project in which a portion of the total units receive project-based rental assistance, under the Rental Supplement or Section 202/Section 8 Programs, the Market Rate Rent is that rent approved by HUD and is the Contract Rent for Section 8. For BMIR units, Market Rent varies by whether the project is a rental or cooperative.

**MEDICAL EXPENSE:** Those total medical expenses, including medical insurance premiums that are anticipated during the period for which Annual Income is computed, and that are not covered by insurance.

**MINOR:** A member of the family household (excluding foster children) other than the family head or spouse/co-head who is under 18 years of age.

**MIXED FAMILY:** A family whose members include those with citizenship or eligible immigration status and those without citizenship or eligible immigration status.

**MONTHLY ADJUSTED INCOME:** 1/12 of the annual income after allowances or adjusted income.

**MONTHLY INCOME:** 1/12 of the annual gross income.

**NATIONAL:** A person who owes permanent allegiance to the United States, for example, as a result of birth in a United States territory or possession.

**NEAR-ELDERLY:** A person whose head (including co-head), spouse, or sole member is a person who is at least 50 years of age but below the age of 62; or two or more persons, who are at least 50 years of age but below the age of 62, living together; or one or more persons who are at least 50 years of age but below the age of 62, living with one or more live-in aides.

**NET FAMILY ASSETS:** Value of equity in savings, checking, IRA and Keogh accounts, real property, stocks, bonds, and other forms of capital investment. The value of necessary items of personal property such as furniture and automobiles is excluded from the definition.

**NON-CITIZEN:** A person who is neither a citizen nor national of the United States.

**NUCLEUS FAMILY:** All family members at the time of initial voucher issuance (Intake) plus any members added by marriage, birth, adoption, or court awarded custody.

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**OCCUPANCY STANDARDS:** [Now referred to as Subsidy Standards] Standards established by an HA to determine the appropriate number of bedrooms for households. The subsidy standards must provide for the smallest number of bedrooms needed to house a family without overcrowding.

**OTHER PERSON UNDER THE TENANT'S CONTROL:** A person, although not staying as a guest in the unit, who is, or was at the time of the activity in question, on the premises because of an invitation from the tenant or other member of the household who has express or implied authority to so consent on behalf of the tenant. Absent evidence to the contrary, a person temporarily and infrequently on the premises solely for legitimate commercial purposes is not under the tenant's control.

**OWNER:** Any persons or entity having the legal right to lease or sublease housing.

**PARTICIPANT:** A family that has been admitted to the HA's Section 8 program. The family becomes a participant on the effective date of the first HAP contract executed by the HA for the family (First day of initial lease term).

**PAYMENT STANDARD:** The amount used to calculate the housing assistance a family will receive in the HA's Housing Voucher Program.

**PREFERENCE:** See Local Preference.

**PREMISES:** The building or complex or development in which the public or assisted housing dwelling unit is located, including common areas and grounds.

**PROGRAM INTEGRITY MONITORING (PIM):** The prevention, detection and investigation of program abuse and fraud. It is driven by the mission of the organization and conducted in a manner respectful of the public, program participants, employees and owners.

**PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:** Welfare or other payments to families or individuals, based on need, which are made under programs funded, separately or jointly, by Federal, State or Local Governments.

**PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY (PHA):** A state, county, municipality, or other governmental entity or public body authorized to administer the programs. The term PHA includes an Indian Housing Authority (IHA). (HA and PHA mean the same thing.) In this rule, a PHA is referred to as a housing agency (HA).

**RANKING PREFERENCE:** A preference used by the HA to select among applicant families that qualify for a preference.

**REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION:** In order to grant equal access and/or an equal opportunity to participate in the HCVP, the PHA will consider requests for reasonable accommodation (reasonable adjustments to the rules, policies, practices, procedures which do not reduce or waive the essential requirements of the program) by persons with disabilities.

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Accommodations are not reasonable if they require fundamental alterations in the nature of the program, or impose undue financial burdens on the PHA. Requests for reasonable accommodation will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**REMAINING MEMBER OF TENANT FAMILY:** The remaining family member is a member of the family who remains in the assisted unit after the death of the Head of Household, or removal of the Head of Household to an assisted living environment, or government facility. To be considered the remaining member of the tenant family, the person must have been previously approved as part of the nucleus family by the HA and be currently living in the unit.

**RENT BURDENED:** Paying more than 30% of family income for rent. In order to be given the preference of rent burdened, a family must provide evidence that is verifiable

**RENT TO OWNER:** The total amount of rent payable to the owner by the family and the HA per month for an assisted unit. Side payments are prohibited.

**RESIDENCY PREFERENCE:** Given to those applicants who, at the time of release from the waiting list, either: a) reside in the County of Riverside or b) work (head/ spouse/co-head or sole member of the household is employed) or have been notified that they are hired to work in the County of Riverside. This residency preference will not have the purpose or effect of delaying or otherwise denying admission to the program based on race, color, ethnic origin, gender, religion, disability, or age of any member of an applicant family.

**RESPONSIBLE ENTITY:** The person or entity responsible for administering the restrictions on providing assistance to non-citizens with ineligible immigration status (the HA).

**SECRETARY:** The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

**SECURITY DEPOSIT:** A dollar amount that can be applied to unpaid rent, damages or other amounts to the owner under the lease.

**SECTION 214:** Section 214 restricts HUD from making financial assistance available for non-citizens unless they meet one of the categories of eligible immigration status specified in Section 214.

**SERVICE PERSON:** A person in the active military or naval service (including the active reserve) of the United States.

**SHARED HOUSING:**

An assisted family shares a unit with the other resident or residents of the unit (See 982.615). The owner of the assisted unit may not live in the unit if they are a relative.

**SINGLE PERSON:** A person living alone or intending to live alone.

**SPORADIC INCOME:** Income that is not regularly received by the household but is received no more than six times in a year.

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**SPOUSE:** The husband or wife of the head of the household. Spouse refers to the marriage partner, either a husband or wife, who is someone you need to divorce in order to dissolve the relationship. It does not cover boyfriends, girlfriends, significant others, or "co-heads". Accordingly, same sex marriage couples cannot be regarded as "spouses" under any housing program under the United States Housing Act of 1937. (HUD's guidance Public Law 104-199 § 3(a), 110 Stat. 2419, codified at 1 USC § 7)

**STALKING:** Stalking means (A) (i) to follow, pursue, or repeatedly commit acts with the intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate another person; or (ii) to place under surveillance with the intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate another person; and (B) in the course of, or as a result of, such following, pursuit, surveillance, or repeatedly committed acts, to place a person in reasonable fear of the death of, or serious bodily injury to, or to cause substantial emotional harm to (i) that person; (ii) a member of the immediate family of the person; or (iii) the spouse/co-head or intimate partner of that person. As used above, immediate family is defined to mean "with respect to a person (A) a spouse/co-head, parent, brother or sister, or child of that person, or an individual to whom that person stands in loco parentis; or (B) any other person living in the household of that person and related to that person by blood or marriage."

**SUBSIDIZED PROJECT:** A multi-family housing project (with the exception of a project owned by a cooperative housing mortgage corporation or association) that receives the benefit of subsidy in the form of:

1. Below-market interest pursuant to Section 221(d)(3) and (5) or interest reduction payments pursuant to Section 236 of the National Housing Act; or
2. Rent supplement payments under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965; or
3. Direct loans pursuant to Section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959; or
4. Payments under the Section 23 Housing Assistance Payments Program pursuant to Section 23 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 prior to amendment by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974;
5. Payments under the Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program pursuant to Section 8 of the United States Housing Act after amendment by the Housing and Community Development act unless the project is owned by a Public Housing Agency;
6. A Public Housing Project.

**SUBSIDY STANDARDS:** Standards established by an HA to determine the appropriate number of bedrooms for households. The subsidy standards must provide for the smallest number of bedrooms needed to house a family without overcrowding.

**TENANT:** Tenant is used to refer to participants in terms of their relation to landlords as lessee.

**TENANT RENT (Also called Net Family Contribution):** The amount payable monthly by the family as rent to the owner (including a HA in other programs). Where all utilities (except telephone) and other essential housing services are supplied by the owner, tenant rent equals total tenant payment. Where some of all utilities (except telephone) and other essential housing services are not supplied by the owner and the cost thereof is not included in the amount paid as

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rent to the owner, tenant rent equals total tenant payment less the utility allowance in the Certificate program. In the Voucher program, tenant rent is rent to owner less HAP.

**TOTAL TENANT PAYMENT (TTP):** The amount the HUD rent formula requires the tenant to pay toward rent and utilities.

**TRANSITIONAL HOUSING:** A housing unit located in a building that contains sleeping accommodations, kitchen, and bathroom facilities. Used exclusively to facilitate the transition of homeless individuals to independent living within twenty-four (24) months and where a governmental body or qualified nonprofit organization provides those individuals with temporary housing and supportive services to assist them in finding and keeping permanent housing.

**UNIT:** Residential space for the private use of a family.

**UTILITIES:** Utilities means water, electricity, gas, other heating, refrigeration, cooking fuels, trash collection and sewage service. Telephone and cable service are not included as utilities.

**UTILITY ALLOWANCE:** If the cost of utilities (except telephone) including range and refrigerator, and other housing services for an assisted unit is not included in the tenant rent but is the responsibility of the family occupying the unit, an amount equal to the estimate made or approved by a HA or HUD of the monthly cost of a reasonable consumption of such utilities and other services for the unit by an energy-conservative household of modest circumstances consistent with the requirements of a safe, sanitary, and healthy living environment.

**UTILITY REIMBURSEMENT PAYMENT:** The amount, if any, by which the utility allowance for the unit, if applicable, exceeds the Total Tenant Payment for the family occupying the unit.

**VAWA:** Violence Against Women's Act

**VERY LOW INCOME FAMILY:** A lower-income family whose annual income does not exceed 50 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD, with adjustments for smaller and larger families. HUD may establish income limits higher or lower than 50 percent of the median income for the area on the basis of its finding that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes. This is the income limit for the Voucher program.

**VETERAN:** A person who meets the definition of a veteran according to California Military and Veterans Code Section 980

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=mvc&group=00001-01000&file=980-980.5>

**VIOLENT CRIMINAL ACTIVITY:** Any criminal activity that has as one of its elements the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force substantial enough to cause, or be reasonably likely to cause, serious bodily injury or property damage. CFR 5.100

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**VOUCHER HOLDER:** A family holding a Voucher with unexpired search time.

**WAITING LIST:** A list of families organized according to HUD regulations and HA policy that are waiting for subsidy to become available.

**WELFARE ASSISTANCE:** Welfare or other payments to families or individuals, based on need, that are made under programs funded, separately or jointly, by Federal, State, or local Governments.

**WORKING FAMILIES:** A family in which the head and/or spouse/co-head is employed and is working at least 32 hours per week at California minimum wage or higher. For families receiving Unemployment or State Disability or Workman's Compensation, prior employment hours will be used to determine the average. Employment hours for both the head and spouse/co-head may be combined when calculating the 32 hrs/wk. minimum requirement.

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**APPENDIX B: CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Housing Authority of the County of Riverside strives to conduct business in accordance with core values and ethical standards. Professional conduct, ethical practices and adherence to all laws, regulations, and government codes are expected by all employees at all times. To ensure compliance with these standards, the following policies have been established:

**PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES:**

1. Employees shall not engage in any employment, activity, or enterprise for compensation which is inconsistent, incompatible, in conflict with, or inimical to his or her duties, functions, or responsibilities in a position with the Housing Authority. Employees shall not perform any work, service or counsel for compensation outside of the agency where any part of his/her efforts will be subject to approval by any other officer, employee, board, or commission of this Housing Authority.
2. Prohibited activities shall include but not be limited to:
  - a. Acceptance of money or other consideration from anyone other than the Housing Authority for the performance of duties required or expected of him/her in the regular course of Housing Authority employment.
  - b. Performance of an act in other than his/her capacity as an officer or employee which act may later be subject directly or indirectly to the control, inspection, review, audit, or enforcement of any other officer or employee of the Housing Authority.
  - c. Any act whose time demands would render performance of his or her duties as an officer or employee less efficient and productive.
  - d. Embezzlement and falsification of accounts as defined in the California Penal Code.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**

1. To avoid potential conflicts of interest, or the appearance of such, it is the policy of this Housing Authority that:
  - A. No employee shall enter into any agreement, written or unwritten, without prior approval from the Assistant Executive Director or his designee, that involves any direct payment or other form of compensation as a result of any program administered by this Housing Authority, either directly or indirectly, through agreements with other parties.
  - B. No employee, officer, or agent of the Housing Authority shall participate directly or indirectly in the selection, award or administration of any contract if a conflict, real or perceived, would be involved. Such conflict would arise when a

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financial or other interest in the execution of a contract or in Housing Authority program participation is held by:

- (1) An employee, officer, or agent involved in making the award;
- (2) The relative of such a person (including, but not limited to, spouse or domestic partner or significant other, father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first cousin, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half sister);
- (3) The business partner of such a person; or someone with an interest in,
- (4) An organization which employs, is negotiating to employ, or has an arrangement concerning prospective employment of any of the above.

### **THE CONSEQUENCES OF RULE VIOLATIONS:**

Any violation of prohibited activities shall be handled as for the acts set out under Section 2.I. (3) of the Agency's personnel policies on Discipline, Dismissal, and Review.

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**APPENDIX C: ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE'S  
POLICY ON ZERO TOLERANCE  
OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY**

**July 1, 2012**

**PURPOSE**

To establish a Housing Authority (HA) policy for zero tolerance of housing and/or welfare fraud, violent, gang-related, and drug-related (including medical marijuana) criminal activity or any criminal activity that threatens the health, safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of other residents or others in the immediate vicinity in any housing program administered by the Housing Authority. If a family is granted court ordered drug diversion then it is the family responsibility to adhere to court mandated requirements and furnish to the PHA proof that the charge was dismissed. Failure to comply with drug diversion will result in termination. Drug diversion will be granted once in a lifetime while on program. The PHA may terminate assistance for criminal activity by a household member as authorized in this section if the PHA determines, based on a preponderance of the evidence, that the household member has engaged in the activity, regardless of whether the household member has been arrested or convicted for such activity [24 CFR 982.553 (c), 24 CFR 966.4]. Preponderance of evidence is defined as evidence which is of greater weight or more convincing than the evidence which is offered in opposition to it; that is, evidence which as a whole shows that the fact sought to be proved is more probably than not. The intent is not to prove criminal liability, but to establish that the act(s) occurred. Preponderance of evidence may not be determined by the number of witnesses, but by the greater weight of all evidence. Credible evidence may be obtained from police and/or court records. Testimony from neighbors, when combined with other factual evidence can be considered credible evidence. Other credible evidence includes documentation of drug raids or arrest warrants.

Criminal activity as listed above, misdemeanor and felony the same, will hereinafter be called "prohibited criminal activity." "Minor traffic offenses" may include offenses such as parking violations, registration violations or failure to provide proof of insurance. Traffic offenses that include illegal use of controlled substances or alcohol related violations of traffic laws are not considered minor. Two or more alcohol related criminal actions within the last five year period constitute an abuse of alcohol. All persons receiving rental assistance, regardless of age, will be held to the same standard. Persons convicted of manufacturing or producing methamphetamine on the premises of federally assisted housing will be permanently denied admission to any federally assisted housing program. Persons convicted of sex offenses that require a lifetime registration as a sex offender are prohibited from participation in any housing assistance programs administered by the Housing Authority in accordance with Federal Regulations. Exceptions in this policy do not apply to registered sex offenders or any person who was convicted of manufacturing or producing methamphetamine on the premises of federally assisted housing. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) prohibits the eviction of, and removal of assistance from, victims living in public or Section 8 assisted housing if the asserted grounds for such action is an instance of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

**BACKGROUND**

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The primary mission of the Housing Authority is to assist low and moderate income families, including elderly and disabled persons, by operating programs which provide them decent, safe and sanitary housing at affordable costs. The programs currently administered by the Housing Authority include the following: Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher, Affordable Public Housing, MOD Rehab, Project-based, Family Unification, Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA), Shelter Plus Care and Mainstream Vouchers.

### **POLICY**

It is the policy of the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside that:

Prohibited criminal activity will not be tolerated. The Housing Authority will foster crime-free housing by implementing aggressive strategies which will reflect a zero tolerance of prohibited criminal activity by:

The Housing Authority may deny or terminate assistance to any household containing a member that has a history of criminal activity involving crimes of physical violence to persons or property and other criminal acts which would adversely affect the health, safety, or welfare of other tenants. {24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 982.553 (c); 24 CFR 960.202 (a) (2) iii & 24 CFR 203c}.

1. Denying or terminating rental assistance to all households containing a member that has engaged in prohibited criminal activity unless that member can demonstrate the following:
  - a. Evidence of crime-free living within the last five years and no occurrence of criminal behavior (other than minor traffic offenses), **and**
  - b. Applicant/tenant must not have been incarcerated (in custody or doing any jail time) during the last five years for any action related to any prohibited criminal activity; **and**
  - c. Applicant/tenant would not threaten the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of other residents and persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises (i.e. gang related activity); **and**
  - d. Satisfactory adherence to all court and probation/parole mandated conditions for any action related to any prohibited criminal activity;
  - e. For drug-related criminal activity (Evidence of drug-related activity (use/possession of drugs and/or drug-related paraphernalia): The HA may consider enrollment in a court ordered drug rehabilitation/diversion program if there is an active drug-related charge against the applicant/participant. At PHA discretion, first offenders may be only granted an exception to the Zero Tolerance Policy only once (1) per Lifetime due to participation in court ordered drug rehabilitation/diversion program. Approval is not automatic. Repeat or habitual offenders will not be granted an exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy and rental assistance will be denied and/or terminated. The participant cannot elect to join a drug rehabilitation/diversion program in lieu of termination of assistance after the HA has discovered illegal drug-related activity.

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For consideration of one lifetime exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy, the following conditions must exist:

- i. The applicant/participant must be a first time participant in a court ordered drug rehabilitation program for any drug-related offense that they are requesting an exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy, **and**
- ii. The applicant/participant must have enrolled in the court ordered drug rehabilitation program prior to the date of the HA's discovery of the drug-related activity, **and**
- iii. Completion of the program must be achieved within the allowed time by the courts, **and**
- iv. Evidence of completion must be provided to the HA within 10 calendar days from the date of completion of the program.

If an exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy is granted by the PHA, the PHA will monitor compliance at the next regularly scheduled re-examination for determination of rental assistance eligibility.

2. Denying or terminating tenancy, in any Housing Authority owned rental unit, to any household containing a member that has engaged in prohibited criminal activity, and who has a history or pattern of criminal activity which would adversely affect the health, safety, or welfare of other tenants, unless that member can demonstrate the following:
  - a. Evidence of crime-free living within the last five years and no occurrence of criminal behavior (other than minor traffic offenses), **and**
  - b. Applicant/tenant must not have been incarcerated (in custody or doing any jail time) during the last five years for any action related to any prohibited criminal activity; **and**
  - c. Applicant/participant would not be a detriment to the health, safety, or welfare of his/her neighbors or the community in which they live; whose expected behavior would not have an adverse influence upon sound family and community life; who would not be a source of danger to the peaceful occupancy by the other tenants or cause damage to the premises or property of the Housing Authority or the immediate vicinity; **and**
  - d. Satisfactory adherence to all court and probation/parole mandated conditions for any action related to any prohibited criminal activity;
  - e. For drug-related criminal activity (Evidence of drug-related activity (use/possession of drugs and/or drug-related paraphernalia): The HA may consider enrollment in a court ordered drug rehabilitation/diversion program if there is an active drug-related charge against the applicant/participant. At PHA discretion, first offenders may be only granted an exception to the Zero Tolerance Policy only once (1) per Lifetime due to participation in court ordered drug rehabilitation/diversion program. Approval is not automatic. Repeat or habitual offenders will not be granted an exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy and rental assistance will be denied and/or terminated. The participant cannot elect to join a drug rehabilitation/diversion program in lieu of termination of assistance

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after the HA has discovered illegal drug-related activity.

For consideration of one lifetime exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy, the following conditions must exist:

- i. The applicant/participant must be a first time participant in a court ordered drug rehabilitation program for any drug-related offense that they are requesting an exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy, **and**
- ii. The applicant/participant must have enrolled in the court ordered drug rehabilitation program prior to the date of the HA's discovery of the drug-related activity, **and**
- iii. Completion of the program must be achieved within the allowed time by the courts, **and**
- iv. Evidence of completion must be provided to the HA within 10 calendar days from the date of completion of the program.

If an exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy is granted by the PHA, the PHA will monitor compliance at the next regularly scheduled re-examination for determination of rental assistance eligibility.

3. Criminal activity directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, engaged in by a member of a tenant's household or any guest or other person under the tenant's control shall not be cause for termination of assistance, tenancy, or occupancy rights if the tenant or an immediate member of the tenant's family is the victim or threatened victim of that domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, provided that the victim member demonstrates the following:
  - a. The perpetrator of the domestic violence no longer resides in the assisted unit.
  - b. Applicant/tenant requesting exception based on 3 above shall complete HUD form 50066 within 14 business days after the HA has requested such certification in writing.
  - c. If the applicant/tenant does not provide the certification within 14 business days after the HA has requested such certification in writing, assistance may be denied/terminated.
4. Alerting all rental assistance program participants and tenants residing in Housing Authority owned housing about their obligation to keep rental units free from prohibited criminal activity.
5. Incorporating the HUD required Tenancy Addendum which includes grounds for termination of tenancy due to criminal activity into all rental leases used by the Housing Authority and requiring the use of said Tenancy Addendum for all private rental property owners in the county.
6. Conducting workshops for rental property owners and managers to stress the importance of screening potential tenants, inspecting the premises of rental property, and taking action against tenants engaged in criminal activity, fraud, or side payments.

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7. Seeking a collaborative relationship with all law enforcement agencies within the County of Riverside and the Office of Inspector General to assist in the enforcement of this Amended Policy on Zero Tolerance Policy of Criminal Activity.
8. Screening all housing program applicants and participants including but not limited to the Riverside Superior Court online system, Consolidated Courts of the County of San Bernardino online system, Consolidated Courts of the County of Los Angeles online system, National Credit Reporting (or similar service), any and all available Sex Offender registries, and any other available sources (i.e. police reports, court records, information that is independently verifiable, law enforcement investigations and arrest warrants) to disclose any criminal background information.
9. Providing the Riverside County Sheriff Department with requested incident reports from Public Housing properties, to be used by the Crime Analysis unit in identifying crime patterns, series, and other potential problems.

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**APPENDIX D: REASONABLE STEPS TO AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHER FAIR HOUSING**

The Housing Authority of the County of Riverside (HACR) in the administration of all programs strives to affirmatively further fair housing opportunities for classes protected under the Fair Housing Act by taking steps to:

- Overcome the effects of impediments to fair housing choice;
- Remedy discrimination in housing; and
- Promote fair housing rights and fair housing choice.

Specific steps include:

1. Marketing HACR programs to all eligible persons, including persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency.

All HACR programs (Section 8, Public Housing, Mod-Rehab, Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS, Shelter Plus Care, Family Self Sufficiency, Homeownership, and other specialized grant funded programs) will be marketed to all eligible persons, including persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency. This marketing and outreach will include newspaper notices including publications in minority newspapers, outreach to community groups that serve persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency, postings on the HACR website ([www.harivco.org](http://www.harivco.org)), and lobby signs posted in our office locations. Persons with disabilities will be assisted if the application process if requested as a reasonable accommodation. Translation services are available to persons with limited English proficiency at no cost to the participant. HACR also employs several bi-lingual staff members who regularly provide assistance to Spanish speaking applicants/participants.

2. Utilizing buildings and communications that facilitate service delivery to persons with disabilities.

Application intake, office appointments, voucher/contract issuance, and informal hearings are all conducted in accessible office spaces. HACR also provides home visits for appointments upon request as a reasonable accommodation. Sign language and Braille services are also available if necessary to service hearing and visually impaired persons.

3. Supporting and expanding housing choice through landlord outreach, participant education, and security deposit assistance

HACR conducts workshops for prospective and exiting landlords to educate them on the Section 8 program and HUD guidelines. Participants receive information on housing choice and housing opportunities at all briefing sessions. Additionally, HACR administers a security deposit assistance program for new participants to support housing choice efforts.



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### **4. Referrals to fair housing agencies**

Referrals to fair housing agencies are available upon request. Additionally, staff will advise participants to seek fair housing services if a situation arises that warrants such as referral (i.e. landlord/tenant issue, questions regarding tenant rights, renters rights in foreclosure).

### **5. Informing participants on how to file a fair housing complaint.**

The HUD fair housing form is provided to applicants/participants in the applicant briefing packet and upon request. Fair housing notices are posted in all office locations. Applicants/participants are provided assistance in filling out the form and are referred to HUD for additional information and assistance. The toll-free number for the Housing Discrimination Hotline is posted in office lobbies and also provided in briefing packet materials.

### **6. Staff training**

All HACR staff members are informed of the importance of affirmatively furthering fair housing and providing equal opportunity to all participants, including providing reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities, as part of the agency's overall commitment to quality customer service. Staff is regularly trained on local, state, and federal fair housing laws and issues.

7. The Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) program is an important program for promoting housing opportunities, housing choice, and housing mobility through self-sufficiency. As such, HACR will take additional steps to ensure that this program is administered in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing. This includes:

- Advertising widely in the community for the FSS Coordinator Position if a vacancy should occur.

Whenever a FSS coordinator position is available and advertised, HACR will advertise throughout the community allowing all interested parties an opportunity to apply. Notices are published in the local newspapers, posted on the County of Riverside website, and distributed among HACR employees. Consideration will be given to qualified applicants who have experience in fair housing issues, housing counseling, and/or are bi-lingual.

- Marketing the FSS program to all eligible persons, including persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency.

The FSS program will be marketed to all eligible persons, including persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency. HACR markets the FSS program through periodic mailings to all Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) participants; announcements and program descriptions provided in briefing sessions and annual recertification packets; and lobby signs posted in our office locations. Translation services are available to persons with limited English proficiency at no cost to the participant. In addition, HACR employs several bi-lingual staff members who regularly provide assistance to Spanish speaking participants.

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- Promoting fair housing in homeownership

The FSS program has a goal of homeownership and housing mobility. To support this goal, HACR employs a full-time Homeownership Coordinator to assist FSS participants with achieving home ownership. FSS participants enrolled in the homeownership program receive information on fair lending practices and laws.

### **8. Record Keeping**

HACR will maintain a record of the following information for all participants: the race, ethnicity, familial status, and disability status of program participants; any reasonable accommodation requests and the disposition of each; and the employment status of all participants. Program information will be reviewed on an ongoing basis for program reporting and planning.

**DRAFT 2012**

**APPENDIX E: PROGRAM INTEGRITY MONITORING (PIM)**

[24 CFR 792.101 to 792.204, 982.54]

**INTRODUCTION**

The U.S. Department of HUD conservatively estimates that 200 million dollars is paid annually to program participants who falsify or omit material facts in order to gain more rental assistance than they are entitled to under the law. HUD further estimates that 12% of all HUD-assisted families are either totally ineligible, or are receiving benefits which exceed their legal entitlement.

The HA is committed to assuring that the proper level of benefits is paid to all participating families, and that housing resources reach only income-eligible families so that program integrity can be maintained. The HA will take all steps necessary to prevent fraud, waste, and mismanagement so that program resources are utilized judiciously.

This chapter outlines the HA's policies for the prevention, detection and investigation of program abuse and fraud.

**A. CRITERIA FOR INVESTIGATION OF SUSPECTED ABUSE AND FRAUD**

The HA's expectation is that participating families will comply with HUD requirements, provisions of the voucher, and other program rules. The HA staff will make every effort (formally and informally) to orient and educate all families in order to avoid unintentional violations. However, the HA has a responsibility to HUD, the County of Riverside, and to eligible families in need of housing assistance, to monitor participants and owners for compliance and, when indicators of possible abuse come to the HA's attention, to investigate such claims.

The HA will initiate an investigation of a participating family in the event of one or more of the following circumstances:

**1. Referrals, Complaints, or Tips**

The HA will follow up on referrals from other agencies, companies or persons which are received by mail, by telephone or in person, which allege that a family is in non-compliance with, or otherwise violating the family obligations or any other program rules. Such follow-up will be made providing that the referral contains at least one item of information that is independently verifiable. A copy of the allegation will be retained in the family's file in such a way as to protect and observe the confidentiality of the informant.

**2. Internal File Review**

A follow-up will be made if HA staff discovers (as a function of a certification or recertification, an interim redetermination, or a quality control review), information or facts which conflict with previous file data, the HA's knowledge of the family, or is discrepant with statements made by the family.

## Housing Authority of the County of Riverside Administrative Plan

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### **3. Verification of Documentation**

A follow-up will be made if the HA receives independent verification or documentation which conflicts with representations in the family's file (such as public record information or credit bureau reports, reports from other agencies).

### **B. STEPS THE HA WILL TAKE TO PREVENT PROGRAM ABUSE AND FRAUD**

The HA management and staff will utilize various methods and practices (listed below) to prevent program abuse, non-compliance, and willful violations of program rules by applicants and participating families. This policy objective is to establish confidence and trust in the management by emphasizing program education as the primary means to obtain compliance by families.

#### **1. Things You Should Know**

This program integrity bulletin (created by HUD's Inspector General) will be furnished and explained to all applicants to promote understanding of program rules, and to clarify the HA's expectations for cooperation and compliance.

#### **2. Program Orientation Session**

Mandatory orientation sessions will be conducted by the HA staff for all prospective program participants, either prior to or upon issuance of a voucher. At the conclusion of all Program Orientation Sessions, the family representative will be required to sign a "Program Briefing Checklist Certificate" to confirm that all rules and pertinent regulations were explained to them.

#### **3. Resident Counseling**

The HA will encourage participants to attend regularly scheduled program briefings as a part of the recertification process in order to clarify any confusion pertaining to program rules and requirements.

#### **4. Review and Explanation of Forms**

At appropriate times and/or at the family's request staff may explain all required forms and review the contents of all (re)certification documents prior to signature.

#### **5. Use of Instructive Signs and Warnings**

Instructive signs such as the "Things you should Know" form will be conspicuously posted in common areas and interview areas to reinforce compliance with program rules and to warn about penalties for fraud and abuse.

#### **6. Participant Certification**

All family representatives will be required to sign a "Briefing Checklist" and "Family Obligations" form, as contained in HUD's Participant Integrity Program Manual.

### **C. STEPS THE HA WILL TAKE TO DETECT PROGRAM ABUSE AND FRAUD**

The HA Staff will maintain a high level of awareness to indicators of possible abuse and fraud by assisted families.

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### **1. Quality Control File Reviews**

Prior to initial certification, and at the completion of all subsequent recertifications, a percentage of files will be reviewed. Such reviews shall include, but are not limited to:

- Assurance that verification of all income and deductions is present.
- Changes in reported Social Security Numbers or dates of birth.
- Authenticity of file documents.
- Ratio between reported income and expenditures.
- Review of signatures for consistency with previously signed file documents.
- All forms are correctly dated and signed.

### **2. Observation**

The HA Management and Occupancy Staff (to include inspection personnel) will maintain high awareness of circumstances which may indicate program abuse or fraud, such as unauthorized persons residing in the household and unreported income. Observations will be documented in the family's file.

### **3. Public Record Bulletins**

Public Record Bulletins may be reviewed by Management and Staff.

### **4. State Wage Data Record Keepers**

Inquiries to State Wage and Employment record keeping agencies as authorized under Public Law 100-628, the Stewart B. McKinley Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1988, may be made annually in order to detect unreported wages or unemployment compensation benefits.

### **5. Credit Bureau Inquiries**

Credit Bureau inquiries may be made (with proper authorization by the participant) in the following circumstances:

- At the time of final eligibility determination
- When an allegation is received by the HA wherein unreported income sources are disclosed.
- When a participant's expenditures exceed his/her reported income, and no plausible explanation is given.

### **D. THE HA'S HANDLING OF ALLEGATIONS OF POSSIBLE ABUSE AND FRAUD**

The HA staff will encourage all participating families to report suspected abuse to **the Program Integrity Monitoring (PIM) division**. All such referrals, as well as referrals from community members and other agencies, will be thoroughly documented, remain anonymous and/or placed in the participant's file. All allegations, complaints and tips will be carefully evaluated in order to determine if they warrant follow-up. The **HA Staff** will not follow up on allegations which are vague or otherwise non-specific. They will only review allegations which contain one or more independently verifiable facts.

### **1. File Review**

An internal file review will be conducted to determine if the subject of the allegation is a client of the HA and, if so, to determine whether or not the information reported has been previously

## Housing Authority of the County of Riverside Administrative Plan

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disclosed by the family. It will then be determined if the HA is the most appropriate authority to do a follow-up (more so than police or social services). Any file documentation of past behavior as well as corroborating complaints will be evaluated.

### **2. Conclusion of Preliminary Review**

If at the conclusion of the preliminary file review there is/are fact(s) contained in the allegation which conflict with file data, and the fact(s) are independently verifiable, the HA Staff will initiate an investigation to determine if the allegation is true or false.

### **E. OVERPAYMENTS TO OWNERS**

If the landlord has been overpaid as a result of fraud, misrepresentation or violation of the Contract, the HA may terminate the Contract and arrange for restitution to the HA and/or family as appropriate. The HA will make every effort to recover any overpayments made as a result of landlord fraud or abuse. Payments otherwise due to the owner may be debited in order to repay the HA or the tenant, as applicable.

### **F. HOW THE HA WILL INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AND FRAUD**

If the HA determines that an allegation or referral warrants follow-up, either the staff person who is responsible for the file, or a person designated by the Executive Director to monitor the program compliance will conduct the investigation. In all cases, the HA will secure the written authorization from the program participant for the release of information. The steps taken will depend upon the nature of the allegation and may include, but are not limited to:

#### **1. Credit Bureau Inquiries (CBI)**

In cases involving previously unreported income sources, a CBI inquiry may be made to determine if there is financial activity that conflicts with the reported income of the family.

#### **2. Verification of Credit**

In cases where the financial activity conflicts with file data, a *Verification of Credit* form may be mailed to the creditor in order to determine the unreported income source.

#### **3. Employers and Ex-Employers**

Employers or ex-employers may be contacted to verify wages which may have been previously undisclosed or misreported.

#### **4. Neighbors/Witnesses**

Neighbors and/or other witnesses may be interviewed who are believed to have direct or indirect knowledge of facts pertaining to the HA's review.

#### **5. Other Agencies**

Investigators, case workers or representatives of other benefit agencies may be contacted.

#### **6. Public Records**

If relevant, the HA will review public records kept in any jurisdictional courthouse. Examples of public records which may be checked are: real estate, marriage, divorce, uniform commercial code financing statements, voter registration, judgments, court or police records, state wage

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records, utility records, postal records,

### **7. Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)**

In cases involving suspected unauthorized tenants and/or unreported vehicles.

### **8. Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) reports**

In cases involving unreported income and/or unreported employers

### **9. Interviews with Head of Household or Family Members**

The HA will discuss the allegation (or details thereof) with the Head of Household or family member by scheduling an appointment at the appropriate HA office. A high standard of courtesy and professionalism will be maintained by the HA staff person who conducts such interviews. Under no circumstances will inflammatory language, accusation, or any unprofessional conduct or language be tolerated by the management. If possible, an additional staff person will attend such interviews.

### **10. Other**

The HA may use any other resources or tools available.

## **G. PLACEMENT OF DOCUMENTS, EVIDENCE AND STATEMENTS OBTAINED BY THE HA**

Documents and other evidence obtained by the HA during the course of an investigation will be considered "work product" and will either be kept in the participant's file, or in a separate "work file." In either case, the participant's file or work file shall be kept in a locked file cabinet. Such cases under review will not be discussed among HA Staff unless they are involved in the process, or have information which may assist in the investigation.

## **H. CONCLUSION OF THE HA'S INVESTIGATIVE REVIEW**

At the conclusion of the investigative review, the reviewer will report the findings to the Executive Director or designee. It will then be determined whether a violation has occurred, a violation has not occurred, or if the facts are inconclusive.

## **I. EVALUATION OF THE FINDINGS**

If it is determined that a program violation has occurred, the HA will review the facts to determine:

- The type of violation (procedural, non-compliance, fraud).
- Whether the violation was intentional or unintentional.
- What amount of money (if any) is owed by the family.
- If the family is eligible for continued occupancy.

## **J. ACTION PROCEDURES FOR VIOLATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN DOCUMENTED**

Once a program violation has been documented, the HA will propose the most appropriate remedy based upon the type and severity of the violation.

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### **1. Procedural Non-compliance (Pre-termination of Assistance Appointment)**

This category applies when the family "fails to" observe a procedure or requirement of the HA, but does not misrepresent a material fact, and there is no retroactive assistance payments owed by the family. Examples of non-compliance violations are:

- Failure to appear at a pre-scheduled appointment.
- Failure to return verification in time period specified by the HA.

#### **(a) Warning Notice to the Family**

In such cases a notice will be sent to the family which contains the following:

- A description of the non-compliance and the procedure, policy or obligation which was violated.
- The date by which the violation must be corrected, or the procedure complied with.
- The action which will be taken by the HA if the procedure or obligation is not complied with by the date specified by the HA.
- The consequences of repeated (similar) violations.

### **2. Procedural Non-compliance - Overpaid Assistance.**

When the family owes money to the HA for failure to report changes in income or assets, the HA will issue a Pre-termination of Assistance Appointment. This Notice will contain the following:

- A description of the violation and the date(s).
- Any amounts owed to the HA.

#### **(a) Participant Fails to Comply with HA's Notice**

If the Participant fails to comply with the HA's notice, and a family obligation has been violated, the HA will initiate termination of assistance (Intent to Terminate Assistance letter). The family will be given the right to disagree and to request an informal hearing with instructions for the request of such hearing.

#### **(b) Participant Complies with HA's Notice**

When a family complies with the HA's notice, the staff person responsible will meet with him/her to discuss and explain the family obligation or program rule which was violated. The staff person will counsel the participant and may require that they sign Certified Statements regarding their family obligations with the understanding that future incidents may result in termination.

### **3. Intentional Misrepresentations**

When a participant falsifies, misstates, omits or otherwise misrepresents a material fact which results (or would have resulted) in an overpayment of housing assistance by the HA, the HA will evaluate whether or not:

- The participant had knowledge that his/her actions were wrong, and
- The participant willfully violated the family obligations or the law.

#### **(a) Knowledge that the action or inaction was wrong**

This will be evaluated by determining if the participant was made aware of program



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requirements and prohibitions. The participant's signature on various certifications, briefing checklist certificate, Personal Declaration and Things You Should Know are adequate to establish knowledge of wrong-doing.

### **(b) The participant willfully violated the law**

Any of the following circumstances will be considered adequate to demonstrate willful intent:

- An admission by the participant of the misrepresentation.
- That the act was done repeatedly.
- If a false name or Social Security Number was used.
- If there were admissions to others of the illegal action or omission.
- That the participant omitted material facts which were known to him/her (e.g., employment of self or other household member).
- That the participant falsified, forged or altered documents.
- That the participant uttered and certified to statements at a interim (re)determination which were later independently verified to be false.

### **4. Dispositions of Cases Involving Misrepresentations**

In all cases of misrepresentations involving efforts to recover monies owed, the HA may pursue, depending upon its evaluation of the criteria stated above, one or more of the following actions:

#### **(a) Criminal Prosecution**

If the HA has established criminal intent, and the case meets the criteria for prosecution, the HA will:

- Refer the case to the local State or District Attorney, notify HUD's Office of the Inspector General (OIG), and terminate rental assistance.
- Refer the case to HUD's OIG, and terminate rental assistance.

#### **(b) Administrative Remedies**

The HA will:

- Terminate assistance and demand payment of restitution in full.
- Terminate assistance and execute an administrative repayment agreement in accordance with the HA's Repayment Policy.
- Terminate assistance and pursue restitution through civil litigation.
- Continue assistance at the correct level upon repayment of restitution in full.
- Permit continued assistance at the correct level and execute an administrative repayment agreement in accordance with the HA's repayment policy.

### **5. The Case Conference (Meeting) for Serious Violations and Misrepresentations**

When the HA has established that material misrepresentation(s) have occurred, a Case Conference will be scheduled with the family representative and the HA staff person who is most knowledgeable about the circumstances of the case.

This conference will take place prior to any proposed action by the HA. The purpose of such conference is to review the information and evidence obtained by the HA with the participant, and to provide the participant an opportunity to explain any document findings which conflict

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with representations in the family's file. Any documents or mitigating circumstances presented by the family will be taken into consideration by the HA. The family will be given two (2) weeks to furnish any mitigating evidence.

A secondary purpose of the Participant Conference is to assist the HA in determining the course of action most appropriate for the case. Prior to the final determination of the proposed action, the HA will consider:

- The duration of the violation and number of false statements.
- The family's ability to understand the rules.
- The family's willingness to cooperate, and to accept responsibility for his/her actions
- The amount of money involved.
- The family's past history
- Whether or not criminal intent has been established.
- The number of false statements.

### **6. Notification to Participant of Proposed Action**

The HA will notify the family of the proposed action no later than 30-60 days after the case conference by mail.

**DRAFT 2012**



# STATEMENT OF POLICIES

**Admission Policy**  
**Continued Occupancy Policy**  
**Procedures for**  
**Low Income Public Housing**

Revised Effective July 1, 2012



# STATEMENT OF POLICIES

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## Notice

### A. Introduction:

This statement of policy is intended to define the policies over which the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside has discretion. Administration of the Affordable Public Housing Program and the functions and responsibilities of the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside (HA) staff shall be in compliance with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Public Housing Regulations as well as federal, state and local fair housing laws and regulations. The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 24 outlines the program and its various mandatory requirements. This Statement of Policies does not change any of the requirements of 24 CFR and in the event of any apparent differences, the Code of Federal Regulations supersedes. It is the intent of the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside to comply with all program regulations and directives as published by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. In matters where the HA has discretion, waivers to existing policy shall be determined by the Executive Director or his designee.

The HA is committed to the goals and policies contained in the Housing Element of the General Plan for the County of Riverside and the County of Riverside Consolidated Plan.

### B. Service Policy/Accommodations

This policy is applicable to all situations described in this ~~Administrative Plan~~ Statement of Policies when a family initiates contact with the HA, when the HA initiates contact with a family including when a family applies, and when the HA schedules or reschedules appointments of any kind.

It is the policy of this HA to be customer service oriented in the administration of our housing programs, and to exercise and demonstrate a high level of professionalism while providing housing services to the families within our jurisdiction.

The HA's policies and practices are designed to provide assurances that all persons with disabilities will be provided reasonable accommodations so that they may have equal access to the housing programs and related services. Persons requiring special accommodations due to a disability must notify the HA of their needs.

### C. Translation of Documents

The Housing Authority will translate documents into other languages when feasible.

### D. Family Outreach

It is the goal of the HA to assure that participating families in the program are representative of the County's targeted population groups, as identified in the Consolidated Plan of its area of operation. The HA will publicize and disseminate information to make known the availability of housing assistance and related services for low income families on an as needed basis. The HA will publicize the availability and nature of housing assistance for low income families in a newspaper of general circulation, minority media, and by other suitable means (such as distributing information to non-profit agencies within the county).



### **E. Privacy Rights and Providing Information to Others**

The HA's policy regarding release of information is in accordance with state and local laws which restricts the release of family information. A signed authorization of release of information is required for release of information to interested parties.

The HA's practices and procedures are designed to safeguard the privacy of applicants, program participants, and participating owners or property managers. All applicant and participant hard files and imaged files will be stored in a secure location that is only accessible by authorized staff.

### **F. Equal Opportunity**

The HA practices equal opportunity in hiring, promotion and conditions of employment. The HA will comply with the equal opportunity housing requirements in regard to non-discrimination in housing.

### **G. Rules and Regulations**

This ~~Administrative Plan~~ Statement of Policies is set forth to define the HA's local policies for operation of the housing programs in the context of federal laws and regulations. All issues related to Public Housing not addressed in this document are governed by such federal regulations, HUD memos, notices and guidelines, or other applicable law.

### **H. Jurisdiction**

The HA's area of operation is all of the incorporated and unincorporated cities and areas in Riverside County.

### **I. Monitoring Program Performance, Inspections, Asset Management**

The HA will monitor program performance in compliance with the Annual Contributions Contract and other applicable laws, regulations and guidelines. The HA has converted successfully to Asset Management and will continue to monitor and operate its PH developments to comply with any applicable laws, regulations and guidelines in relation to Asset Management. It is the agency's objective to receive the highest rating from HUD using the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) or other HUD system.

Inspections will be conducted to ensure that units meet Uniform Physical Condition Standards (UPCS) in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations 24 CFR Part 5, **Subpart G—Physical Condition Standards and Inspection Requirements** SOURCE: 63 FR 46577, Sept. 1, 1998, unless otherwise noted. **§ 5.701 Applicability.** (a) This subpart applies to housing assisted under the HUD programs listed in 24 CFR 200.853(a). (b) This subpart applies to housing with mortgages insured or held by HUD, or housing that is receiving assistance from HUD, under the programs listed in 24 CFR 200.853(b). (c) This subpart also applies to Public Housing (housing receiving assistance under the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, other than under section 8 of the Act). (d) For purposes of this subpart, the term "HUD housing" means the types of housing listed in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section. [63 FR 46577, Sept. 1, 1998, as amended at 65 FR 77240, Dec. 8, 2000] **Office of the Secretary, HUD § 5.703 Physical condition standards for HUD housing that is decent, safe, sanitary and in good repair (DSS/GR).** HUD housing must be decent, safe, sanitary and in good repair. Owners of housing described in § 5.701(a), mortgagors of housing described in § 5.701(b), and PHAs and

other entities approved by HUD owning housing described in § 5.701(c), must maintain such housing in a manner that meets the physical condition standards set forth in this section in order to be considered decent, safe, sanitary and in good repair. These standards address the major areas of the HUD housing: the site; the building exterior; the building systems; the dwelling units; the common areas; and health and safety considerations. (a) *Site*. The site components, such as fencing and retaining walls, grounds, lighting, mailboxes/project signs, parking lots/driveways, play areas and equipment, refuse disposal, roads, storm drainage and walkways must be free of health and safety hazards and be in good repair. The site must not be subject to material adverse conditions, such as abandoned vehicles, dangerous walks or steps, poor drainage, septic tank back-ups, sewer hazards, excess accumulations of trash, vermin or rodent infestation or fire hazards. (b) *Building exterior*. Each building on the site must be structurally sound, secure, habitable, and in good repair. Each building's doors, fire escapes, foundations, lighting, roofs, walls, and windows, where applicable, must be free of health and safety hazards, operable, and in good repair. (c) *Building systems*. Each building's domestic water, electrical system, elevators, emergency power, fire protection, HVAC, and sanitary system must be free of health and safety hazards, functionally adequate, operable, and in good repair. (d) *Dwelling units*. (1) Each dwelling unit within a building must be structurally sound, habitable, and in good repair. All areas and aspects of the dwelling unit (for example, the unit's bathroom, call-for-aid (if applicable), ceiling, doors, electrical systems, floors, hot water heater, HVAC (where individual units are provided), kitchen, lighting, outlets/switches, patio/porch/balcony, smoke detectors, stairs, walls, and windows) must be free of health and safety hazards, functionally adequate, operable, and in good repair. (2) Where applicable, the dwelling unit must have hot and cold running water, including an adequate source of potable water (note for example that single room occupancy units need not contain water facilities). (3) If the dwelling unit includes its own sanitary facility, it must be in proper operating condition, usable in privacy, and adequate for personal hygiene and the disposal of human waste. (4) The dwelling unit must include at least one battery-operated or hardwired smoke detector, in proper working condition, on each level of the unit. (e) *Common areas*. The common areas must be structurally sound, secure, and functionally adequate for the purposes intended. The basement/garage/carport, restrooms, closets, utility, mechanical, community rooms, day care, halls/corridors, stairs, kitchens, laundry rooms, office, porch, patio, balcony, and trash collection areas, if applicable, must be free of health and safety hazards, operable, and in good repair. All common area ceilings, doors, floors, HVAC, lighting, outlets/switches, smoke detectors, stairs, walls, and windows, to the extent applicable, must be free of health and safety hazards, operable, and in good repair. These standards for common areas apply, to a varying extent, to all HUD housing, but will be particularly relevant to congregate housing, independent group homes/residences, and single room occupancy units, in which the individual dwelling units (sleeping areas) do not contain kitchen and/or bathroom facilities. (f) *Health and safety concerns*. All areas and components of the housing must be free of health and safety hazards. These areas include, but are not limited to, air quality, electrical hazards, elevators, emergency/fire exits, flammable materials, garbage and debris, handrail hazards, infestation, and lead-based paint. For example, the buildings must have fire exits that are not blocked and have hand rails that are undamaged and have no other observable deficiencies. The housing must have no evidence of infestation by rats, mice, or other vermin, or of garbage and debris. The housing must have no evidence of electrical hazards, natural hazards, or fire hazards. The dwelling units and common areas must have proper ventilation and be free of mold, odor (e.g., propane, natural gas, methane gas), or other observable deficiencies.

The housing must comply with all requirements related to the evaluation and reduction of lead-based paint hazards and have available proper certifications of such (see 24 CFR part 35). (g) *Compliance with State and local codes.* The physical condition standards in this section do not supersede or preempt State and local codes for building and maintenance with which HUD housing must comply. HUD housing must continue to adhere to these codes.

**§ 5.705 Uniform physical inspection requirements.**

Any entity responsible for conducting a physical inspection of HUD housing, to determine compliance with this subpart, must inspect such HUD housing annually in accordance with HUD-prescribed physical inspection procedures. The inspection must be conducted annually unless the program regulations governing the housing provide otherwise or unless HUD has provided otherwise by notice. [65 FR 77240, Dec. 8, 2000]

Note: The PHA will inspect units at least once per calendar year, not once per fiscal year as was previously required.

**J. PROGRAM INTEGRITY MONITORING (PIM)**

The Housing Authority of the County of Riverside HA administers Program Integrity Monitoring (PIM). The purpose of the program is to ensure that public funds are paid only on behalf of qualified and eligible participants, and to landlords and owners who comply with all contract provisions in accordance with federal regulations. (Refer to Appendix N)

PIM also staffs a toll-free fraud hotline [(800) 300-0439]. Through this hotline, the public can anonymously report any suspected participant/owner/employee fraud. The fraud hotline number is available through the internet web site, as a telephone option when calling the office and Housing Authority newsletters.

**K. Requests for Information from Files**

The HA will make records available to individuals and organizations with legitimate purposes. In order not to cause a financial burden on the HA, charges for this information will be 25 cents per page for photocopies, and \$30 per hour for staff time in locating and gathering information. If the file is stored in archives, an additional \$35 fee will be charged to request it from storage.

**L. Code of Conduct**

All employees are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct for the Housing Authority HA, which is included as Exhibit M of this document.

## **SECTION I. DEFINITION OF TERMS**

### **Absence of Any Member**

Any member of the household will be considered permanently absent if she/he is away from the unit for 183 days in a 12 month period, except as otherwise provided in this chapter. A spouse or co-head away in the military are still considered members of the household and their income is included in annual income, except hostile fire pay.

### **Adjusted Income (annual income less):** **(24 CFR Part 5, Subpart F)**

1. Family Income means Total Annual Income less deductions and exemptions specified below and anticipated during the twelve-month period for which Total Family Income is estimated. Such deductions are to be applied uniformly to all Families.

- a) A deduction of \$400 for elderly families (whose head, spouse/co-head, or sole member is a person who is at least 62 years of age), and for disabled families (whose head, spouse/co-head, or sole member is a person with disabilities).
- b) A deduction for extraordinary medical expenses, for elderly and disabled families as defined for this purpose to mean medical expenses in excess of 3% of total family income, where not compensated for or covered by insurance.
- c) A deduction for reasonable expenses in excess of 3% of total family income that are anticipated for attendant care and auxiliary apparatus for a disabled family member and that are necessary to enable a family member (including the disabled member) to be employed, provided that the expenses are neither paid to a member of the family nor reimbursed by an outside source. The medical *and* disability assistance expense threshold is a combined total amount of 3% of total family income
- d) A deduction for *reasonable* childcare expenses for the care of children age 12 and younger provided the care is necessary to enable a family member to: work, look for work, or further his education; the expense is not reimbursed by an agency or individual outside the household; and the expenses incurred to enable a family member to work do not exceed the amount earned.
- e) A deduction of \$480 for each member of the family residing in the household (other than the head or spouse/co-head or foster child) who is: under eighteen years of age; a person with disabilities; or a full-time student. A head of household, spouse/co-head, foster child, or live-in aide may *never* be counted as a dependent. A full-time student is one carrying a full time subject load (as defined by the institution) at an institution with a degree or certificate program.

### **Admission:**

The effective date that the family first becomes a participant, resident or tenant under the program, the same date as the initial lease effective date. In the case of adding an adult, the date that the adult is added with PHACR consent is considered that persons date of admission. The admission date to the program does not change when a resident transfers units, they keep their original admission date of when they where first housed under the program.

### **Alcohol Abuse:**

The HACR has determined that a pattern of alcohol abuse exists when there are two or more criminal charges involving alcohol during a three (3) year period.

**Annual Income (24 CFR Part 5 Subpart F):**

- (a) Annual Income is the anticipated total income from all sources received by the family head and spouse/co-head (even if temporarily absent) and by each additional member of the family residing in the household who is at least eighteen years of age, including all net income derived from assets, for the 12 month period following the effective date of initial determination or re-examination of income, exclusive of income that is temporary, non-recurring or sporadic, as defined in paragraph (c) of this section, and exclusive of certain other types of income specified in paragraph (d) of this section.
- (b) Annual Income includes, but is not limited to:
- (1) The full amount, before any payroll deductions, of wages and salaries, overtime pay, commissions, fees, tips and bonuses, and other compensation for personal services;
  - (2) The net income from operation of a business or profession (for this purpose, expenditures for business expansion or amortization of capital indebtedness and an allowance for depreciation of capital assets shall not be deducted to determine the net income from a business);
  - (3) Interest, dividends, and other net income of any kind from real or personal property (for this purpose, expenditures for amortization of capital indebtedness and an allowance for depreciation of capital assets shall not be deducted to determine the net income from real or personal property). Where the family has Net Family Assets in excess of \$5,000, Annual Income shall include the greater of the actual income derived from all Net Family Assets or a percentage of the value of such Assets based on the current passbook savings rate as determined by HUD;
  - (4) The full amount of periodic payments received from Social Security, annuities, insurance policies, retirement funds, pensions, disability or death benefits and other similar types of periodic receipts, including a lump sum payment for the delayed start of a periodic payment;
  - (5) Payments in lieu of earnings, such as unemployment and disability compensation, Worker's Compensation, severance pay, and welfare assistance payments (but see paragraph (c) (3) of this section).
  - (6) Periodic and determinable allowances, such as alimony and child support payments, and regular contributions or gifts received from persons not residing in the dwelling;
  - (7) All regular pay, special pay and allowances of a member of the Armed Forces (whether or not living in the dwelling) who is head of the family, spouse/co-head, or other person whose dependents are residing in the unit (but see paragraph (c) (5) of this section);
  - (8) Any earned income tax credit to the extent it exceeds income tax liability;
  - (9) Payments to the head of the household for support of a minor, or payments nominally to a minor for his support but controlled for his benefit by the head of the household or a resident family member other than the head, who is responsible for his/her support.
- (c) Annual Income does not include:
- (1) Income from employment of children (including foster children) under the age of 18 years;
  - (2) Payments received for the care of foster children or foster adults;
  - (3) Lump sum additions to family assets, such as inheritances, insurance payments (including payments under health and accident insurance and Worker's Compensation), capital gains and settlement for personal or property losses (but see paragraph (b) (5) of this section);

- (4) Amounts received by the family that are specifically for, or in reimbursement of, the cost of medical expenses for any family member;
- (5) Income of a live-in-aide;
- (6) The full amount of student financial assistance paid directly to the student or to the educational institution;
- (7) The special pay to a family member serving in the Armed Forces who is exposed to hostile fire;
- (8) The following:
  - a) Amounts received under training programs funded by HUD;
  - b) Amounts received by a person with disabilities that are disregarded for a limited time for purposes of supplemental Security Income eligibility and benefits because they are set aside for use under a Plan to Attain Self-Sufficiency (PASS);
  - c) Amounts received by a participant in other publicly assisted programs which are specifically for or in reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred (special equipment, clothing, transportation, child care, etc.) and which are made solely to allow participation in a specific program;
  - d) A resident service stipend. This is a modest amount (not to exceed \$200 per month) received by a resident for performing a service for the owner, on a part-time basis, that enhances the quality of life in the development. This may include, but is not limited to fire patrol, hall monitoring, lawn maintenance, and resident initiatives coordination and serving as a member of the PHA's governing board. No resident may receive more than one such stipend during the same period of time; or
  - e) Incremental earnings and benefits resulting to any family member from participation in qualifying state or local employment training programs (including training programs not affiliated with a local government) and training of a family member as resident management staff. Amounts excluded by this provision must be received under employment training programs with clearly defined goals and objectives, and are excluded only for the period during which the family member participates in the employment training program.
- 9) Temporary, nonrecurring, or sporadic (including gifts). For example, amounts earned by temporary census employees whose terms of employment do not exceed 180 days (PIH Notices 2000-1; 2008-26; 2009-19; 2010-38).
- 10) Reparations payments paid by a foreign government pursuant to claims filed under the laws of that government by persons who were persecuted during the Nazi era;
- 11) Earnings in excess of \$480 for each full-time student 18 years or older (excluding the head of household or spouse/co-head);
- 12) Adoption assistance payments in excess of \$480 per adopted child;
- 13) (Reserved)
- 14) Deferred periodic payments of supplemental security income and social security benefits that are received in a lump-sum payment or in prospective monthly payments;
- 15) Amounts received by the family in the form of refunds or rebates under state or local law for property taxes paid on the dwelling unit;
- 16) Amounts paid by a state agency to a family with a developmentally disabled family member living at home to offset the cost of services and equipment needed to keep the developmentally disabled family member at home; and

- 17) Amounts specifically excluded by any other Federal statute from consideration as income for purposes of determining eligibility or benefits under a category of assistance programs that include assistance under the 1937 Act (See exclusions in the Guidebook for a listing).
- d). If it is not feasible to anticipate a level of income over a 12-month period (e.g., seasonal, or cyclic income) or the PHA believes that past income is the best available indicator of expected future income, the PHA may annualize the income anticipated for a shorter period, subject to a re-determination at the end of the shorter period.

**Applicant (or applicant family):**

A family that has applied for admission to a program, but is not yet a participant in the program.

**Assets:**

(See Net Family Assets.)

**Bifurcation of Lease:**

Under the authority provided in Section 6(l)(6)(B) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 1437d(1)(6)(B)), the Housing Authority may split the lease in order to evict, remove, or terminate assistance to any individual who is a tenant or a lawful occupant under the lease and who engages in criminal acts of physical violence against family members or others. The Housing Authority may take such action without evicting, removing, terminating assistance to, or otherwise penalizing a victim of such violence who is the tenant or a lawful occupant under the lease.

**Child Care Expenses:**

Amounts anticipated to be paid by the family for the care of children age 12 and under during the period for which Annual Income is computed, but only where such care is necessary to enable a family member to be gainfully employed or to further his or her education. The amount deducted shall reflect *reasonable* charges for childcare and, in the case of childcare necessary to permit employment, the amount deducted shall not exceed the amount of income received from such employment or the amount of the employment that is counted as income in the determination of rent.

**Child Custody:**

Children who are subject to a joint custody agreement, but live with one parent at least 51 percent of the time will be considered members of the household. "51 percent of the time" is defined as 183 days of the year, which do not have to run consecutively. When both parents claim the child, court documents will prevail. The parent whose address is listed in the school records will also be considered when determining who may claim the school-age child as a dependent.

**Citizen:**

A citizen or national of the United States.

**Co-head:**

A co-head is one additional adult in the household who is the boyfriend, girlfriend, or significant other of the head of the household. This person has equal responsibility for the lease. A family may have one spouse or co-head, but not both. A co-head never qualifies as a dependent (50058 Instruction Booklet-3h). A Co-head may qualify the family as a disabled or elderly household and consequently receive a \$400 annual allowance. (24CFR 5.403 for disabled/elderly definition)

of a “family”—“two or more persons living together”).

**Community Service:**

If required by HUD regulations, this agency will implement any required community service program. The provisions of community service require all non-exempt adult public housing residents to participate in eight hours of community service and/or economic self-sufficiency activities per month. Exempt residents include those over 62; blind or disabled individuals who certifies that because of this disability she or he is unable to comply with the service provisions; the primary caretaker of a disabled person; individuals working at least 30 hours per week or 30 hours of other work activities; individuals who meet the requirements for being exempted from having to engage in a work activity under the State program funded under part A of the title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) or under any other welfare program of the State in which the PHA is located, including a State-administered welfare-to-work program. In implementing the service requirement under 960 Subpart F, the PHA may not substitute community service or self-sufficiency activities performed by residents for work ordinarily performed by PHA employees or replace a job at any location where residents perform activities to satisfy the service requirement.

**Continuously Assisted:**

If the family is already receiving assistance under any 1937 Housing Act program when admitted to the program, then the applicant is considered continuously assisted under the 1937 Housing Act.

**Covered Person:**

A tenant, any member of the tenant's household, a guest or another person under the tenant's control.

**Dating Violence:**

Violence committed by a person:

- (1) who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and
- (2) where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: (i) the length of the relationship; (ii) the type of relationship; and (iii) the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

**Dependent:**

A member of the family household (excluding foster children/foster adults/live-in aides) other than the head of household or spouse/co-head who is under 18 years of age or is a Disabled person or Handicapped person, an adopted child, or is a Full-time Student (an unborn child shall not count as a dependent). Head of household, spouse/co-head, foster child or adult, or live-in aide shall never be considered a dependent.

**Disability Assistance Expense:**

Reasonable expenses that are anticipated, during the period for which annual income is computed, for attendant care and auxiliary apparatus for a disabled family member and that are necessary to enable a family member (including the disabled member) to be employed, provided that the expenses are neither paid to a member of the family nor reimbursed by an outside source. This deduction may not exceed the earned income received by family members who are 18 years of age or older and who are able to work because of such attendant care or auxiliary apparatus.



### **Disabled person**

A person who is any of the following:

1. A person who has a disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act. (42U.S.C. 423).
2. A person who has a physical, mental or emotional impairment that:
  - a. Is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration;
  - b. Substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently; and
  - c. Is of such a nature that ability to live independently could be improved by more suitable housing conditions.
3. A person who has a developmental disability as defined in section 102(7) of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (42 U.S.C. 6001(7)).
4. For eligibility purposes, a person is not considered disabled solely on the basis of any drug or alcohol dependence.

A Disabled Person for purposes of **approving a reasonable accommodation** request is defined according to the **Fair Housing Act** amended in 1988: "Handicap is defined as a person with a physical and/or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, a person having a record of such an impairment, or a person who is regarded as having such an impairment. This Act also includes persons affected with the HIV virus, but not persons addicted to a controlled substance."

### **Disallowance of Earned income from rent determinations:**

Under the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (QHWRA), the rent for eligible families may not be increased as a result of the increased income due to such employment during the 12-month period beginning on the first of the month following the date on which the employment begins.

A family eligible for the earned income exclusion is a family residing in a public housing project and:

- (1) whose annual income increases as a result of employment of a family member who was unemployed for one or more years previous to employment;
- (2) whose annual income increases as a result of increased earnings by a family member during participation in any economic self-sufficiency or other job training program; or
- (3) whose annual income increases as a result of new employment or increased earnings of a family member, during or within six months after receiving assistance, benefits, or services under any state program for temporary assistance for needy families (TANF).

Upon the expiration of the first 12-month period referred to above, the rent payable by an eligible family may be increased due to the continued employment of the family member described above, except that in the second 12-month period the amount of the increase may not be greater than 50 percent of the amount of the total rent increase that would be applicable except for this exclusion. The PHA chooses not to establish a system of individual savings accounts for families who qualify for the disallowance of earned income. *Maximum four year disallowance.* In the case of interrupted employment, the disallowance of increased income of an individual family member is limited to a lifetime 48 month period. Earned Income Disallowance does not apply at admission (in accordance with CFR 960.255). Admission applies to original admission date to program or admission of any other individual to an already assisted unit at any time. Persons added to the assisted unit are not eligible for Earned Income Disallowance at the time they are admitted but may at a

later date if they meet the qualifications for Disallowance and have a new qualifying event.

**Displaced:**

A single person or family who has been displaced by governmental action as certified by a city, state or federal agency or whose dwelling has been extensively damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster declared or otherwise formally recognized pursuant to Federal Disaster Relief laws.

**Domestic Violence:**

Includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse/co-head of the victim, by a person with whom the victim share a child in common, by a person who is cohabitated with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse/co-head, by a person similarly situated to a spouse/co-head of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

**Drug:**

A controlled substance as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802).

**Drug-Related Criminal Activity:**

The illegal manufacture, sale, distribution, or use of a drug, or the possession of a drug with intent to manufacture, sell, distribute or use the drug.

**Elderly/Disabled Family:**

A family whose head or spouse/co-head or whose sole member is an elderly person, a disabled person, or a handicapped person as defined in this section; or may be two or more elderly, disabled or handicapped persons living together; or one or more such persons living with another person who is determined to be essential to his/her care and well being.

**Elderly Person:**

A person who is at least 62 years old.

**Eligible Non-Citizen:**

A person who is neither a citizen nor a national of the United States that has eligible immigration status as defined by HUD.

**Employment:**

For the purposes of determining Disallowance of Earned Income, a person who is working at least the equivalent of ten (10) hours per week for fifty (50) weeks per year at minimum wage (see Gainful Employment and Working Family for other definitions).

**Evidence of Citizenship:**

Evidence of citizenship or eligible immigration status means the documents that must be submitted to verify citizenship or eligible immigration status.

**Excess Medical Expenses:**

Any medical expenses incurred by elderly or disabled families only, in excess of 3 percent of annual income that are not reimbursable from any other source.

**Extreme Elderly Person:**

A person who is at least 75 years old

**Extremely Low Income:**

A family whose annual income does not exceed 30 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD, with adjustments for smaller and larger families.

**Family:**

The applicant must qualify as a family. A family may be a single (one) person or a group of persons.

1. The term "family" means:
  - a. Two or more persons sharing residency whose combined income and resources are available to meet the household needs or have evidenced a stable family relationship; or
  - b. Two or more elderly or disabled persons living together, or one or more elderly or disabled persons living with one or more live-in aides.
  - c. A single, pregnant woman (PHA's must verify pregnancy when it is the sole basis for determining eligibility. In cases where an immediate determination cannot be made, PHA's may require a physician's certificate); or
  - d. A child who is temporarily away from home because of placement in foster care is considered a member of the family. This provision only pertains to the child's temporary absence from the home, and is not intended to enlarge the space available.
  - e. A single (one) elderly (62 years of age or older) or a single (one) disabled person; or
  - f. A single (one) displaced person; or
  - g. Any "other single (one)" person
  - h. For Continued Occupancy purposes only, the remaining member of a tenant family

**Family of Veteran or Service Person:**

A family is a family of a veteran or service person when:

1. The veteran or service person (a) is either the head of household or related to the head of the household; or (b) is deceased and was related to the head of the household, and was a family member at the time of death.
2. The veteran or service person, unless deceased, is living with the family or is only temporarily absent unless she/he was (a) formerly the head of the household and is permanently absent because of hospitalization, separation, or desertion, or is divorced; provided, the family contains one or more persons for whose support she/he is legally responsible and the spouse/co-head has not remarried; or (b) not the head of the household, but is permanently hospitalized; provided, that she/he was a family member at the time of hospitalization and at least one related person remains in the family.

**Flat Rent:**

The rent paid by a family choosing flat rent instead of income-based rent. Flat rent is based on comparable market rents in the area and is determined annually. The Flat Rent amount for "mixed" families is prorated. A "mixed" family is one that includes at least one U.S. citizen or eligible immigrant and any number of ineligible non-citizens.

**Foster Child/Adult:**

A child/adult whose care, comfort, education, and upbringing has been left to persons other than his natural parents and who has been placed in the home by the court or a government agency. All foster care income of is excluded. A foster child/adult is not eligible for continued occupancy as a remaining member as they are not considered a family member as defined by regulations.

**Full-Time Student:**

A person (excluding head of household or spouse/co-head) who is carrying a subject load that is considered full time for day students under the standards and practices of the educational institution attended. An educational institution includes a vocational school with a diploma or certificate program, as well as an institution offering a college degree.

**Gainful Employment:**

Employed and working an average of 32 hours per week.

**HA:**

A Housing Authority - either a Public Housing Agency or an Indian Housing Authority or both. The Housing Authority of the County of Riverside is referred to as "HA" or "Housing Authority" or "PHA" throughout this document.

**Head of Household:**

The "head of the household" is that family member who is held responsible and accountable for the family (and whose name will normally appear on the dwelling lease); however, *all* adults are responsible and accountable for following the terms of the lease.

**Homeless:**

Any person or family that: 1) lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence; and 2) has a primary nighttime residence that is: (a) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing); (b) an institution that provides a temporary residence for persons intended to be institutionalized; or (c) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. A person or persons residing on a temporary basis with a family member or other person is not considered homeless.

**Housing Agency:**

A state, county, municipality or other governmental entity or public body authorized to administer the program. The term "HA" includes an Indian housing authority (IHA). (HA and PHA mean the same thing.)

**HUD:**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**HUD Requirements:**

HUD requirements for the Section 8 programs, which includes the Affordable Public Housing Program. HUD requirements are issued by HUD headquarters as regulations, Federal Register notices or other binding program directives.

**Immediate Family Member:**

A spouse/co-head, parent, brother or sister, or child of the person, or an individual to whom that

person stands in loco parentis (in place of a parent); or any other person living in the household of that person and related to that person by blood or marriage.

**Imputed Asset:**

Asset disposed of for less than Fair Market Value during the two years preceding examination or reexamination and valued at more than \$5,000.

**Imputed Asset Income:**

HUD passbook rate times total cash value of assets. Imputed asset income is used when assets exceed \$5,000.

**Imputed Welfare Income:**

The difference between the actual welfare grant received by the family and the amount that would be received by the family if a family member was not sanctioned for fraud, or failure to participate in an economic self sufficiency program, or failure to comply with a work activities requirement. The difference is included in household income whether actually received by the family or not. Imputed Welfare Income is not included at initial admission to the program.

**Income:**

Income from all sources of each member of the household as determined in accordance with HUD regulations for included and excluded income.

**Income for Eligibility:**

Annual Gross Income.

**Live in Aide:**

A person who resides with person(s) (on a 24 hour basis) who are elderly, near elderly, and/or have a disability, and:

- Is determined by the PHA to be essential to the care and well-being of the person(s), and
- Is not obligated for the support of the person(s), and
- Who would not be living in the unit except to provide necessary supportive services.

A live-in Aide is not a family member and is not eligible for continued assistance as a remaining member, nor is a Live in Aide required to sign the lease. A live-in Aide and Head of Household must sign a Live-In Aide Addendum to the Lease and must be verified annually. At any time, the PHA may refuse to approve a particular person as a live-in aide, or may withdraw such approval, if the person:

- Commits fraud, bribery, or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with any federal housing program
- Commits drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity
- Is subject to lifetime registration as a sex offender
- Currently owes rent or other amounts to any PHA in connection with Section 8 or public housing assistance under the 1937 Act.
- If the head of household requires a live-in aide, the head of household must not be a live-in/caretaker for someone else.
- Is currently receiving rental assistance under any federally subsidized rental assistance program.
- If the live-in aide would not be living in the unit except to provide the necessary supportive services (i.e. parent of a child).
- A PHA may only approve one additional bedroom for a live- in aide. Although a live-in

aide may have PHA-approved family member/s live with him/her in the assisted unit, no additional bedrooms will be provided for the family members of the live-in aide. The PHA must ensure that occupancy standards and UPCS will not be violated and that there will be no more than two people per bedroom or living/sleeping space in the unit in accordance with PHA occupancy standards. If the approval of additional family members of a live- in aide would result in the violation of UPCS or the PHA occupancy standards, the additional family members of the live- in aide may not be approved. PIH 2010-51 (HA)

**Local Preference:**

A preference used by the HA to select among applicant families.

**Low Income Family:**

A family whose Annual Income does not exceed 80 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD, with adjustments for smaller and larger families. HUD may establish income limits higher or lower than 80 percent of the median income for the area on the basis of its finding that such variations are necessary because of the prevailing levels of construction costs or unusually high or low family incomes.

**Medical Expense:**

Those medical expenses, including medical insurance premiums, that are anticipated during the period for which Annual Income is computed and that are not covered by insurance or any other source. Out of pocket medical expenses are deducted for qualified disabled and elderly families only.

**Military Services of the United States:**

"Military Service of the United States" means only the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. Such service does not include Merchant Marine, Red Cross, UNRRA, or any other organization not actually part of the Military or Naval service of the United States.

**Minimum Rent:**

\$50 monthly rent less the utility allowance deduction.

**Minor:**

A member of the family household (excluding foster children) other than the family head or spouse/co-head who is under 18 years of age.

**Mixed Family:**

A family whose members include those with citizenship or eligible immigration status and those without citizenship or eligible immigration status.

**Monthly Adjusted Income:**

One-twelfth of adjusted annual income.

**Monthly Income:**

One-twelfth of annual income.

**National:**

A person who owes permanent allegiance to the United States, for example, as a result of birth in

a United States territory or possession.

**Net Family Assets:**

Value of equity in real property, savings, stocks, bonds, and other forms of capital investment, excluding equity accounts in HUD home ownership programs. The value of necessary items of personal property, such as furniture and automobiles, shall be excluded. In cases where a Trust fund has been established and the Trust is not revocable by, or under the control of, any member of the family or household, the value of the Trust fund will not be considered an asset, so long as the fund continues to be held in trust. Any income distributed from the Trust fund shall be counted when determining Annual Income under paragraph U of this section. In determining Net Family Assets, the PHA shall include the value of any assets over \$2,000 disposed of by an applicant or tenant for less than Fair Market Value (including a disposition in Trust, but not in a foreclosure or bankruptcy sale) during the two years preceding the date of application for the program or re-examination, as applicable, in excess of the consideration received therefore. In the case of a disposition as part of a separation or divorce settlement, the disposition will not be considered to be for less than Fair Market Value if the applicant or tenant receives important consideration not measurable in dollar terms.

**Non-Citizen:**

A person who is neither a citizen nor national of the United States.

**Non-citizen students.**

Non-citizen students as defined by HUD in the non-citizen regulations are not eligible for assistance.

**Nucleus Family:**

All family members at the time of initial application (Intake) plus any members added by marriage, birth, adoption, or court awarded custody. The nucleus family excludes foster children/adults and live-in aides.

**Occupancy Standards:**

Standards established by an HA to determine the appropriate number of bedrooms for households. The occupancy standards must provide for the smallest number of bedrooms needed to house a family without overcrowding.

**Participant:**

A family that has been admitted to the HA's Public Housing program. The family becomes a participant on the effective date of the initial lease is first executed by the HA for the family.

**Preference:**

See Local Preference.

**Premises:**

The building or complex or development in which the public or assisted housing dwelling unit is located, including common areas and grounds.

**Previously unemployed:**

Includes a person who has earned, in the twelve months previous to employment, no more than would be received for 10 hours of work per week for 50 weeks at the established minimum wage.

### **Pro-ration of Assistance for "Mixed" Families**

Pro-ration of assistance must be offered to any "mixed" applicant or participant family. A "mixed" family is one that includes at least one U.S. citizen or eligible immigrant and any number of ineligible non-citizens. Pro-rated assistance is calculated using the flat rent of the unit, total tenant payment, housing maximum rent (according to unit bedroom size), number of family members with eligible immigration status, number of family members without eligible immigration status and the utility allowance calculation.

### **Public Housing Agency (PHA):**

Any State, County, Municipality or other governmental entity or public body (or agency or instrumentality thereof) that is authorized to engage in or assist in the development or operation of housing for low income families.

### **Reasonable accommodation:**

In order to grant equal access and/or an equal opportunity to participate in the Public Housing program, the PHA will consider requests for reasonable accommodation (reasonable adjustments to the rules, policies, practices, procedures, and physical premises which do not reduce or waive essential requirements of the program) by persons with disabilities. Accommodations are not reasonable if they require fundamental alterations to the unit or in the nature of the program, or impose undue financial burdens on the PHA. Requests for reasonable accommodation will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The person with a disability, or guardian or responsible party of the person with a disability, must submit a written Reasonable Accommodation request. The Housing Authority will verify the need through third party verification from the patient's designated medical professional. There must be a nexus between the requested accommodation and the disability. The family may be required to pay for the cost of the reasonable requested accommodation/modification as determined by the HA.

### **Remaining Member:**

A family member listed on the lease who continues to live in the unit after all other family members have left. If the remaining member signed the lease, the person could continue in the program after signing a new lease. If the remaining member did not sign the lease, the PHA would determine if the person is eligible for the program, and suitable as a tenant (according to Admission procedures in place). The PHA reserves the right to consider a transfer to a unit of appropriate bedroom size upon determination of the remaining member's status. A Live-in Aide or foster child/adult is not considered a family member and is not eligible to be a remaining member.

### **Rent Burdened:**

Paying more than 30% of family income for rent. In order to be given the preference of rent burdened, a family must provide evidence that is verifiable.

### **Residency Preference:**

Given to those applicants who, at the time of release from the waiting list, either: a) reside in the County of Riverside; or b) work in the County of Riverside (head/spouse/co-head or sole member of the household is employed) or have been notified they are hired to work in the County of Riverside. This residency preference will not have the purpose or effect of delaying or otherwise denying admission to the program based on race, color, ethnic origin, gender, religion, disability, or age of any member of an applicant family.



**Responsible Entity:**

The person or entity responsible for administering the restrictions on providing assistance to non-citizens with ineligible immigration status (the HA).

**Secretary:**

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

**Service Person:**

A person in the active military or naval service (including the active reserve) of the United States.

**Single Person:**

A person living alone or intending to live alone.

**Spouse:**

Spouse means the husband or wife of the head of the household. PHA's are directed to follow HUD's guidance when applying policy: The Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), Public Law 104-199 § 3(a), 110 Stat. 2419, codified at 1 USC § 7 states: "In determining the meaning of any Act of Congress, or of any ruling, regulation, or interpretation of the various administrative bureaus and agencies of the United States, the word "marriage" means only a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife, and the word "spouse" refers only to a person of the opposite sex who is husband and wife."

Public Law 104-199 § 3(a) appears intentionally broad and prohibits the recognition of same-sex marriage for any federal program, even if state law recognizes such a union. DOMA provides for no exceptions.

Accordingly, same sex marriage couples cannot be regarded as "spouses" under any housing program under the United States Housing Act of 1937.

**Stalking:**

To follow, pursue, or repeatedly commit acts with the intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate; or to place under surveillance with the intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate another person; and in the course of, or as a result of, such following, pursuit, surveillance, or repeatedly committed acts, to place a person in reasonable fear of the death of, or serious bodily injury to, or to cause substantial emotional harm to (i) that person, (ii) a member of the immediate family of that person; or (iii) the spouse/co-head or intimate partner of that person.

**Temporary Financial Hardship:**

Decrease of income lasting less than 60 days.

**Tenant:**

The Head of Household and other household members residing in the assisted unit with PHA written consent. A live-in aide or foster child is not a household member. A tenant is also referred to as a Resident or Participant.

**Tenant Rent:**

Tenant rent is the Total Tenant Payment less the Utility Allowance, or Flat Rent, and is chosen by the family annually (at reexamination), or one time annually at time of hardship if at Flat Rent. That is the amount payable monthly by the family as rent to the PHA. Pro-ration of

assistance must be offered to any "mixed" applicant or participant family. A "mixed" family is one that includes at least one U.S. citizen or eligible immigrant and any number of ineligible non-citizens.

**Total Tenant Payment:**

The Total Tenant Payment (TTP) shall be the greatest of:

1. 30 percent of family monthly adjusted income;
2. 10 percent of family monthly income;
3. Minimum Rent of \$50.00

**Transitional Housing:**

A housing unit located in a building that contains sleeping accommodations, kitchen, and bathroom facilities. Used exclusively to facilitate the transition of homeless individuals to independent living within twenty-four (24) months and where a governmental body or qualified nonprofit organization provides those individuals with temporary housing and supportive services to assist them in finding and keeping permanent housing.

**Unit:**

Residential space for the private use of a family.

**Utilities:**

Utilities means water, electricity, gas, other heating, refrigeration and cooking fuels, trash collection and sewerage services. Telephone and television services are not included as utilities.

**Utility Allowances:**

An amount deducted from the Total Tenant Payment for utilities not provided by the PHA, an amount equal to the estimate established under Part 965 of the Code of Federal Regulations of the monthly cost of a reasonable consumption of such utilities and other services for the unit by an energy conservative household of modest circumstances consistent with the requirements of a safe, sanitary, and healthful living environment.

**Utility Reimbursement also known as Utility Assistance Payment (UAP):**

The amount, if any, by which the Utility Allowance for the unit, if applicable, exceeds the Total Tenant Payment for the family occupying the unit. An Utility Reimbursement is not paid for a Public Housing family that is paying Flat Rent.

**VAWA:** Violence Against Women Act.

**Very Low-Income Family:**

A Lower Income family whose Annual Income does not exceed 50 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD, with adjustments for smaller and larger families. HUD may establish income limits higher or lower than 50 percent of the median income for the area on the basis of its finding that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes.

**Veteran:**

A person who meets the definition of a veteran according to California Military and Veterans Code Section 980

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=mvc&group=00001-01000&file=980-980.5>

**Waiting List:**

A list of families organized according to HUD regulations and HA policy who are waiting for subsidy/unit to become available.

**Welfare Assistance:**

Welfare or other payments to families or individuals, based on need, that are made under programs funded, separately or jointly, by Federal, State, or local Governments.

**Working Family:**

A family in which the head of household or spouse/co-head is employed and is working an average of at least 32 hours per week at California minimum wage or higher, or receiving State Disability, Unemployment or Workman's Compensation in lieu of earnings provided that the person was employed and working at least 32 hours per week at California minimum wage prior to receiving State Disability, Unemployment or Workman's Compensation. Employment hours for the head of household and/or spouse/co-head may be combined to equal at least 32 hours per week at California minimum wage or higher.

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## **SECTION II. ADMISSION POLICIES - CONDITIONS GOVERNING ELIGIBILITY**

### **A. Eligibility for Admission**

For admission to HUD aided public housing units operated by this PHA, only those applicants who meet all of the following requirements shall be eligible:

1. Who qualify as a family, as defined in Section I. (A.) hereof.
2. Who are citizens or who are non-citizens with eligible immigration status as described in Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 5. A family that has some ineligible members but at least one member with eligible immigration status may be eligible for prorated assistance.
3. Whose Annual Income, as defined in Section I.(U) hereof, does not exceed the applicable income limits for admission (Low or Very Low Income whichever is applicable) approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
4. Whose credit report, previous housing record and rent paying habits are satisfactory.
5. Who would not be a detriment to the health, safety, or welfare of his neighbors or the community in which they live.
6. Whose expected behavior would not have an adverse influence upon sound family and community life.
7. Who would not be a source of danger to the peaceful occupancy by the other tenants or cause damage to the premises or property of the Authority.
8. Who conform to the Occupancy Standards for admission set forth in Section II. E hereof.
9. For the purpose of increasing security for the residents of public housing, the PHA may allow police officers to reside in public housing. Police Officer is defined as "a person who, during the time of residence in that public housing is employed on a full-time basis as a duly licensed, professional police officer by a Federal, State or local government or by any agency of these governments." Police officers will be offered units based on the Flat Rent schedule for that project and will be exempted from qualifying under the Income Limits. An outreach to local police agencies may be made to encourage occupancy in public housing units. **24CFR 960 Subpart E, 505 (a)(b)**

In order to determine the applicant's suitability as a tenant, the HA will run credit checks with the applicant's written release. The applicant's criminal history will be checked. The State listing of Registered Sex Offenders will also be checked and any applicant or family member found on that list will be denied.

## B. Selection of Tenants

### Governing Conditions

- a. Our Public Housing and Bond Programs operate in compliance with State and Federal Fair Housing Guidelines. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, disability, age, marital status, ancestry, source of income, or sexual orientation. The following screening criteria applies to all applicants.
- b. In selecting tenants from among eligible applicant families of the size and composition appropriate to available dwelling units, the Authority will take into consideration the needs of individual families for public housing and the statutory purpose in developing and operating a socially and financially sound public housing project, which provides a decent home and a suitable living environment and fosters economic and social diversity in the tenant body as a whole. Selection will be in such a manner as:
  - (1) To avoid concentrations of the most economically and socially deprived families in one or all of the project(s) operated by the PHA.
  - (2) To preclude admission of applicants whose habits and practices may reasonably be expected to have a detrimental effect on the tenants or the project environment.
  - (3) To maintain a tenant body in each project composed of families with a broad range of incomes and rent-paying ability which is generally representative of the range of incomes of very low income families in the PHA's area of operation as defined by state law.
  - (4) To comply with the targeting requirement set forth in 24 CFR 960.202 (b) as follows:

*Targeting admissions to extremely low income families— (1) Targeting requirement.*

(i) Not less than 40 percent of the families admitted to a PHA's public housing program during the PHA fiscal year from the PHA waiting list shall be extremely low income families. This is called the "basic targeting requirement." (ii) To the extent provided in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, admission of extremely low income families to the PHA's Section 8 voucher program during the same PHA fiscal year is credited against the basic targeting requirement. (iii) A PHA must comply with both the targeting requirement found in this part and the deconcentration requirements found in part 903 of this chapter. **(2) Credit for admissions to PHA voucher program.** (i) If admissions of extremely low income families to the PHA's voucher program during a PHA fiscal year exceeds the 75 percent minimum targeting requirement for the PHA's voucher program (see 24 CFR 982.201(b)(2)), such excess shall be credited (subject to the limitations in paragraph (b)(2)(ii) of this section) against the PHA's basic targeting requirement for the same fiscal year. (ii) The fiscal year credit for voucher program admissions that exceed the minimum voucher program targeting requirement shall not exceed the lower of: (A) Ten percent of public housing waiting list admissions during the PHA fiscal year; (B) Ten percent of waiting list admission to the PHA's Section 8 tenant based assistance program during the PHA fiscal year; or (C) The number of qualifying low income families who commence occupancy during the fiscal year of PHA public housing units located in census tracts with a poverty rate of 30 percent or more. For this purpose, qualifying low income family means a low income family other than an extremely low income family. **(24 CFR 960.202)**

## Documentation

In addition to our program application and necessary documentation, applicants need to provide the following items:

- Valid Driver's License or State Identification Card, Passport, or other form of photo ID
- All applicants and participants are required to disclose a social security number. PHAs will not need to re-verify previously disclosed valid SSNs. PHAs may rely on documentation of the SSN provided by another government agency (federal or state). For the inclusion of household members at least 6 years of age or under the age of 6 who **has an assigned SSN**, the applicant must disclose the SSN and provide documentation of the SSN to the PHA at the time of request to add or include the household member, during interim and/or annual re-examination. The new household member **cannot** be added to the family composition until the family has complied with SSN disclosure and verification requirements. Those without eligible immigration status are required to sign a declaration indicating their immigration status. Addition of new household members under the age of 6 **and who do not have an assigned SSN**, can be included as household members and are entitled to benefits. In this case, the Head of Household is given ninety (90) days to provide documentation of the SSN. Extensions may be given due to unforeseen circumstances.
- Verification of all sources of income

Public Housing applicants will also have to provide:

- Fully completed Eligibility Questionnaire
- Birth Certificates or other proof of birth for all family members who will be residing in the unit

All information provided must be true and complete. All application materials must be signed by all household members aged 18 years or older.

## Criminal History

The Housing Authority has a Zero Tolerance Policy for criminal activity. Criminal checks are run for every family member aged 18 years or older. Applications will be denied for either drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity or any other criminal activity that could prove to be detrimental to the health and safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of the other residents. Persons convicted of offenses that require a lifetime registration as a sex offender are prohibited from participation in any housing assistance programs administered by the Housing Authority in accordance with Federal Regulations. Housing Authority policy and Code of Federal Regulations states that there does not need to be a conviction, just a preponderance of evidence. (24 CFR 5.861)

- Persons evicted from Public Housing, Indian Housing, Section 23 or any Section 8 program because of drug-related criminal activity are ineligible for admission for a three year period following the date of such eviction unless the person involved in the drug activity is no longer a member of the family, or has successfully completed a rehabilitation program approved by the PHA and meets the exception policy. [24 CFR 5.854 (a), 24 CFR 960.204(a)]

- Any person who was convicted of manufacturing or producing methamphetamine on the premises of an assisted housing project will be permanently denied admission to public Housing. [24 CFR 204 (a)(3)]
- Any person subject to a lifetime registration requirement under a State sex offenders' registration program will be denied. (24 CFR 5.856, 24 CFR 960.204 (a) (4))
- Criminal activity directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, engaged in by a member of a tenant's household or any guest or other person under the tenant's control shall not be cause for termination of assistance, tenancy, or occupancy rights if the tenant or an immediate member of the tenant's family is the victim or threatened victim of that domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking provided the victim takes the necessary steps to protect themselves, members of their household and other residents from the perpetrator(s) of the criminal activity discussed in this bulleted item. Necessary steps may include (but is not limited to) police contact, a restraining order (temporary and permanent) with a move-out order. Note: The move-out order portion of the restraining order is not required if the perpetrator was not residing in the unit.

### **Credit History**

Credit checks are conducted to determine the applicant's history of meeting financial obligations and the monetary commitments that are outstanding which may affect eligibility or ability to pay under a rental agreement.

Applicants who owe any PHA money will be denied admission unless the debt is paid in full. The PHA may, at its discretion, enter into a repayment agreement with an applicant.

Applicants who have been evicted and/or have civil judgments for unpaid rent/damages will be denied. An exception may be made at the discretion of the PHA for evictions over 5 (five) years old (at the time of processing) provided that the debt was paid in full (subject to verification) and the most recent 5 (five) years rental history is satisfactory and verifiable and the family meets all other requirements.

Applicants will not be denied housing assistance if the home they resided in where they were either sole or part owner of has been foreclosed upon, provided they meet all other requirements.

Ideally, applicants will have no more than 30% of their accounts delinquent or other negative status (collection accounts, profit and loss write offs, etc.). For applicants who do not meet the 30% criteria, the following guidelines will be used: There may not be more than eight (8) negative accounts within the most recent three years (3), and no more than one of those may be unpaid utility accounts (gas, electric, water, trash or sewer). Documented cases of negative credit caused by a job loss/closure within the last year (from the date of processing) will be considered with satisfactory verifications as determined by the PHA.

Applicants with no credit history at all may be considered.

In evaluating credit, medical accounts and student loan accounts will not be included.

To allow for the establishment of positive credit, in cases where it is clear that the applicant has in the most recent two years established positive credit, and all negative accounts are older than

two years, the most recent history will be given the greater weight.

In cases of joint credit, where proof can be shown that the debt was assigned by the court to the other party, it will not be considered negative.

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be considered, if requested, to determine whether there is a nexus to the disability and unsatisfactory credit items provided the applicant meets the rental history requirements contained in this applicant screening criteria section.

### **Rental History**

Applicants must, to the best of their ability, supply a complete rental history for the past 5 years. Gaps in rental history must be explained. Landlord references will be checked for the full 5 years whenever possible. Listed addresses and landlord information may be cross-checked by other means.

Applicants will be denied for negative rental history such as: evictions, damage to property, lease violations including disturbances, failure to pay on time, unauthorized occupants, subletting the unit, etc.

An exception may be made at the discretion of the PHA for evictions over 5 (five) years old (at the time of processing) provided that the debt was paid in full (subject to verification) and the most recent 5 (five) years rental history is satisfactory and verifiable and the family meets all other requirements.

Applicants will not be denied housing assistance if the home they resided in, where they were either sole or part owner of, has been foreclosed upon, provided they meet all other requirements.

### **Fraud**

Applicants that have committed fraud, intentionally deceiving any housing authority or other federally assisted housing program, will be prohibited from participating in the program.

### **Denials**

Any applicant denied will be notified in writing of the reasons for the determination. All applicants who are denied for any of the reasons stated above have the right to request an Informal Review to dispute the reasons for denial. Requests for Informal Reviews must be in writing, and must be received by the Housing Authority within 10 days of the date on the denial letter. Applicants will be given the opportunity to submit documentation to be considered.

The PHA shall promptly notify an applicant determined to be ineligible for admission of the basis therefore and to provide the applicant, upon request, within a reasonable time after the determination is made, with an opportunity for an Informal Review on such determination; and to promptly notify an applicant determined to be eligible of the approximate date he can be housed, insofar as that date can be reasonably determined.

### **Preferences**

The HA has implemented the following preferences for selecting names from the waiting list. In accordance with California State Law, at each level of preference, veterans and/or active duty servicemen and their spouse or widow/er will have priority. In accordance with Federal Regulations, in each category below, from the families that meet all preferences, the Housing



Authority will release families to result in a successful occupancy. At the discretion of the Housing Authority, a selection may be made from registrants meeting the extraordinary local preference.

**Extraordinary Local Preference**

Up to a total of 15% of annual admissions will be targeted for an extraordinary local preference for the following registrants: Witness Relocation, Referrals by the Court Program (A program run by Riverside County Family and Dependency Drug Courts), Foster Care Youth (A program of the Council for Youth Development), families whose head of household or co-head are 75 years of age and older; registrants displaced by government action or emergency as certified by a city, county or state agency official, etc. (executive level or above). The approval of the Director or designee is necessary for an extraordinary local preference. **CFR 960.206 (a)(1)(2).**

**First Level**

- 1) County of Riverside Residency Preference, including homeless, and
- 2) Rent Burdened or homeless
- 3) Working Families with dependent minor children or Elderly families or Disabled families
- 4) Qualified veterans and/or qualified families 75 years of age and older do not have to meet the rent-burdened or homeless preference.

**Second Level**

- 1) County of Riverside Residency Preference, including homeless, and
- 2) Non-Rent Burdened or not homeless and
- 3) Working Families with dependent minor children, or Elderly families or Disabled families

**Third Level**

- 1) County of Riverside Residency Preference, including homeless, and
- 2) Rent Burdened or homeless and
- 3) Non-Working families with dependent or minor children, or Non-Elderly families or Non-Disabled families

**Fourth Level**

- 1) County of Riverside Residency Preference, including homeless, and
- 2) Non-Rent Burdened or not homeless and
- 3) Working families without dependent minor children, and Non-working families without dependent minor children.

Within the preference groups set forth above, when two or more applicants each need the same size and type of unit (based on the PHA's occupancy standards) and each having the same selection preferences or preferences of equal weight and the income range desired to maintain a broad cross-section being the same, date and time of application, and date of deposit submitted, will be the determinant.

Within the preference groups set forth above, to be considered a family with children, an adult household member must have legal custody or guardianship of the minor. Legal custody is determined by considering marriage, birth, adoption or court and government agency awarded custody.

### **C. Income Limits**

The Income Limits for admission to the public housing project(s) are those published by the Department of Housing and Urban Development in the Code of Federal Regulations (see Exhibit A).

### **D. Family Choice in Rents**

#### **Authority for Family to Select**

Each family residing in a public housing unit will elect annually whether the rent paid by such family shall be determined by the flat rent rate or income-based rent. This choice will be offered at initial lease up and annually at the time of the annual reexamination or annual flat rent update. The PHA has established a minimum rent of \$50.

#### **Flat Rents**

The PHA has established, for each dwelling unit in public housing, a flat rental amount for the dwelling unit, which:

2. Is based on the rental value of the unit, as determined by the PHA; and
3. Is designed so that the rent structures do not create a disincentive for continued residency in public housing by families who are attempting to become economically self-sufficient through employment or who have attained a level of self-sufficiency through their own efforts and
4. Does not include a utility allowance.

The PHA shall review the income of families paying flat rent not less than once every 3 years.

#### **Income-Based Rents**

The monthly Total Tenant Payment amount for a family with no ineligible non-citizens shall be an amount, as verified by the HA, that does not exceed the greatest of the following amounts:

- 30 percent of the family's monthly adjusted income or
- 10 percent of the family's monthly income
- \$50.00 minimum rent

There is a minimum rent of \$50 for public housing participants. The amount of rent is determined by the family's income according to the regulations or if the family has so selected, based on the flat rent.

#### **Switching Rent Determination Methods Because Of Hardship Circumstances:**

In the case of a family that has elected to pay the PHA's flat rent, the PHA shall immediately provide for the family to pay rent in the amount determined under income-based rent, during (1) situations in which the income of the family has decreased because of changed circumstances, loss of or reduction of employment, death in the family, and reduction in or loss of income of other assistance; (2) an increase in the family's expenses for medical costs, child care, transportation, education, or similar items; and such other situations as may be determined by the PHA. The rental policy developed by the PHA encourages and rewards employment and self-sufficiency. The family may not switch more than once during the year. Once a family has requested, and been granted, a change in the form of rent (flat rent or income-based rent), that

family will not be allowed to change the form of rent again until their next regularly scheduled re-examination.

Flat rents are structured like market rents. The family may only select flat rent at initial lease up or once annually at their regularly scheduled re-examination. The following rents are the base rent without regard to utility allowances. To get the gross rent the appropriate bedroom size utility allowance would be added to the flat rent figures.

**Minimum Rent:**

The PHA has established a Minimum Rent of \$50 monthly. Families will be required to pay minimum rent unless they request an exemption because of financial hardship. Financial hardship includes these situations:

- (i) When the family has lost eligibility for or is awaiting an eligibility determination for a federal, State, or local assistance program, including a family that includes a member who is a non-citizen lawfully admitted for permanent residence under the Immigration and Nationality Act who would be entitled to public benefits but for title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996;
- (ii) When the family would be evicted because it is unable to pay the minimum rent;
- (iii) When the income of the family has decreased because of changed circumstances, including loss of employment;
- (iv) When a death of a household member (member of assisted unit) has occurred in the family; and
- (v) Other circumstances determined by the PHA or HUD.

***What happens if family requests a hardship exemption?***

- (A) If a family requests a financial hardship exemption, the PHA must suspend the minimum rent requirement beginning the month following the family's request for a hardship exemption and continuing until the PHA determines whether there is a qualifying financial hardship, and whether such hardship is temporary or long term.
- (B) The PHA must promptly determine whether a qualifying hardship exists and whether it is temporary or long term.
- (C) The PHA may not evict the family for nonpayment of minimum rent during the 90-day period beginning the month following the family's request for a hardship exemption.
- (D) If the PHA determines that a qualifying financial hardship is temporary, the PHA must reinstate the minimum rent from the beginning of the suspension of the minimum rent. The PHA must offer the family a reasonable repayment agreement, on terms and conditions established by the PHA, for the amount of back minimum rent owed by the family.

If the PHA determines there is no qualifying financial hardship exemption, the PHA must reinstate the minimum rent, including back rent owed from the beginning of the suspension. The family must pay the back rent on terms and conditions established by the PHA.

If the PHA determines a qualifying financial hardship is long term, the PHA must exempt the family from the minimum rent requirements so long as such hardship continues. Such exemption shall apply from the beginning of the month following the family's request for a hardship exemption until the end of the qualifying financial hardship.

The financial hardship exemption only applies to payment of the minimum rent (as determined pursuant to Sec. 5.628(a)(4) and Sec. 5.630), and not to the other elements used to calculate the total tenant payment (as determined pursuant to Sec. 5.628(a)(1), (a)(2) and (a)(3)).

**Security Deposit:**

The tenant will be charged a deposit on the unit that is appropriate based on the Flat Rental Value of the Unit as determined by the PHA. The standard security deposit is equal to one month's Flat Rent as determined by the PHA and included in Statement of Policies listed according to location and bedroom size plus any addition to the security deposit of any pet deposit, waterbed deposit and/or gate card as applicable as determined by the PHA (Refer to Section II. Admission Policies – Conditions Governing Eligibility; item E. West County Flat Rents and item F. East County Flat Rents). The deposit on the vacated unit will be either refunded or accounted for according to California State law within 21 days of the family's vacating the unit. (Note: The amount of the required security deposit is less than required by state law. Based on the unit flat rent amount, the security deposit must not exceed two times the rent for an unfurnished apartment or three times the rent for a furnished apartment). The required security deposit amount as outlined above applies to all new residents and active residents effective 07/01/2012.

When a family moves out of the leased unit, the HA, subject to state and local law, may use the Security Deposit as reimbursement for any unpaid rent, damages to the unit, costs to clean the unit, costs to repair or replace personal property or other amounts that the Tenant owes under the law and in accordance with the Lease Agreement. The HA will give the Tenant a list of all items charged against the security deposit and the amount of each item within twenty-one (21) days of the vacancy. The Tenant is liable for any costs beyond the Security Deposit amount. Upon one or more household members vacating the unit (but not all household members) the full security deposit will be forfeited by the vacating members and will remain on file with the PHA until such a time that all household members vacate the unit. At that time the Security Deposit will be accounted for in accordance with state law as stated above.

**E. West County Flat Rents**

Project 006/012	34th Street	2 bedroom	\$900
Project 007	Jackson Street	1 bedroom	\$850
		2 bedroom	\$1000
Project 011/014	Broadway Street	2 bedroom	\$900
Project 013	Fairview Street	2 bedroom	\$850
Project 015	Idyllwild Street	2 bedroom	\$800
Project 016/020	Gloria Street	1 bedroom	\$850
		2 bedroom	\$975
		3 bedroom	\$1075
		4 bedroom	\$1175
Project 018	Dracaea Street	2 bedroom	\$950
Project 021	Midway Street	1 bedroom	\$750
		2 bedroom	\$900
		3 bedroom	\$950
Project 019/022	Fort Drive	1 bedroom	\$700
		2 bedroom	\$800
		3 bedroom	\$900
Scattered Sites	Highland	2 bedroom	\$800
	Sherman	3 bedroom	\$1250
		4 bedroom	\$1400

**F. East County Flat Rents**

Project 001	Beaumont	3 bedroom	\$750
		4 bedroom	\$800
Project 008	Banning	2 bedroom	\$800
Project 018	Desert Hot Springs	2 bedroom	\$750
		3 bedroom	\$800
Project 010	Cathedral City	2 bedrooms	\$850
Project 041	Indio	2 bedrooms	\$850
		3 bedrooms	\$900
		4 bedrooms	\$1000
Project 009/017	Thermal I	2 bedrooms	\$750
Project 031	Thermal II	3 bedroom	\$800
		4 bedroom	\$875
		5 bedroom	\$950
Project 027	Mecca	3 bedroom	\$725
		4 bedroom	\$800
		5 bedroom	\$875

### **G. Occupancy Standards**

Occupancy Standards must provide for the smallest number of bedrooms needed to house a family without overcrowding. To avoid overcrowding and prevent waste of space, dwellings are to be leased in accordance with the occupancy standards set forth below. In the event, however, should there be dwellings which cannot be filled with families of appropriate size, after all possible efforts have been made to stimulate applications (see Exhibit B), eligible families of the most nearly appropriate size will be assigned them, with the understanding that the families will be transferred to units of the proper size should families of appropriate size require the unit. However, at no time will the *initial* assignment of a unit exceed 2 people per bedroom plus 1 for a living/sleeping area, nor less than one person per bedroom. Only one bedroom will be assigned to the head of household and spouse/co-head or partner. Reasonable accommodation requests will be considered for persons with disabilities. Housing assistance limitations for single persons (1 person households): A single person who is not elderly or displaced person or a person with disabilities or the remaining member of a resident family may not be provided a housing unit with two or more bedrooms. (24 CFR 960.206 6(d))

A remaining member of a resident family will be required to transfer to a unit of suitable size in accordance with the Occupancy Standards and Transfer policy under the lease.

<b>Number of Bedrooms</b>	<b>Number of Persons</b>	
	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
1	1	3
2	2	5
3	4	7
4	6	9
5	8	11

Every family member, regardless of age, is to be counted as a person. For the purpose of occupancy, an unborn child is counted as a person. Foster children/adults are not counted for purposes of determining bedroom size in public housing. Foster children/adults are not considered a family member and may not be authorized to be added if it causes an overcrowding of the unit.

A family will not be granted an increase in bedroom size in order to accommodate adding additional people to the household, other than those added by marriage, birth, adoption or court-awarded custody. A minor may only be added to the household if an adult household member has legal custody or guardianship of the minor. Legal custody is determined by considering marriage, birth, adoption or court and government agency awarded custody. A nucleus family member moving back into the home as an adult will not increase the bedroom size. If a member returns as an adult and brings additional non-nucleus members with them, the authorized bedroom size does not increase. Requests to add additional household members will be approved or denied after taking into consideration whether the addition of such people will cause over-crowding of the unit, and in the case of an adult member, whether the person meets all applicant screening criteria.

For authorized increases in family size, at no time will the number of persons in the unit exceed two (2) persons per bedroom plus two (2) persons per living/sleeping area.

## **H. Transfers**

When it is found that the size of the dwelling is no longer suitable for the family in accordance with these standards or the PHA otherwise needs to utilize the unit for business purposes, the family will be required to move as soon as a dwelling of appropriate size becomes available. To the maximum extent possible, needed transfers will take precedence over new admissions. Transfers will not be limited to the project in which the family lives. A family who is required to transfer will be offered the next available unit that the PHA determines will meet the needs of the request. If the family chooses not to lease that unit, the PHA obligation to transfer the family will be considered met and the family may be given a 30 day notice to vacate.

Transfers for reasons other than regulated by the PHA will be considered based on medical reasons only.

All transfers requests must be in writing and may require verifications deemed necessary by the PHA. A request for transfer may be denied based on tenant history including but not limited to poor paying habits, care of dwelling, care of property, violations of the Lease, etc. A waiting list will be established using the above priorities as the primary determining factor and the date of request as the secondary factor.

The tenant will be charged a deposit on the new unit that is appropriate based on the Flat Rental Value of the Unit as determined by the PHA. The standard security deposit is equal to one month's Flat Rent as determined by the PHA and included in Statement of Policies listed according to location and bedroom size (Refer to Section II. Admission Policies – Conditions Governing Eligibility; item E. West County Flat Rents and item F. East County Flat Rents) ~~the family's monthly rent or \$260, whichever is greater.~~ The deposit on the vacated unit will be either refunded or accounted for according to California State law within 21 days of the family's vacating the unit.

Transfers of non-handicapped tenants living in a unit specifically designed for a handicapped person will be required when there is a handicapped family qualified to be placed and there is an available unit meeting the needs of the non-handicapped family. Tenants will be given a \$50 rent credit the month they move to assist with the costs of transferring units.

The Housing Authority allows two (2) working days (48 hours) for the tenant to turn in the keys and release possession of the old unit to the Housing Authority or the Resident Services Assistant from the date the lease is signed or keys received for the new unit. Paragraph 8 (q) of the lease agreement states that the tenant shall "Not receive assistance for occupancy of any other unit assisted under any Federal housing assistance program during the term of this lease." The tenant is responsible to pay rent on the old unit until keys are turned in. If the tenant does not turn in the keys or release possession of the old unit within 48 hours, the tenant is responsible to pay the daily Market Rate based on the Flat Rent Amount for the old unit based on Site and bedroom size of old unit. The tenant cannot receive subsidy for two units and because the lease was signed and the tenant issued keys for the new unit, the new unit is subsidized as of the date the lease was signed or keys received. The HA may also require at least thirty (30) days advance notice of the transfer request and the participant may be required to pay rent through the expiration date of thirty day notice period as required by the lease agreement.

## **I. Rent, Utility Reimbursement**

The amount of rent payable by the tenant to the PHA shall be the Tenant Rent, as defined in and calculated in accordance with Section I.(J) of these policies. Where applicable, the Utility Reimbursement (as defined in Section I.(M) of this document) will be paid to the tenant by the

PHA. If the utility company consents, a PHA may pay the Utility Reimbursement jointly to the family and the utility company or directly to the utility company. If the family chooses to pay a Flat Rent, the PHA does not pay any utility reimbursement.

#### **J. Leasing of Dwelling Units**

A Lease Agreement is to be entered into between this PHA and each of its tenant families. The Lease Agreement is to be kept current at all times and is to reflect the rent being charged at time of signing, the unit occupied, the effective date of the lease, and the conditions governing occupancy.

##### **1. Execution of Lease Agreement**

- a. The family member who is determined to be the actual head of the household of the Family, accepted as a tenant, is required to execute a Dwelling Lease, in duplicate, prior to actual admission. The copy is to be given to the Lessee and the original is to be filed in the permanent record folder established for the Family. The Lease shall contain the names of all members of the household who will reside in the unit. All family members 18 years of age and older (at the time of initial leasing or upon attaining that age) shall be required to sign the lease.
- b. If a tenant Family transfers to a different housing unit operated by this Authority, the existing Lease is to be canceled and a new Lease for the dwelling into which the Family is to move must be executed by the head of the household and all other household members 18 years of age and older.
- c. If, through any cause, the signer of the Dwelling Lease ceases to be a member of the tenant family, the Lease is to be voided and a new Dwelling Lease may be executed and signed by a new qualified head of the household, provided the family is eligible for continued occupancy.
- d. If at any time during the life of the Lease Agreement any other change in the tenant's status results in the need to change or amend any provision of the Lease, or if this PHA desires to waive any provision with respect to the tenant:
  - (1) The existing Lease is to be canceled and a new Lease executed, or
  - (2) An appropriate Rider is to be prepared and executed and made a part of the existing Lease.

(Notification to tenants regarding proposed changes will be in accordance with Federal Regulations governing same.)

2. Residents will be given a Briefing Packet at the time of initial lease up. This packet will contain information on maintenance procedures, unit care and housekeeping, utility services and information pertinent to the particular site they will be living at. In addition, all new residents may be required to watch a short video on housekeeping standards and sign an agreement to maintain their unit according to those standards.
3. **Cancellation of the Lease Agreement**  
Cancellation of a tenant's Lease is to be in accordance with the provisions of the tenant lease form.



## **SECTION III. CONTINUED OCCUPANCY POLICIES**

### **A. Eligibility for Continued Occupancy**

To be eligible for Continued Occupancy in the HUD-aided Public Housing Projects operated by this PHA only those occupants:

1. Who qualify as a family (see Section I.(A.) except that an adult person or persons remaining as members of a family may be permitted to remain in occupancy (if a signatory to the lease); if the person or persons are named on the lease but did not sign it, then the PHA will determine if the person or persons are suitable as tenants having the ability to uphold a lease, if so, a new lease will be entered.
2. Who conform to the Occupancy Standards established in Section II. (E.), hereof;
3. Who are able abide by the terms of their lease. When there is no member of the family living in the apartment who can provide the needed care, a PHA representative will determine the state of competency. A conference may be held with the PHA representative, Department of Family and Children Services caseworker and a representative of the Health Department, or a doctor, to try to resolve the problem.

### **B. Re-examination of Eligibility and Adjustment of Rent**

1. Annual Re-examination: To assure tenancy in the project is restricted to families meeting the eligibility requirements for Continued Occupancy set forth in Section III and that such families are charged appropriate rents, the eligibility status and the Income for all tenants is to be re-examined at least annually.

After the tenant's eligibility status and income have been determined, such action as may be necessary (see Paragraph 4.) is to be taken.

2. Interim Re-examinations: The HA will process the change if the decrease or increase in income is \$100.00 monthly or more and anticipated to continue for sixty (60) or more days. Any *decreases* in the family's income of at least \$100.00 monthly and anticipated to continue for sixty (60) or more days or any changes in the family's composition that are reported that will decrease the family's rent, the PHA will make the change effective the first of the next month, providing verification of the change has been received. If any changes that are reported will *increase* the family's rent, the PHA will give at least a 30 day notice before the increase takes effect. Increases in income will be processed if there is an increase of at least \$100.00 per month in the family's income, or if the change is for families eligible for, or currently receiving, earned income disallowance. Participants must report all changes in income, assets, and family household composition in writing within 10 days of occurrence. The participant will be required to repay the HA for any underpayment of rent caused by the unreported income, income that was not reported timely or an administrative error caused by HA personnel.
3. Income changes from welfare program  
Families will not have their rents reduced (to the extent that the decrease in income is a result of the benefit reduction) if welfare or public assistance is reduced due to:

- Fraud; or
- Any failure of any member of the family to comply with conditions under the assistance program requiring participation in an economic self-sufficiency program; or
- Any failure of any member of the family to comply with conditions under the assistance program imposing a work activities requirement.

This section is not applicable for reduction in benefits as a result of:

- The expiration of a lifetime time limit; or
- Where the family has complied with welfare program requirements but is unable to obtain employment.

4. Action Required Following Re-examination: Immediately following each tenant's reexamination, he/she is to be informed in writing concerning:
  - a. Any change to be made in the rent or size of dwelling occupied;
  - b. Increases in rent are to be made only after all facts have been verified and, in no case, without at least 30 days notification to the tenant.
  - c. Decreases in rent are to be made effective the first of the month following that in which the change in family circumstance is reported (provided verification has been received) and the decrease complies with Section III (B)(4) of this section.
5. Misrepresentations: If the re-examination discloses that families, at the time of admission or at any other previous determination of income and rent, made misrepresentations which resulted in their being classified as eligible when, in fact, they were ineligible, they are to be required to vacate even though they may currently be eligible. Also, if at the time of re-examination it is found that the tenants' misrepresentations have resulted in their paying a lower rent than they should have paid, they are to be required to pay the difference between the rent paid and what should have been paid and in justifiable cases, the PHA may take such other action as it deems advisable.

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## **SECTION IV. ADMISSION PROCEDURE**

### **A. Determination of Eligibility for Admission, Establishing an Application Pool and Receipt of Applications**

1. This section sets forth the basic steps which are to be taken in obtaining and verifying information from applicant families for the purpose of:
  - a. Determining whether they meet the conditions of eligibility for admission set forth in Section II. (A.);
  - b. Applying the preference requirements established in Section II. (B.);
  - c. Determining the rent to be charged in accordance with Section II. (D.);
  - d. Determining the size of the dwelling required in accordance with Section II. (E.)
2. Establishing the application pool, method of filing applications, and selection of tenants shall be as set forth in the PHA's adopted Tenant Selection and Assignment Plan, attached as Exhibit "B" of this document.
3. Tenants will be selected from among applicants eligible for dwellings of given sizes in such a manner as to avoid concentration of families according to income levels. In determining whether a family is eligible for admission or Continued Occupancy, the PHA shall consider information such as:
  - a. An applicant's past performance in meeting financial obligations, especially rent;
  - b. A record of disturbance of neighbors, destruction of property, or living or housekeeping habits at prior residences which may adversely affect the health, safety or welfare of other tenants;
  - c. Criminal activity involving crimes of physical violence to persons or property and other criminal acts which would adversely affect the health, safety or welfare of other tenants;
  - d. Drug-related criminal activity, especially the manufacture, sales or distribution of controlled substances;
  - e. Other criminal activity, which may threaten the health or safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents or persons residing the immediate vicinity;
  - f. Other criminal activity, which may threaten the health or safety of the owner, property management staff, or persons performing a contract administration function or responsibility on behalf of the PHA (including a PHA employee or a PHA contractor, subcontractor or agent).
  - g. A family involved in drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity or any criminal activity that threatens the health, safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of other residents or others in the immediate vicinity in any housing program administered by the Housing Authority will be denied or terminated from the program in accordance with the County of Riverside's Zero Tolerance Policy adopted on June 4, 1996 and most recently adopted as amended on April 15, 2008.
  - h. Persons convicted of sex offenses that require a lifetime registration as a sex offender are prohibited from participation in any housing assistance programs administered by the Housing Authority in accordance with Federal Regulations.

In the event unfavorable information is obtained relative to the family, consideration shall be given to the time, nature and extent of the applicant's conduct and to factors which might indicate a reasonable probability of favorable future conduct or financial prospects such as:

- i. Evidence of rehabilitation.
  - ii. Evidence of the applicant family's participation in or willingness to participate in social service or other appropriate counseling service programs and the availability of such programs.
  - iii. Evidence of applicant family's willingness to attempt to increase family income and the availability of training or employment programs in the locality.
4. The pre-application constitutes the basic record of each family applying for admission. Each family will be required to supply information as called for on the pre-application for admission and to sign the pre-application attesting to the accuracy of the data provided.

If during the application interview, or at any time in the future, it appears that the applicant is definitely not eligible, the applicant is to be informed of the basis for such determination and shall be provided an opportunity for an Informal Review. In such instances, sufficient information is to be entered on the pre-application form or HA data base to record the reason for the ineligibility.

The family Head, and other such family members as the PHA shall designate, shall execute HUD approved release and consent form authorizing any depository or private source of income or any Federal, State, or local agency to furnish or release to the PHA and to HUD such information determined to be necessary.

If, after verification of application data, it is determined that the applicant is eligible, he shall be notified of the approximate date he may be housed, insofar as that date can be reasonably determined. The family will be required to submit a holding deposit equal to \$260.00 or one month's rent, whichever is higher. At its discretion, the PHA may allow a short-term payment arrangement regarding the deposit on a case by case basis.

All entries, when possible, are to be made in ink, indelible pencil, or typed in. Corrections or changes are to be made by lining through the original entry and entering the correct data. Such changes are to be dated and initialed by the person recording the change and the reason and authority for such change noted in the record.

5. To assure that the data upon which determination of eligibility, preference status, citizenship or immigration status, rent to be paid, and size of dwelling required are to be based are full, true and complete, the information submitted by each applicant is to be verified. Verifications will be obtained according to HUD hierarchy methods set forth in Section IV herein. Complete and accurate verification records are to be maintained.
6. Information relative to acceptance or rejection of an applicant shall be documented and placed in the applicant's file. Verification data is to be reviewed and evaluated as received for completeness, accuracy, and conclusiveness.

Where the information received is not adequate in all respects, follow-ups or new efforts to obtain such information are to be made and carried through to conclusion. If, during the verification process, it becomes evident that, for one or more reasons, an applicant is ineligible, the investigation is to be discontinued.

As verification of all necessary items for each application is completed, a summary of the verified information is prepared by entering all information in the PHA computer. The summary is to cover the following determinations:

- a. Eligibility of the applicant group as a family;
  - b. Eligibility of the family with respect to income limits for admission. Family Annual Income (see 24 CFR 5.609) is used both for determination of income eligibility and PHA income targeting under 24 CFR 960.202. Preference status, if any, of the family;
  - c. Size of unit to which the family is to be assigned;
  - d. Rent which the family is to pay; and
  - e. Proof that an applicant is, if claimed, elderly, disabled, or handicapped, as defined previously.
7. No applicant will be excluded from public housing solely because of the applicant's membership in a protected group.
8. If the verified data used in determining an applicant's eligibility, preference rating, and rent to be charged is not more than 60 days old at the time an applicant is selected for admission and the applicant states that no change has occurred in his status, the data will be considered as reflecting the applicant's status at the time of admission. If data on file is over 60 days old, inquiries are to be made of the applicant, his replies recorded, and any reported changes which may affect his eligibility, preference rating, rent and the unit size are to be re-verified prior to leasing.

## **SECTION V. RE-EXAMINATION PROCEDURES**

1. **Determination of Re-examination Date:**  
The re-examination of all families is to be conducted at least annually from the time of admission or prior to the transfer of units. The PHA shall conduct a re-examination of Families who have selected Flat Rent not less than once every three years.
2. **Re-examination Procedures:**  
Data assembled at the time of re-examination is to be filed in the file set up for the family at the time of its admission. The file may be stored as an imaged or scanned form.
  - a. **Receipt of Eligibility Questionnaire:**  
Each tenant family is required, at the time of re-examination, to complete and sign the Eligibility Questionnaire and to provide the required information. All entries are to be made in ink, indelible pencil, or type written. Corrections or changes are to be made by lining through the original entry and entering the correct data. Such changes are to be dated and initialed by the person recording the changed data, and the reasons for such changes are to be noted in the record. All persons 18 years of age and older are

required to review the Eligibility questionnaire in its entirety, and include all requested information, and initial and sign where required. All responses must be true and complete.

- b. Verification and Documentation of Re-examination Data: To assure that the data upon which the determination of eligibility for continued occupancy, rent to be paid, and size of dwelling required are to be based is full, true, and complete, the information submitted by each applicant is to be verified. Complete and accurate verification records, as set forth in Section VI, are to be maintained in the tenant's file.
- c. Summary of Verified Data: Verification data is to be reviewed and evaluated as it is received for completeness, adequacy, and conclusiveness. Where the information received is not completely adequate in all respects, follow-ups or new efforts to obtain such information are to be made and carried through to conclusion. As verifications of all necessary items for each application are completed, a summary of the verified information is to be prepared. The summary is to cover the following determinations and the basis for such determinations:
- (1) Eligibility of the tenant group as a family or as the remaining member of a family.
  - (2) Size of dwelling required, and
  - (3) Rent which the family is to pay.

When the verified findings are at substantial variance from the data furnished by the tenant in his Eligibility Questionnaire, the tenant is to be interviewed and an opportunity is to be given to explain the discrepancies. This can be in the form of a Pre-eviction Appointment.

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## **SECTION VI. VERIFICATION PROCEDURES**

### **Introduction**

HUD regulations (24 CFR 960.259 (c)) require that the factors of eligibility and Total Tenant Payment (TTP) be verified by the HA. Applicants and program participants must furnish proof of their eligibility whenever required by the HA, and the information they provide must be true and complete. The HA's verification requirements are designed to maintain program integrity. This chapter explains the HA's procedures and standards for verification of preferences, income, combined assets exceeding five one thousand dollars (\$5000.00)(\$1000.00), allowable deductions, family status, and changes in family members. The HA will ensure that proper authorization from the family is always obtained before making verification inquiries.

### **A. Release of Information**

The family will be required to sign specific authorization forms when information is needed that is not covered by the HUD form 9886, Authorization for Release of Information.

Each member requested to consent to a release of information will be provided with a copy of the appropriate forms for their review and signature.

Family refusal to cooperate with the HUD prescribed verification system will result in denial of admission or termination of assistance because it is a family obligation to supply any information requested by the PHA or HUD.

### **B. Methods of Verification**

#### **PIH Notice 2010-19 (HA) & CFR 5.233**

The PHA will verify information through the six methods of verification acceptable to HUD in the following order:

#### **Level Verification Technique Ranking**

- Level 6) Upfront Income Verification (UIV)-Highest** (Mandatory) using HUD's Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) system (not available for income verifications of applicants)
- Level 5) Upfront Income Verification (UIV)** using non-HUD system-**Highest** (Optional)
- Level 4) Written third Party Verification-High** (Mandatory to supplement EIV-reported income sources and when EIV has no data; Mandatory for non-EIV reported income sources; Mandatory when tenant disputes EIV reported employment and income information and is unable to provide acceptable documentation to support dispute)
- Level 3) Written Third Party Verification Form-Medium-Low** (Mandatory if written third party verification documents are not available or rejected by the PHA; and when the applicant or tenant is unable to provide acceptable documentation)
- Level 2) Oral Third Party Verification-Low** (Mandatory if written third party verification is not available)
- Level 1) Tenant Declaration-Low** (Use as a last resort when unable to obtain any type of third party verification)

#### **Third Party Verification Techniques**

**Upfront Income Verification (UIV) (Level 6/5):** The verification of income before or during a family reexamination, through an independent source that systematically and uniformly maintains income information in computerized form for a number of individuals.

It should be noted that the EIV system is available to all PHAs as a UIV technique. PHAs are

encouraged to continue using other non-HUD UIV tools, such as The Work Number (an automated verification system) and state government databases (such as DPSS reports), to validate tenant-reported income.

**\*\*For each new admission (form HUD-50058 action type 1), the PHA is required to do the following: i. Review the EIV Income Report to confirm/validate family-reported income within 120 days of the PIC submission date; and ii. Print and maintain a copy of the EIV Income Report in the tenant file; and iii. Resolve any income discrepancy with the family within 60 days of the EIV Income Report date.**

**Written Third Party Verification (Level 4):** An original or authentic document generated by a third party source dated either within the 60-day period preceding the reexamination or PHA request date. Such documentation may be in the possession of the tenant (or applicant), and is commonly referred to as tenant-provided documents. It is the Department's position that such tenant-provided documents are written third party verification since these documents originated from a third party source. The PHA may, at its discretion, reject any tenant-provided documents and follow up directly with the source to obtain necessary verification of information.

Examples of acceptable tenant-provided documentation (generated by a third party source) include, but are not limited to: pay stubs, payroll summary report, employer notice/letter of hire/termination, SSA benefit verification letter, bank statements, child support payment stubs, welfare benefit letters and/or printouts, and unemployment monetary benefit notices. Current acceptable tenant-provided documents must be used for income and rent determinations.

For new income sources or when two pay stubs are not available, the PHA should project income based on the information from a traditional written third party verification form or the best available information.

**Written Third Party Verification Form (Level 3):** Also, known as traditional third party verification (a standardized form to collect information from a third party source). PHAs send the form directly to the third party source by mail, fax, or email.

It is the Department's position that the administrative burden and risk associated with use of the traditional third party verification form may be reduced by PHAs relying on acceptable documents that are generated by a third party, but in the possession of and provided by the tenant (or applicant). Many documents in the possession of the tenant are derived from third party sources (i.e. employers, federal, state and/or local agencies, banks, etc.).

**Oral Third Party Verification (Level 2):** Independent verification of information by contacting the individual income/expense source(s), as identified through the UIV technique or identified by the family. PHA staff should document in the tenant file, the date and time of the telephone call, the name of the person contacted and telephone number, along with the confirmed information. This verification method is commonly used in the event that the independent source does not respond to the PHA's faxed, mailed, or e-mailed request for information in a reasonable time frame, i.e., ten (10) business days.

**Non-Third Party Verification Technique Tenant Declaration (Level 1):** The tenant submits an affidavit or notarized statement of reported income and/or expenses to the PHA. This verification method should be used as a last resort when the PHA has not been successful in obtaining information via all other verification techniques. When the PHA relies on tenant



declaration, the PHA must document in the tenant file why third party verification was not available.

All original or authentic documents will be stamped (or notated) "**Viewed Original**" and retained/imaged into the family file. Original documents will be photocopied and returned to the applicant/participant if specifically requested and at PHA discretion. When documents cannot be photocopied, staff viewing the documents will annotate the file accordingly. A faxed authentic document from the source will be considered as an original document.

The HA will allow up to ten days for a family to provide a self-certification or self-declaration if other forms of verification are impossible to obtain.

**C. Computer Matching**

In addition to EIV, the HA utilizes computer matching with the Department of Social Services (DPSS), the INS SAVE system. Other computer matching agreements with federal, state, and local government agencies will be utilized if available and cost-effective.

**D. Items to be verified**

All eligibility factors will be verified, such as waiting list preference, income, combined assets exceeding one five thousand dollars (\$15000.00), and household composition.

**E. Verifying non-financial factors**

**Verification of Legal Identity**

In order to prevent program abuse, the HA will require applicants to furnish verification of legal identity for all family members.

**Family Relationships**

The HA will require familial relationship verification as appropriate and necessary.

**Verification of Permanent Absence of Adult Member**

If an adult member who was formerly a member of the household is reported permanently absent by the family, the PHA will require verification of the new address, and a notarized or certified statement signed by the individual who is permanently absent requesting to be removed from the household and lease and relinquishing any portion of his/her security deposit. If the individual is unavailable or refuses to sign the above documents, the Head of Household or remaining adult member must obtain a move out order from the court. A spouse/co-head away in the military is not considered to be absent and their income is to be included in total household income with the exception of the portion of pay that is specifically designated as hostile fire pay.

**Verification of Change in Family Composition**

The HA may verify changes in family composition (either reported or unreported). Third party verification procedures will be used.

**Verification of Disability**

Third party verification procedures will be used to document permanent disability status.

**Verification of Citizenship/Eligible Immigrant Status**

To be eligible for assistance, individuals must be U.S. citizens or eligible immigrants. Individuals who are neither may elect not to contend their status. Eligible immigrants must fall

into one of the categories specified by the regulations and must have their status verified by Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Each family member must declare his or her status. Assistance cannot be delayed, denied, or terminated while verification of status is pending except that assistance to applicants may be delayed while the PHA hearing is pending.

If an applicant or participant family member fails to sign required declarations and consent forms or provide documents, as required, they must be listed as an ineligible member. If any family member fails to provide and sign as required, the family may be denied or terminated from assistance.

If the PHA determines that a family member has knowingly permitted an individual who is not eligible for assistance to reside in the family's unit, the family's assistance will be terminated, unless the ineligible individual has already been considered in prorating the family's assistance.

The HA is required to terminate assistance for any household that does not have at least one member that is a citizen or who has eligible immigration status. The household cannot add any additional member(s) to the household to attempt to satisfy the requirement. The member with eligible status must already be part of the initial assisted household or already be a member added by natural progression as explained elsewhere in these policies and who has been approved by the HA in writing to reside in the unit.

#### **Verification of Social Security Numbers**

All applicants and participants are required to disclose a social security number. PHAs will not need to re-verify previously disclosed valid SSNs. PHAs may rely on documentation of the SSN provided by another government agency (federal or state). For the addition of new household members at least six (6) years of age or under the age of six (6) who **has an assigned SSN**, the tenant must disclose the SSN and provide documentation of the SSN to the PHA at the time of request to add new household member or during interim re-examination. The new household member **cannot** be added to the family composition until the family has complied with SSN disclosure and verification requirements. Addition of new household members under the age of 6 **and who do not have an assigned SSN**, are can be included as household members and are entitled to benefits. In this case, the Head of Household is given ninety (90) days to provide documentation of the SSN. Extensions may be given due to unforeseen circumstances.

## **SECTION VII. TERMINATION OF TENANCY AND EVICTION**

The HA shall not terminate or refuse to renew the lease other than for serious or repeated violations of material terms of the lease such as the following:

- (a) Failure to make payments due under the lease shall be cause for termination of tenancy.
- (b) Other good cause or any violation of the Lease Addendum of Drug and Crime Free Housing shall be cause for termination of tenancy.
- (c) Discovery after admission of facts that made the tenant ineligible.
- (d) Discovery of material false statements or fraud by the tenant in connection with an application for assistance or with re-examination of income.
- (e) The HA shall prohibit admission, and terminate tenancy to any individual who is subject to a lifetime registration under a State sex offender registration program.
- (f) Failure to accept an offer of a new lease or lease revision in a timely manner.
- (g) Failure of a family member to comply with the community service requirement.
- (h) There are no remaining members with eligible immigration status or U. S. Citizenship.

### **Lease Termination Notice:**

The HA shall give written notice of lease termination of:

- (a) 14 days in the case of failure to pay rent
- (b) a reasonable time considering the seriousness of the situation (but not to exceed 30 days):
  - (1) when the health or safety of other residents, HA employees or persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises is threatened or
  - (2) if any member of the household has engaged in any drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity or (3) if any member of the household has been convicted of a felony
- (c) 30 days in any other case, except that if a State or local law allows a shorter notice period, such period shall apply.
- (d) The tenant shall give the HA 30 days advance written notice of his intention to terminate the lease and vacate the premises.

## **SECTION VIII. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA) POLICY**

The following provisions are applicable to situations involving incidents involving actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, as those terms are defined in Section 6(u)(3) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended, (42 U.S.C. § 1437d (u)(3)) and in the HA's Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Policy. To the extent any provision of this section shall vary from or contradict any other provision, the provisions of this section shall prevail.

### **A. Termination of tenancy**

1. An incident of actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking shall not constitute a serious or repeated violation of the lease by the victim of such violence; and
2. Criminal activity directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, engaged in by a member of the tenant's household, a guest, or other person under the tenant's control, shall not be cause for termination of tenancy or occupancy rights, if the tenant or

any member of the tenant's family is a victim of that domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking.

3. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in paragraphs A.1. and A.2. above, the HA may terminate tenant's tenancy under the lease if it can demonstrate an actual and imminent threat to other tenants or to those employed at or providing service to the development in which the unit is located, if the tenant's tenancy is not terminated.
4. Further, nothing in this section shall prohibit the HA from terminating tenancy under the lease based on a violation of the lease not premised on an act or acts of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking against the tenant or a member of the tenant's household for which protection against termination of tenancy is given in paragraphs A.1. and A.2. above. However, in taking any such action to terminate tenancy, the HA shall not apply a more demanding standard against the tenant or a lawful occupant than to other tenants.

**B. Bifurcation of Lease.**

Under the authority provided in Section 6(l) (6)(B) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 1437d(l)(6)(B)), the HA may bifurcate the lease in order to evict, remove, or terminate assistance to any individual who is a tenant or a lawful occupant under the lease and who engages in criminal acts of physical violence against family members or others. The HA may take such action without evicting, removing, terminating assistance to, or otherwise penalizing a victim of such violence who is the tenant or a lawful occupant under the lease.

**C. Certification.**

The HA will request that the victim abuse complete the HUD form 50066 -- Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence or Stalking. This form must be provided within 14 business days from the date the HA requests it.

If the certification is not delivered to the HA within the 14-day period allowed, the provisions of this section will not apply and the HA may elect to terminate tenancy and evict without regard to the protections provided in this section.

**D. Confidentiality.**

The law requires that information provided to the HA concerning an incident or incidents of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking be retained in confidence, not placed in any shared data base nor provided to a related entity, except to the extent disclosure requested or consented to by the individual supplying such information, or required for use in an eviction proceeding, or otherwise required by applicable law.

## **SECTION IX. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE FOR CONVENTIONAL PUBLIC HOUSING**

**(Refer to 24 CFR 966, Subpart B)**

### **A. Applicability**

1. The Housing Authority grievance procedure shall be applicable to all individual grievances as defined in Section B of this procedure between the tenant and the Housing Authority. In those jurisdictions which require that prior to eviction, a tenant be given a hearing in court containing the elements of due process, the Housing Authority may exclude from its procedure any grievance concerning an eviction or termination of tenancy based upon:
  - A. A tenant's creation or maintenance of a threat to the health or safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises of other tenants or Housing Authority employees or
  - B. Any violent or drug-related criminal activity on or off the premises or
  - C. Any criminal activity that resulted in a felony conviction of a household member.
  - D. Non-payment of rent and/or other charges
2. The Housing Authority grievance procedure shall not be applicable to disputes between tenants not involving the Housing Authority or to class grievances. The grievance procedure is not intended as a forum for initiating or negotiating policy changes.

### **B. Definitions**

For the purpose of this procedure, the following definitions are applicable:

1. "Grievance" shall mean any dispute excluding that outlined in Section A (1) above, which a tenant may have with respect to Housing Authority action or failure to act in accordance with the individual tenant's lease or Housing Authority regulations which adversely affect the individual tenant's right, duties, welfare or status, including a denial of a request for reasonable accommodation and the tenant's obligations.
2. "Complainant" shall mean any tenant whose grievance is presented to the Housing Authority office in accordance with Section C and D herein.
3. "Elements of due process" shall mean an eviction action or termination of tenancy in a state or local court in which the following procedural safeguards are required:
  - a. Adequate notice to the tenant of the grounds for terminating the tenancy and for eviction;
  - b. Opportunity for the tenant to examine all relevant documents, records and regulations of the Housing Authority prior to the trial for the purpose of preparing a defense;
  - c. Right of the tenant to be represented by counsel;
  - d. Opportunity for the tenant to refute the evidence presented by the Housing Authority including the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses and to present any affirmative legal or equitable defense which the tenant may have;
  - e. A decision on the merits.

4. "Hearing officer" shall mean a person selected in accordance with Section D of this procedure to hear grievances and render a decision with respect thereto.
5. "Hearing panel" shall mean a panel selected in accordance with Section D of this procedure to hear grievances and render a decision with respect thereto.
6. "Tenant" shall mean any lessee or the remaining head of the household of any tenant family residing in housing accommodations covered by this procedure.

**C. Informal Settlement of Grievance**

Any grievance shall be personally presented, either orally or in writing, to the Housing Authority office so that the grievance may be discussed informally and settled without a hearing. A summary of such discussion shall be prepared within 10 days time and one copy shall be given to the tenant and one retained in the Housing Authority's tenant file. The summary shall specify the names of the participants, date of the meeting, the nature of the proposed disposition of the complaint and the specific reasons therefor, and shall specify the procedures by which a hearing under Section D may be obtained if the complaint is not satisfied. Any notice to vacate is considered a type of "summary of discussion".

**D. Procedure to Obtain a Hearing**

1. Request for hearing - The complainant shall submit a written request for a hearing to the Housing Authority by the close of the business day, no later than 10 calendar days from the date of receipt of the summary of discussion pursuant to Section C. The written request shall specify:
  - a. The reasons for the grievance; and
  - b. The action or relief sought, along with supporting documentation.
2. Selection of Hearing Officer or Hearing Panel - Grievances shall be presented before a hearing officer or hearing panel. A hearing officer or hearing panel shall be selected as follows:
  - a. The hearing officer or panel shall be an impartial, disinterested person(s) appointed by the Housing Authority.
  - b. The hearing officer may not be the person who approved the PHA action under review or a subordinate of such a person.
3. Failure to Request a Hearing - If the complainant does not request a hearing in accordance with this Section, then the Housing Authority's disposition of the grievance under Section C shall become final, provided that failure to request a hearing shall not constitute a waiver by the complainant of his right thereafter to contest the Housing Authority's action in disposing of the complaint in an appropriate judicial proceeding.
4. Hearing Prerequisite - All grievances shall be personally presented either orally or in writing as prescribed in Section C as a condition prior to a hearing under this section, provided that if the complainant shall show good cause why he failed to proceed in accordance with Section C to the hearing officer or hearing panel, the provisions of this procedure may be waived by the hearing officer or hearing panel.

5. **Escrow Deposit** - Before a hearing is scheduled in any grievance involving the amount of rent as defined in the tenant lease which the Housing Authority claims is due, the complainant shall pay to the Housing Authority an amount equal to the amount of the rent due and payable as of the first of the month preceding the month in which the Housing Authority action or failure to act took place. The complainant shall thereafter deposit the same amount of the monthly rent in an escrow account monthly until the complaint is resolved by decision of the hearing officer or hearing panel. These requirements may be waived by the Housing Authority in extenuating circumstances. Unless so waived, the failure to make such payments shall result in a termination of the grievance procedure, provided, that failure to make payment shall not constitute a waiver of any right the complainant may have to contest the Housing Authority's disposition of his grievance in any appropriate judicial proceeding
6. **Scheduling of Hearing** - Upon complainant's compliance with paragraphs 1, 4 and 5 of this section, a hearing shall be scheduled by the hearing officer or hearing panel within 5 business days from the information packet is received. A written notification specifying the date, time and location of the hearing will be sent or delivered to the complainant. This notification will also contain: (1) the family's right to bring evidence, witnesses, legal or other representation at the family's expense; (2) the right to review any documents or evidence in the possession of the PHA on which the PHA based the action (to be provided no later than 7 days before the hearing); (3) notice that the family must provide copies to the PHA of any documents or evidence that the family will use at the hearing (to be provided no later than 7 days before the hearing).

After the hearing is scheduled, the family may request to reschedule only upon showing good cause, which is defined as an unavoidable conflict, which seriously affects the health, safety, or welfare of the family.

**E. Procedures Governing the Hearing**

1. The hearing shall be held before a hearing officer or hearing panel, as appropriate.
2. The complainant shall be afforded a fair hearing providing the basic safeguards of due process which shall include:
  - a. The opportunity to examine before the hearing and, at the expense of the complainant, to copy all documents, records and regulations of the Housing Authority that are relevant to the hearing. Any document not so made available after request therefore by the complainant may not be relied on by the Housing Authority at the hearing;
  - b. The right to be represented by counsel or other person chosen as his or her representative;
  - c. The right to a private hearing unless the complainant requests a public hearing;
  - d. The right to present evidence and arguments in support of his or her complaint, to controvert evidence relied on by the Housing Authority or project management, and to confront and cross-examine all witnesses on whose testimony or information the Housing Authority or project management relies; and
  - e. A decision based solely and exclusively upon the facts presented at the hearing.

3. The hearing officer or hearing panel may render a decision without proceeding with the hearing if the hearing officer or hearing panel determines that the issue has been previously decided in another proceeding.
4. If the complainant or the Housing Authority fails to appear at a scheduled hearing, the hearing officer or hearing panel may make a determination to postpone the hearing for not to exceed five business days or may make a determination that the party has waived his right to a hearing. Both the complainant and the Housing Authority shall be notified of the determination by the hearing officer or hearing panel, provided, that a determination that the complainant has waived his right to a hearing shall not constitute a waiver of any right the complainant may have to contest the Housing Authority's disposition of the grievance in an appropriate judicial proceeding.
5. At the hearing, the complainant must first make a showing of an entitlement to the relief sought and thereafter the Housing Authority must sustain the burden of justifying the Housing Authority action or failure to act against which the complaint is directed.
6. The hearing shall be conducted informally by the hearing officer or hearing panel and oral or documentary evidence pertinent to the facts and issues raised by the complaint may be received without regard to admissibility under the rules of evidence applicable to judicial proceedings. The hearing officer or hearing panel shall require the Housing Authority, the complainant, counsel and other participants or spectators to conduct themselves in an orderly fashion. Failure to comply with the direction of the hearing officer or hearing panel to obtain order may result in exclusion from the proceedings or in a decision adverse to the interests of the disorderly party and granting or denial of the relief sought, as appropriate.
7. The complainant or the Housing Authority may arrange, in advance and at the expense of the party making the arrangement, for a transcript of the hearing. Any interested party may purchase a copy of such transcript.

**F. Decision of the Hearing Officer or Hearing Panel**

1. The hearing officer or hearing panel shall prepare a written decision, together with the reasons therefor, within 10 business days after the hearing. A copy of the decision shall be sent to the complainant and the Housing Authority. The Housing Authority shall retain a copy of the decision in the tenant's folder and made available for inspection by a prospective complainant, his representative, or the hearing panel or hearing officer.
2. The decision of the hearing officer or hearing panel shall be binding on the Housing Authority which shall take all actions, or refrain from any actions, necessary to carry out the decision unless the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners determines within a reasonable time, and promptly notifies the complainant of its determination, that:
  - a. The grievance does not concern the Housing Authority action or failure to act in accordance with or involving the complainant's lease or Housing Authority regulations, which adversely affect the complainant's rights, duties, welfare or status;



- b. The decision of the hearing officer or hearing panel is contrary to applicable Federal, State or local law, HUD regulations or requirements of the annual contributions contract between HUD and the Housing Authority.
3. A decision by the hearing officer, hearing panel, or Board of Commissioners in favor of the Housing Authority or which denies the relief requested by the complainant in whole or in part shall not constitute a waiver of, nor affect in any manner whatever, any rights the complainant may have to a trial de novo or judicial review in any judicial proceeding, which may thereafter be brought in the matter.

**G. Housing Authority Eviction Actions**

If a tenant has requested a hearing in accordance with Section D on a complaint involving a Housing Authority notice of termination of the tenancy and the hearing officer or hearing panel upholds the Housing Authority's action to terminate the tenancy, the Housing Authority shall not commence an eviction action in a State or local court until it has served a notice on the tenant allowing five (5) calendar days to vacate (from the date of the hearing officer's decision letter or the PHA's initial thirty (30) day notice to vacate, whichever is later). In no event shall the eviction be initiated through the courts prior to the decision of the hearing officer or hearing panel having been mailed or delivered to the complainant. Such notice to vacate must be in writing and specify that if the tenant fails to quit the premises within the applicable statutory period, or on the termination date stated in the notice of termination, whichever is later, appropriate action will be brought against him and he may be required to pay court costs and attorney fees.

**H. Costs of the Hearing**

Each party shall bear their own costs for the hearing. The Housing Authority shall be responsible for providing a suitable site for the hearing proceedings.

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## **SECTION X. RESIDENT SURVEY FOLLOW-UP PLAN**

In accordance with Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) regulations, the PHA has developed this Follow-up Plan as part of its Annual Plan because the PHA scored less than 75% on the Resident Surveys in the two following areas: Communication, Safety and Neighborhood Appearance.

### **A. Communication**

In order to encourage and improve communication between PHA staff and residents, the following will be implemented:

- Staff will conduct “knock and talks” with residents when conducting site visits. They will ask the residents if they have any concerns. Any concerns raised will be addressed.
- Resident meetings will be held twice a year on the sites for outreach purposes and to encourage community involvement.
- Residents may be invited to attend the monthly Public Housing staff meetings or any community meeting. Residents may be informed of the times and dates of the meetings, they may be published in the quarterly newsletter and/or notices may be posted at sites.
- Resident Concern Forms will be available in the managers’ offices and at the PHA offices. One will be given to residents at their annual inspection and at their initial leasing appointment.
- Customer Service Surveys are available to residents at HA office appointments
- Managers may have office hours that include either one evening or one weekend day to better meet the needs of working residents.
- Community Day events will be held at most sites. In-kind support is received from other agencies such as the police and fire departments. Fundraising is performed to self-fund the events. The events will be held on various dates throughout the year and may be rescheduled depending on whether there inclement weather that necessitates rescheduling.
- Resident concerns submitted in writing will be responded to timely.
- A quarterly newsletter is sent to all residents informing them of resident services, upcoming events, self-sufficiency opportunities, and information pertaining to addenda, rules and the lease.

### **B. Safety**

- Additional lighting has been installed. We will continue to evaluate and address lighting on all sites to ensure adequate coverage on the site.
- We are working with the HUD Inspector General local field office to do criminal checks, site visits and taking appropriate action.
- We thoroughly screen residents for criminal activity, credit history and rental history.
- Maintenance has a regular preventative maintenance program to ensure units are maintained to meet safety requirements.
- In all cities where the program is available, the communities are certified through the police departments for Crime Free Multi Housing.
- Fire extinguishers are maintained on all sites and are replaced immediately when needed.

### **C. Neighborhood Appearance**

- We have a graffiti removal program to have it removed promptly.
- All sites have Resident Services Assistants to maintain the property. These Assistants work hand-in-hand with the Maintenance Department to ensure prompt removal of trash, broken glass, etc.

- We contract with pest control service companies who monthly service both individual units and common areas. If a particular unit needs additional service, it is completed and may be charged to the resident at the PHA's discretion.
- Maintenance has a regular preventative maintenance program which maintains individual units as well as common areas.
- Landscaping services are contracted and services are provided weekly, which includes mowing, trimming, sprinkler servicing and removal of leaves, etc.
- Playground equipment, tot lots, basketball courts and picnic areas are maintained and Resident Assistants monitor their use.

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**EXHIBIT A**

**INCOME LIMITS EFFECTIVE March 19, 2009**

<b>Family Composition</b>	<b>Very Low Income 50% of Median</b>	<b>Low Income 80% of Median</b>
1 Person	\$23,300	\$37,300
2 Persons	\$26,650	\$42,650
3 Persons	\$29,950	\$47,950
4 Persons	\$33,300	\$53,300
5 Persons	\$35,950	\$57,550
6 Persons	\$38,650	\$61,850
7 Persons	\$41,300	\$66,100
8 Persons	\$43,950	\$70,350

Family Annual Income (See 24 CFR 5.609) is used both for determination of income eligibility and PHA income targeting under 24 CFR 960.202. The HA will use the income limits listed in this section unless HUD publishes revised income limits. The HA will use the income limits as defined by HUD. For the Affordable Public Housing Program: The HA uses the Low Income Limit by family size, which is based on 80% of the median income.

## EXHIBIT B

### TENANT SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT PLAN

1. All applications received by the Housing Authority will be dated and time stamped in order to determine the priority for applications of persons who are equally eligible.
2. Both new applications and those already on file will be categorized according to the unit size, which is appropriate for the applicant family. One waiting list will be maintained. Two area preference lists may be maintained for the convenience of the applicants. The applicant family will be placed on as either or both preference lists if they so choose. At the PHA discretion the PHA may utilize site-based waiting lists to improve asset management efficiency.

Households wishing to apply for public housing may complete and submit applications in either of the Housing Authority offices located in Indio and Riverside. Applications are accepted in person, on the website, by fax and mail during regular business hours. Requests for mail-out applications will be honored. Applications may be taken over the phone as a reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities.

Once received, applications will be date and time stamped and the preference rating identified. Bedroom size needs will be considered and applicants will be placed on the waiting list according to the above criteria.

Separate preference lists by area

**A. Area #1**

**West County:**

Anza, Rubidoux, Glen Avon, Pedley, Norco, Corona, Riverside, Moreno Valley, Perris, Romoland, Homeland, Menifee, Murrieta, Sun City, Winchester, Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, Temecula, Rancho California, San Jacinto, Hemet

**B. Area #2**

**East County:**

Beaumont, Banning, Cabazon, Desert Hot Springs, Cathedral City, Palm Springs, Palm Desert, Coachella, Mecca, Blythe, Thermal, Indio

**C. Number of units per area and type**

	# of Units	Type
Area #1	274	Family
Area #2	195	Family
Total Units	469	

**D. Street addresses of HA units by area:**

	Location (All are within Riverside County, California)	Bedroom size
Area #1	4675 Jackson St.; Riverside, CA 92503	1, 2
	5571, 5577, 5581, 5587, 5591, 5597 34th Street; Riverside, CA 92509	2
	372 Highland; Riverside, CA 92507	2
	3974, 3986, 3990, 3992, 3996, 3998 Fort Dr.; Riverside, CA 92509	1, 2, 3
	Gloria, Perris Bl.; Moreno Valley, CA 92553	1, 2, 3, 4
	13816, 13836 Perris Bl; 25011, 25025, 25033, 25035, 25037, 25039, 25045, 25051, 25078, 25080, 25103, 25104, 25105, 25106, 25115, 25116, 25117, 25118, 25125, 25126, 25127, 25128 Gloria St	
	24340, 24346, 24356, 24360, 24366 Dracaea; Moreno Valley, CA 92553	2
	22211, 22215, 22239, 22245 Sherman St.; Moreno Valley, CA 92553	3, 4
	102, 104, 108, 112, 116, 120, 124, 130, 136, 142 Midway; Perris, CA 92570	1, 2, 3
	33051, 33091 Fairview; Lake Elsinore, CA 92530	2
	16366, 16376, 16388, 16400, 16412, 16422, 16436, 16448 Broadway; Lake Elsinore, CA 92530	2
	475, 479 Idyllwild Dr.; San Jacinto, CA 92583	2
Area #2	5 <sup>th</sup> St. / Maple; Beaumont, CA 92223 (478 & 486 Maple; 717, 733, 749, 765, 769, 777, 781, 789, 815 and 837 E. 5 <sup>th</sup> )	3, 4
	975 E. Williams; Banning, CA 92220	2
	13580, 13582, 13584, 13586, 13588, 13590, 13600, 13602, 13604 Don English; Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240	2, 3
	34355 Corregidor Dr.; Cathedral City, CA 92234	2
	45-909 Aladdin, Indio, CA 92201	2, 3, 4
	56-640, 56-660, 56-680 Polk St; Thermal, CA 92274 87-015 and 87-045 Church; Thermal, CA 92274	2
	56-690, 56-700, 56-710, 56-720 Polk; Thermal, CA 92274	3, 4, 5
	91-400 Seventh Street; Mecca, CA 92254	3, 4, 5

3. As vacant units become available, assignments will be made on a daily basis to eligible applicants according to his/her relative standing or position on the waiting list. Each eligible applicant on the waiting list will be referred in the order of preference/and income range to an appropriate available unit.
4. The applicants at the top of the list for the available size unit will be selected unless:
  - A. Two or more applicants having equal preferences (being equal in weight), then the one fitting the income range needed to maintain the projects economic mix will be offered the unit unless;
  - B. Two or more applicants having equal preferences (being equal in weight) and falling within the same income range needed to maintain the economic mix of the project, then the earliest date and time of application will be the determinant;
  - C. Two or more applicants having equal preferences (being equal in weight) decline the unit being offered, at which time the unit will be made available for immediate housing. If necessary the unit will be informally advertised through shelters, social services, local listings and any other resources necessary to rent the unit. Admission Policies as defined in Section II of this document will be maintained.
5. No unit will be left vacant waiting for an applicant of appropriate income range and size so long as the family size meets established Occupancy Standards (See Section II (e)).
6. Eligible applicants shall not be allowed to decline two appropriately sized unit offered without good cause. If two units are declined, the applicant's name will be withdrawn from each of the public housing waiting list that the applicants name appears on unless:
  - A. The applicant is willing to accept the unit offered but is unable to move at the time of the offer and presents clear evidence of his/her inability to move.
  - B. The applicant presents clear evidence that acceptance of a given offer of a suitable vacancy will result in undue hardship or handicap not related to consideration of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, disability, age, marital status, ancestry, source of income, or sexual orientation.
7. In any instance where the applicant rejects the suitable unit for either reason A or B above, the applicant will retain his/her position on the waiting list and will be offered the next suitable unit. Rejection of the next suitable unit offered, other than for reason A or B above, will result in the applicant being withdrawn from each of the public housing waiting list. If an applicant turns down one or more units within a 12 month period after being returned to the waiting list due to turning down available units, the applicant will be withdrawn from the Public Housing Waiting List. An applicant may reapply with a new registration date at any time the waiting list is open.
8. Handicapped applicants shall be given preferences as to date and time of application when the vacant unit is a unit designed specifically for a handicapped or disabled family. Vacant, accessible units will be offered to handicapped and/or disabled households as follows:

First, to a current occupant of another unit of the same project, or comparable projects under common control, having handicaps requiring the accessibility features of the vacant unit and occupying a unit not having such features, or, if no such occupant exists, then

Second, to an eligible qualified applicant on the waiting list having a handicap requiring the accessibility features of the vacant unit.

When offering an accessible unit to an applicant not having handicaps requiring the accessibility features of the unit, the PHA will require the applicant to agree (and incorporate this agreement into the lease) to move to a non-accessible unit when the handicap accessible unit is needed by a handicapped family, and a suitable unit is available for the non-handicapped family to move into.

9. The Authority currently administers two types of resident transfers, as follows:

- a. Required Transfer: Results when a resident's unit is no longer suitable in accordance with the Authority's occupancy standards or the PHA otherwise needs to utilize the unit for business purposes. A transfer shall be required due to authorized increases in family size in cases where the family size exceeds two persons per bedroom and two persons in the living room.
- b. Medical Transfer: Transfers may be granted for verifiable medical reasons and as a reasonable accommodation for disabled/handicapped persons. The requested accommodation must have a nexus to the disability.

The Authority will establish a combined/single waiting list for each category of transfers (required and requested). Households on the transfer and new applicant waiting lists will be referred to appropriate, available units in the following order:

- (1) Vacancies will first be offered to existing residents who are required to transfer.
- (2) Remaining vacancies will then be offered to existing residents who have requested medical transfers (as set forth in item 9, B. above).
- (3) Any remaining vacancies will be offered to new applicants for housing assistance.

Note: If the HA already received a holding deposit on a unit prior to receiving or verifying a transfer request, the unit will be continued to be leased to the applicant that placed the deposit and the existing tenant will be placed on a waiting list in accordance with 9b of this section.

10. Under no circumstances is a unit to be leased without following the above guidelines. A supervisor's signature is required for any exceptions. On occasion the agency will have ready units that are vacant for more than 7 days or that has been offered to eligible registrants through the waiting list process and two or more have turned down the unit(s) offered. If this should occur, the units will be offered as Immediate Housing.

An Immediate Housing unit is a unit that has been ready for more than 7 days or which has not been selected by an applicant in the current release (two or more eligible registrants have turned down the unit). Immediate Housing is only offered if we have already offered the unit to the applicants that were released on the waiting list that the leasing agent is processing. The entire waiting list does not have to be exhausted to



offer the unit for Immediate Housing; however, we must demonstrate through documentation that we have a current release and have offered the unit to all eligible applicants and it was not selected.

11. **Removal from the Waiting List:** Failure to respond to mailings, requests for information and updates within 30 calendar days will result in the Applicant being withdrawn from the Waiting List. If a letter is returned by the Post Office without a forwarding address, the registrant will be removed without further notice from all waiting lists that the applicants name appears on, and a record will be maintained on the computer. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities. The waiting list will be purged periodically by a mailing to registrants to ensure that the waiting list is current and accurate. Failure to accept the PHA's offer of one or more units on two or more separate occasions will result in the applicant being withdrawn from the waiting list and it will be necessary for the applicant to reply at such time they are interested in the program provided the waiting list is open at the time.

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**EXHIBIT C**  
**TENANT CHARGES - MAINTENANCE REPAIR COSTS**

The flat rate charges listed will apply to all repairs; some of which are not applicable tenant charges. Tenant damages and that which is beyond normal wear and tear will be charged to the tenant. Charges for travel time will be included and charged to the tenant for any afterhours response time outside of business hours to and from the unit including picking up the company truck at the hourly rate of \$40.00 per hour (1/2 hour minimum). In the event that an afterhours call is received and responded to but corrected prior to maintenance arriving at unit, the tenant will be charged travel time to and from the location maintenance received the cancellation. In the event work items listed below are completed by contract (other than Housing Authority staff) the flat rate charge will apply except when the charge for services is less than the flat rate, in which case the tenant will be charged the lesser amount. All items of repair not listed will be charged on a time and material or actual cost basis. Labor will be calculated at \$40.00 per hour with a half hour minimum.

	<u>Flat Rate Charge</u>
<b>1. WINDOW REPAIRS</b>	
a. Single Strength	Contract charge + Labor
b. Double Strength	Contract charge + Labor
c. Double glazed windows	Contract charge + Labor
d. Bathroom mirror	45.00
e. Window lock repair	15.00
<b>2. WINDOW COVERINGS (Replacement)</b>	
a. Replace vertical blinds 48" x 48" and under	45.00
b. Repair vertical blinds	15.00
c. Replace vertical blinds above 48" x 48"	60.00
d. Replace vertical vanes under 84" long	5.00 each
e. Replace vertical vanes 84" and over	8.00 each
f. Replace vertical headrail 48" and under	15.00
g. Replace vertical headrail 49" - 66"	20.00
h. Replace vertical headrail 67" - 90"	25.00
i. Replace vertical headrail 91" - 102"	28.00
<b>3. SCREEN REPAIR/REPLACE</b>	
a. Re-screening only	1.25 sq. ft.
b. Complete new screen	2.75 sq. ft
c. Sliding Screen Door replacement	60.00
<b>4. DOOR REPAIRS/REPLACEMENT</b>	
a. Hollow core (interior)	45.00 + Labor
b. Solid core (exterior & garage access)	175.00 + Labor
c. Door jamb replacement, exterior	150.00 + Labor
d. Door jamb replacement, interior	20.00 + Labor
e. Door jamb repair	20.00
f. Heavy duty screen door (including installation)	175.00 including passage door knob
g. Deadbolt keyed to unit for Heavy duty screen door	85.00 including labor
h. Entry door locks	75.00 + Labor and change core charge
i. Deadbolt locks	85.00 + Labor and change core charge

j.	Change core on lock (front, rear, storage)	25.00 each
k.	Keys (each)	3.50 each
l.	Interior privacy knob w/lock (bath)	25.00
m.	Interior passage knob	15.00
n.	Mailbox lock change/install with 2 keys	25.00
o.	Re-hang wardrobe doors (2) - no repairs	10.00
p.	Repair/re-hang wardrobe doors (2)	30.00
q.	Replace wardrobe doors vinyl	125.00 48" x 80" installed
r.	Replace wardrobe door guide	10.00
s.	Closet rod	15.00
t.	Closet rod brackets (2)	5.00
<b>5.</b>	<b>WALL REPAIRS (Interior)</b>	
a.	Dry wall construction	30.00 per sq. ft. or portion thereof
b.	Plaster construction	40.00 per sq. ft. or portion thereof
<b>6.</b>	<b>CABINET REPAIR</b>	
a.	Wood paneling/cabinet fronts	45.00 per panel
b.	Cabinet door & drawer replacement	45.00
c.	Hinge replacement	10.00 per pair
d.	Drawer guides	10.00 per pair
<b>7.</b>	<b>FLOOR REPAIRS</b>	
a.	Vinyl tile	5.00 square
b.	Cove base replacement	2.00 lin. ft.
c.	Repair or replace carpet (average)	10.30 a yard or portion there of
d.	Ceramic Tile Replacement	30.00 square
<b>8.</b>	<b>ELECTRICAL REPAIR</b>	
a.	Light switch or plug replacement	15.00
b.	Dining room hanging light fixture	40.00
c.	Wall/porch light fixture	35.00
d.	Bath, bedroom and hall light fixture	40.00
e.	Switch or plug plates	5.00
f.	Globe only	15.00
g.	GFI	45.00
h.	Light bulb (60 watt)	2.00
i.	Light bulb (48" fluorescent)	5.00
j.	Light bulb plc-4 (18 watt)	10.00
k.	48" Kitchen fluorescent light diffuser	15.00
l.	Smoke Detector replacement—Battery operated	25.00
m.	Smoke Detector replacement—Electrically operated	45.00
n.	Combination Smoke Detector and Carbon Monoxide Detector (battery or hardwired)	65.00
<b>9.</b>	<b>PLUMBING REPAIRS/ BATHROOM</b>	
a.	Washer replacements	5.00
b.	Washer and seat replacement	10.00
c.	Handle replacements	10.00
d.	Toilet seat	25.00

e. Shower rod	15.00
f. Shower head	10.00
g. Hand-held showerhead for handicapped accessibility	35.00
h. Towel bar	15.00
i. Toilet paper holder	10.00
j. Leaking sink drains	10.00
k. Garbage disposal repairs:	
-Free stuck unit if removal not required	15.00
-Removal required for repairs	25.00
-Change and replace	100.00
m. Medicine cabinet—Complete	50.00
n. Medicine cabinet—sliding door / shelf	8.00
o. Medicine cabinet door magnet	5.00
p. “O” ring replacement (faucets)	10.00
q. “Lift” stoppers (bathroom sinks, showers)	12.00
whole assembly replacement	30.00
r. Diverter valve repairs	15.00
s. Clean sewer drain (average)	60.00
t. Clean kitchen sink or lavatory drain or tub	35.00
u. Unstop toilet	35.00
v. Unstop main line	60.00
w. Replace toilet + Labor	150.00
x. Repair/replace P-traps	35.00
y. Replace kitchen faucet	50.00
z. Replace bathroom faucet	35.00
aa. Remove toilet to unstop dram	100.00
<b>10. HEATING / COOLING</b>	
a. Thermocouples	15.00
b. Fan controls	20.00
c. Thermostat	50.00
d. Cooler switch	20.00
e. Wall heater cover	65.00
f. Control knobs	3.00
<b>11. PAINTING INTERIOR (Prep &amp; painting)</b>	
a. One bedroom unit	250.00
b. Two bedroom unit	275.00
c. Three bedroom unit	350.00
d. Four bedroom unit	400.00
e. Five bedroom unit	450.00
f. Ceiling per unit or portion thereof	150.00
g. Individual interior door (no repairs)	20.00
<b>12. CLEANING</b>	
<i>Cleaning of complete unit (excluding stove &amp; carpet):</i>	
a. One bedroom	125.00
b. Two bedroom	150.00
c. Three bedroom	175.00
d. Four bedroom	200.00

e. Five bedroom 225.00

**Cleaning of individual items**

f. Average refrigerator 30.00  
g. Average stove 45.00  
h. Average stove hood 20.00  
i. Clean sink 10.00  
j. Clean bathtub (extra charge for excessively dirty) 40.00  
k. Clean blinds 6.00  
l. Clean windows (average house) 40.00  
m. Clean walls (average house) 60.00  
n. Shampoo carpet (average house) 95.00 (if exceeds normal wear/tear)  
o. Repair or replace carpet (average) 10.30 a yard or portion there of  
p. Haul trash/debris (large load) 100.00 a load or portion there of  
q. Haul trash/debris (small load, 3 items or less) 60.00  
r. Clean parking space 40.00

**13. APPLIANCES**

a. Complete stove replacement 550.00 + labor  
b. Oven controls 75.00  
c. Stove top replacement 50.00  
d. Burner grates (4) 20.00  
e. Oven control valves 65.00  
f. Vent hood fan 95.00  
g. Vent hood filter 10.00  
h. Thermocouples (pilot) 15.00  
i. Safety shut-off valves 75.00  
j. Burner & Oven knobs 10.00

**14. EXTERIOR**

a. Wall repair Contract charge + Labor  
b. Replace Hunter sprinkler 30.00 each  
c. Repair/replace sprinkler 20.00 each

**15. OTHER TENANT CHARGES**

a. Late rent charge (Public Housing) 35.00  
b. Late rent charge (Bond) 35.00  
c. Returned check fee 35.00  
d. Lock-out (During working hours) 30.00  
e. Lock-out (After working hours) 45.00 (plus travel time) 80.00 flat fee  
f. Monthly Pet Charge 10.00  
g. Gate Card Charge 25.00

**16. DEPOSITS**

a. Security deposit  
(Tenant Rent or \$260, whichever is greater) ~~260.00~~  
One Month's Flat Rental Rate (Refer to Flat Rent Table in Section II, D. Flat Rent)  
b. Gate Card deposit / charge if not returned 25.00  
c. Pet -dog/cat (except service animal) 100.00  
d. Pet - guinea pigs, rabbits, birds, fish, lizards 50.00

## EXHIBIT D -- PET POLICY

Families residing in Public Housing or Bond units are allowed to keep common household pets in their apartments in accordance with this Pet Agreement. Households may keep one cat or one dog or either one or two guinea pigs, hamsters, rabbits, birds or fish in aquarium or lizards as common household pet(s) if it is registered with the Housing Authority before it is brought onto the premises, and if registration is updated each year at annual reexamination.

No vicious or intimidating animal or pet is to be kept on the premises.

The resident will be responsible for all reasonable expenses directly related to the presence of the animal or pet on the premises, including the cost of repairs and replacement in the apartment, and the cost of animal care facilities if needed. These charges are due and payable within 30 days of written notification

### **Payment**

A non-refundable monthly pet charge of \$10.00 will be required for each household with a pet. This charge is intended to cover the reasonable operating costs to the project.

The HA will, in addition, charge a refundable pet deposit of \$100.00 for each dog or cat and \$50.00 for either one or two guinea pigs, hamsters, rabbits, birds or fish in aquarium or lizards.

The HA will refund the unused portion of the deposit to the resident within a reasonable time after the resident moves from the project or no longer owns or has a pet present in the resident's dwelling unit. If the tenant no longer has the pet, an inspection of the unit must be done to provide evidence that there is no damage to the unit caused by the pet.

### **Limitations**

HA authorization for pet(s) will be given on a year-by-year basis.

No pet will be allowed if weight exceeds 20 pounds. The 20 pound limit is for the expected adult weight of the animal. No immature animals of 20 pounds will be allowed.

No dangerous animal or pet will be allowed. Dangerous pets or animals include, but are not limited to:

- Any animal whose bite is venomous.
- Any animal who has previously bitten anyone.

Fish aquariums must not exceed 15 gallons of water. (See exception for gallon size)

### **Registration**

Registration must include the following:

A certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian stating that the common household pet has received timely all inoculations currently required by state and local laws. Also required is whatever license is mandated by local law.

A picture of the common household pet must be provided at time of registration.

Name, address and phone number of person to be responsible for pet in resident's absence.

All animals are to be spayed or neutered. If animals are not spayed or neutered and have offspring, the resident household is in violation of this rule.

No animal or pet may be kept in violation of humane or health laws.

### **Animal Restraint**

A common household pet must be effectively restrained and under the control of a responsible person when passing through a common area, from the street to the apartment, etc. Dogs must be on a leash at all times when not in the rental unit.

### **Sanitation Standards**

Any animal or pet waste deposited in any animal or pet animal exercise area must be removed right away by the pet owner.

Residents will take adequate precautions to eliminate any animal or pet odors within or around the apartment and maintain the apartment in a sanitary condition at all times.

If a litter box is used in the apartment, it must be emptied daily and contents placed in a heavy plastic bag into the garbage container immediately.

All common household pets are to be fed inside the apartment. Feeding is not allowed on porches, sidewalks, patios or other outside area.

Tenants are prohibited from feeding stray animals. The feeding of stray animals will constitute having a pet without permission of the Housing Authority.

Residents will not alter their unit, patio or unit area to create an enclosure for a common household pet.

### **Potential Problems and Solutions**

Residents will not permit any disturbances by their pet which interferes with the quiet enjoyment of other tenants; whether by loud barking, howling, biting, scratching, chirping or other such activities.

The Housing Authority may enter the owner's apartment to inspect the premises when circumstances so warrant, to investigate a complaint that there is a violation, and/or to check on a nuisance or threat to health and safety of other residents.

The action may also include placing the pet in a facility to provide care and shelter for a period not to exceed 30 days.

If the pet is threatened by the incapacitation or death of the owner, (or by extreme negligence,) and the designated alternate is unwilling or unable to care for the pet, the Housing Authority may place the pet in proper facility for up to thirty (30) days at the pet owner's expense. If there is no other solution at the end of thirty (30) days, the HA may donate the pet to a humane society. Cost of this professional care will be borne by the pet owner.

Excluded from the premises are all animals and/or pets not owned by residents, except for service animal(s). A service animal is not a pet and is subject to the service animal policy and agreement.

The authorization for a common household pet may be revoked at any time subject to the Housing Authority's grievance procedure if the pet becomes destructive or a nuisance to others, or if the tenant fails to comply with this policy.

Residents who violate these rules are subject to:

Mandatory removal of the pet from the premises within 3 days of notice from the HA; or if for a threat to health and safety, removal within 24 hours of notice.

Lease termination proceedings.

The tenant agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless from and against any and all claims, actions suits, judgments and demands brought by any of the tenant's pet(s). Any injury or damage to persons or property caused by tenant's pet(s) shall be the liability of said tenant. At the tenant's discretion and expense, tenant is responsible for securing liability insurance for such purpose.

This policy is incorporated by reference into the Dwelling Lease signed by the resident, and therefore, violation of the above Policy will be grounds for termination of the lease.

**Exceptions:**

Each household may be permitted to have one, one (1) gallon water proof container with up to two (2) small non-biting fish such as Goldfish. A pet deposit or monthly pet charge will not be required. The container and its contents must be maintained in a safe and sanitary manner and may be subject to removal by the PHA should housekeeping or other hazardous conditions exist.

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## EXHIBIT E -- SERVICE ANIMAL POLICY

(Policy regarding animals that assist persons with disabilities)

### **Background**

Service animals are animals trained to assist people with disabilities in the activities of independent living. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines service animals as any animal individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. If an animal meets this broad definition, it is considered a service animal. It does not have to be licensed or certified by a state or local government or a training program. Companion animals and emotional support animals will be included in this broad definition if the animal is an integral part of the treatment process prescribed by a medical professional. Verification will be sought annually.

Federal, state and local fair housing laws require that a modification be made to a "No Pet" policy to permit the use of a service animal by an individual with a disability, unless doing so would result in an unreasonable financial or administrative burden. The Housing Authority (HA) does not have a "No Pet" policy. A pet is allowed in accordance with the Pet Policy and a signed pet agreement.

This policy differentiates "service animals" from "pets," describes types of service animals, provides guidelines for staff and tenants for the acceptance of service animals, and sets behavioral guidelines for service animals.

### **Definitions**

#### **Disability:**

A tenant must meet the statutory definition of having a "disability," under federal, state and local fair housing laws. These statutes recognize the following broad categories of disabilities:

- A sensory, mental, or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities (such as walking, seeing, working, learning, dressing, etc.)
- A sensory, mental or physical condition that is medically cognizable or diagnosable

#### **Medical Professional:**

A healthcare or mental health provider responsible for the medical care of the member requiring a service/companion animal.

#### **Pet:**

A domestic animal kept for pleasure such as a dog, cat, guinea pig, hamster, rabbit, bird, fish or lizard.

#### **Service/Companion Animal:**

Any animal individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability. A companion animal with good temperament and disposition, and who has reliable, predictable behavior, may assist a person with a disability as a therapy tool. The animal may be incorporated as an integral part of a treatment process. Service animals are usually dogs, but may be any animal designated by the tenant and his or her treatment provider. Service animals are not considered to be pets. A person with a disability uses a service animal as an auxiliary aid similar to the use of a cane, crutches or wheelchair.

All references to the word "animal" in this policy refers to the resident's guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal.

Examples include:

- A **guide animal**, trained to serve as a travel tool by a person who is legally blind.
- A **hearing animal**, trained to alert a person with significant hearing loss or who is deaf when a sound occurs, such as a knock on the door.
- An **assistance animal**, trained to assist a person who has a mobility or health disability. Duties may include carrying, fetching, opening doors, ringing doorbells, activating elevator buttons, steadying a person while walking, helping a person up after a fall, emotional support, etc.
- A **seizure response animal**, trained to assist a person with a seizure disorder. The animal's service depends on the person's needs. The animal may go for help, or may stand guard over the person during a seizure. Some animals have learned to predict a seizure and warn the person.
- A **companion animal or emotional support animal** that assists persons with psychological disabilities. Emotional support animals can help alleviate symptoms such as depression, anxiety, stress and difficulties regarding social interactions, allowing tenants to live independently and fully use and enjoy their living environment.

**Staff:**

Includes Housing Specialists, on-site management, off-site property management, maintenance personnel, or any other representative of the owner or management company designated by the Housing Authority.

**Tenant:**

A person with a disability who has a service animal who resides in Affordable Public Housing.

**Request for a service animal accommodation**

The tenant shall submit a request in writing to have a service/companion animal as an accommodation for the tenant's disability.

**Verification of disability and need for a service animal:**

The tenant must provide written verification that s/he has a disability and that the accommodation is necessary to give the person equal opportunity to use and enjoy the community. If the disability and need are obvious, such as a blind resident needing a guide dog, verification may not be required. As defined by the law above, the tenant need not disclose the nature of the disability. The verification must include:

- The name, address and phone number of the medical professional
- The requested accommodation and nexus between the requested accommodation and the disability.

HA authorization for guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal will be given on a year-by-year basis. □  
Service animals do not need to wear any special identifying gear such as tags, harnesses or capes.

A tenant may train his or her own service animal and is not required to provide any information about training or the specific tasks the animal performs.

**Supervision:**

The guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal must be supervised and effectively restrained (under the control of a responsible person) when passing through a common area, from the street to the apartment, etc. Dogs must be on a leash at all times when not in the rental unit.

No vicious, dangerous or intimidating guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal is to be kept on the premises. Vicious and/or dangerous animals include, but are not limited to:

- Any animal whose bite is venomous or who has previously bitten anyone.

The resident will be responsible for all reasonable expenses directly related to the presence of the guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal on the premises, including the cost of repairs and replacement in the apartment, and the cost of animal care facilities if needed. These charges are due and payable within thirty (30) days of written notification.

**Limitation on number of animals**

No more than one guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal or pet is allowed on the premises per unit.

**Limitation on size/weight of animals**

The expected adult weight of a companion animal or emotional support animal must not exceed twenty (20) pounds. No immature companion animal or emotional support animal of twenty (20) pounds will be allowed. The size limitation does not apply to a *guide animal, a hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal*.

**Limitation on size/gallons of fish aquarium**

Fish aquariums must not exceed 15 gallons of water. (See exception for one gallon size)

**Sanitation standards/cleanup rules**

- Never allow the service animal to defecate on any property, public or private (except the tenant's own exclusive use area), unless the tenant immediately removes the waste.
- Always carry equipment sufficient to clean up the animal's feces whenever the service animal is in the common areas or outside of the tenant's unit.
- Properly dispose of waste and/or litter. If a litter box is used in the apartment, it must be emptied daily and contents placed in a heavy plastic bag into the garbage container immediately.
- Take adequate precautions to eliminate any animal or pet odors within or around the apartment and maintain the apartment in a sanitary condition at all times.
- Contact Staff if arrangements are needed to assist with cleanup (at the tenant's expense).
- The guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal are to be fed inside the apartment. Feeding is not allowed on porches, sidewalks, patios or other outside area. Tenants are prohibited from feeding stray animals. The feeding of stray animals will constitute having a pet without permission of the Housing Authority.

- Resident will not alter their unit, patio or any other area to create an enclosure for the guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal.

### **Service animal accommodation**

The Housing Authority will review a tenant's request for a service animal accommodation. Upon written verification from the tenant's medical professional, the HA will provide a written response to the tenant. The response will take into consideration the reasonableness of the request and guidelines of this policy. The request may be denied and deemed unreasonable if it is not approved by the tenant's medical professional or if it causes an undue financial or administrative burden or is a safety risk to the community.

### **Fees**

A service animal is not a pet and is not charged a pet deposit. The tenant is liable for any damage caused by the animal. No vicious or intimidating animal or pet is to be kept on the premises.

The resident will be responsible for all reasonable expenses directly related to the presence of the animal or pet on the premises, including the cost of repairs and replacement in the apartment, and the cost of animal care facilities if needed. These charges are due and payable within thirty (30) days of written notification.

### **Potential problems and solutions**

Residents will not permit any disturbances by their guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal which interferes with the quiet enjoyment of other tenants; whether by loud barking, howling, biting, scratching, chirping or other such activities.

The Housing Authority may enter the tenant's apartment with reasonable notice to inspect the premises when circumstances so warrant, to investigate a complaint that there is a violation, and/or to check on a nuisance or threat to health and safety of other residents. The HA may also place the guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal in a facility to provide care and shelter for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days at the tenant's expense.

If the guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal is threatened by the incapacitation or death of the tenant, (or by extreme negligence,) and the designated alternate is unwilling or unable to care for the pet, the Housing Authority may place the guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal in proper facility for up to thirty (30) days at the tenant's expense. If there is no other solution at the end of thirty (30) days, the HA may donate the guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal to a humane society. Cost of this professional care will be borne by the tenant.

Any other animals and/or pets not owned by residents, except for service animals are excluded from the premises.

The authorization for a guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal may be revoked at any time subject to the

Housing Authority's grievance procedure if the pet becomes destructive or a nuisance to others, or if the tenant fails to comply with this policy.

### **Removal of a service animal**

Residents who violate this Service Animal Policy are subject to:

Mandatory removal of the guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal from the premises within 3 days of notice from the HA; or if for a threat to health and safety, removal within 24 hours of notice. Lease termination proceedings.

### **Areas off-limits to service animals**

Management may designate certain areas off limits to service animals, such as in the swimming pool or any other area where a significant health or safety hazard may exist. Such designations should not infringe upon the right of a person with disabilities to fully enjoy the amenities of the community.

### **Registration**

Registration must include the following:

- A certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian stating that the guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal has received timely all inoculations currently required by state and local laws.
- Any license mandated by local law.
- A certificate signed by a licensed veterinarian stating that the guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal has been spayed or neutered. If the guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal are not spayed or neutered and have offspring, the resident household is in violation of this rule.
- A picture of the guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal must be provided at time of registration.
- Name, address and phone number of person to be responsible for the guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal in resident's absence.

No guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal or pet may be kept in violation of humane or health laws.

The tenant agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless from and against any and all claims, actions suits, judgments and demands brought by tenant's guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal. Any injury or damage to persons or property caused by tenant's guide animal, hearing animal, assistance animal, seizure response animal, companion animal or emotional support animal shall be the liability of said tenant. At the tenant's discretion and expense, tenant is responsible for securing liability insurance for such purpose.

This policy is incorporated by reference into the Lease Agreement signed by the resident, and therefore, violation of the above Policy will be grounds for termination of the lease.

### **Exceptions:**

Each household may be permitted to have one, one (1) gallon water proof container with up to two (2) small non-biting fish such as Goldfish. A pet deposit or monthly pet charge will not be

required. The container and its contents must be maintained in a safe and sanitary manner and may be subject to removal by the PHA should housekeeping or other hazardous conditions exist.

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## **EXHIBIT F -- RENT COLLECTION AND WRITE OFF POLICY**

### **Collection**

Public affordable housing tenants will be provided with a monthly statement showing the rent due as well as any other charges (late fees, maintenance charges, etc.). Rents are due on the first day of each month and considered delinquent after the first (1<sup>st</sup>) day. If rent is not paid by the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) of the month, late fees will apply. Tenants may mail a check or money order directly to the Housing Authority or may pay in person at the Housing Authority main office. Any monies received will be applied to the oldest balances first.

If a tenant has one check returned for insufficient funds, the tenant will be advised that all future payments must be by money order. After twelve (12) consecutive months of the resident's rental account being paid on time and in full, the PHA will consider restoring the resident's ability to pay by check upon receipt of resident's written request and confirmation of ability to pay.

If the rent is not paid by the fifth of the month, once late fees are posted to the tenant's accounts a 14-day notice will be prepared and served or posted and mailed to the tenant. The notice is a requirement of the Federal Regulations to advise the tenant that they are being considered for eviction for non-payment of rent and they have 14 days to contact the Housing Authority office for payment or to make arrangements to pay. If no payment is made within the fourteen-day period, after five days the file will be processed for eviction proceedings and an unlawful detainer will be filed with the court. If the tenant fails to submit an answer as outlined in the Unlawful Detainer Complaint a default judgment will be issued and a writ of possession will be filed to remove the tenant from the dwelling. If the tenant submits an answer as outlined in the Unlawful Detainer Complaint, a court date is set and if judgment is received in court and the tenant's appeal period has elapsed, a writ of possession will be filed to remove the tenant from the dwelling.

If the tenant fails to make payments on other charges as allowed in the lease (late fees, maintenance charges, etc.), a 14-day notice will be prepared and served or posted and mailed to the tenant. The notice advises the tenant that they are being considered for eviction for non-payment of the specified charges in the notice and they have 14 days to contact the Housing Authority office for payment or to make arrangements to pay. If no payment is made within the fourteen-day period, after five days the file will be processed for eviction proceedings and an unlawful detainer may be filed with the court. A court date is set and if judgment is received in court and the tenant's appeal period has elapsed, a writ of possession will be filed to remove the tenant from the dwelling.

It is the policy of the Housing Authority to collect rent owed in a timely manner, while at the same time retaining the ability to show some flexibility to tenants with verifiable financial hardships.

### **Write-Offs**

Money owed for rent or damages will be billed to the tenant within 21 days of vacating the unit. The bill will be mailed to the last known address or forwarding address if one has been provided by the tenant. A record of the amount owed is kept as long as it seems feasible to collect. The PHA will also collect debts through seizure of state and/or federal refunds or rebates (Intercept

Program). When collection is not feasible, the account is sent before the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners for approval to write-off the outstanding debt in accordance with HUD guidelines. Write-offs will be done on a quarterly basis. A record of write-offs/debts is kept indefinitely for collection at some future time. Debts may be reported to other federally subsidized agencies and credit reporting agencies.

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**EXHIBIT G -- ALTERATION ADDENDUM**

The Housing Authority of the County of Riverside (HA) agrees to allow Resident,  
\_\_\_\_\_ to perform the following alteration to the leased premises  
at \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Description of Permitted Alteration: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Resident is to have the above alteration professionally installed at Resident's expense.

\_\_\_\_\_ HA Maintenance staff will purchase and install the above alteration. Resident will be billed for all costs involved and agrees to reimburse the HA as billed.

2. Disposition of the Alteration: When the above-named resident moves out, the following shall be done:

\_\_\_\_\_ Resident shall remove the alteration described above at Resident's own expense. Resident is responsible for restoring the premises to the same condition it was in when Resident first moved in, except for ordinary wear and tear.

\_\_\_\_\_ Resident shall leave the alteration described above in place. The alteration shall become the property of the HA without compensation to Resident.

By signing below, the HA and Resident agree that this Alteration Addendum is incorporated into and shall become a part of the original Lease or any renewal of said Lease between the HA and the Resident.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Resident/Date Resident/Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Resident/Date Resident/Date

Housing Authority of the County of Riverside by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Housing Specialist/Date

**EXHIBIT H**  
**RULES REGARDING THE INSTALLATION OF SATELLITE DISHES**

Residents may install satellite dishes in their apartments. Residents living in units that can receive satellite signals who wish to install satellite dishes must adhere to the following rules:

1. Dish must be installed within the apartment or on a patio or balcony of which you have exclusive use. You may not install a satellite dish in a common area, exterior wall or on the roof, including the fascia (trim) of the building. You may not install a satellite dish outside your apartment unless you have a patio or balcony and have exclusive use of said patio or balcony.
2. Satellite dish must not be larger than one meter in diameter. You may not install any satellite dish larger than one meter (3 feet, 3 inches), measured across its widest part.
3. Dish must be securely mounted and may not extend beyond the edge of the apartment, balcony or railing. A tripod or other portable, heavy object may be used but must be anchored in a safe manner and not to interior or exterior walls, floors, ceilings, existing patio or walkway decks. Your dish must be mounted in such a manner that it cannot become dislodged. You may run a "flat" cable under a door jam in a manner that does not interfere with proper operation of the door. *If a "flat" cable is not used in the above manner then the cable line must be installed within the current cable lines that are already existing within the interior walls and the connection must be made in such a fashion that when dish is removed, it will not impair normal operation of the cable line.* You may not hang a dish out the window.
4. You may not damage or alter the unit and may not drill holes through railing, exterior walls, door jambs, windowsill, etc. or any other location where holes might impair the building's weatherproofing or there is a risk of striking electrical or water lines. Installation must not damage the apartment.
5. Dish must be professionally installed. You may not install the dish yourself. You may hire a professional to install it for you and our maintenance staff will supervise the installation. The installation and operation of your dish is at your own risk.
6. You are fully liable for any injury or damage to persons or property caused by your dish and related equipment. To ensure that you are able to pay damages in the event that your dish causes injury or damage, you must purchase and maintain liability insurance coverage for no less than \$100,000 covering any such injury or damage and list the Housing Authority as additionally insured. You must maintain the liability insurance coverage for as long as you have the dish at our community. You must provide us with proof that you have and maintain the insurance. You agree to defend, indemnify and hold us harmless from the above claims by others.
7. An Alteration Addendum must be signed prior to any installation.

I understand the above Satellite Dish policy and agree to the terms as stated above. I will not install a Satellite Dish without prior approval and a signed Alteration Addendum.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT I**  
**TENANT INFORMATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES**  
**AFFORDABLE PUBLIC HOUSING**

**VIOLATORS ARE SUBJECT TO THE TERMINATION OF TENANCY**

**Rules and Responsibilities:**

1. Rent is due on the first of each month and is considered delinquent on the 2nd of the month. Rent payments received after the fifth of the month will be assessed a late charge of \$35.00.
2. **Changes** in family income and composition must be **reported in writing within 10 days** of the change. The request to add family members must be approved in advance by the Housing Authority. It must be determined if the family member is eligible to be added to the household.
3. Bonafide visitors may remain overnight or for a visit not to exceed seven **cumulative** days in a six month period. Tenants will not house individuals or families who are without housing. This creates an overcrowded condition contrary to HUD directives, and is a lease violation.
4. Tenant families are responsible for the conduct of family members and guests. Tenants and guests should not disturb, annoy, or endanger your neighbors. Tenants are liable for any damages caused, other than normal wear and tear, including but not limited to, litter clean up, broken/missing screens, broken/cracked windows, damage to the walls from hanging pictures, mirrors, etc. Jumper(s), Bounce House(s), Inflatable(s), Moonwalk(s), Water Games, Slides, Tube Dancers, etc. are prohibited. Tenants are liable for any damage or injuries caused and are subject to termination of tenancy.
5. Tenants are responsible to help keep the complex clean. This includes ensuring that your trash is placed in the dumpster (please do not send small children to dispose of trash). Families should help keep the laundry rooms clean. For safety reasons, children are not permitted in the laundry rooms without adult supervision.
6. A reasonable standard of housekeeping must be maintained. Housekeeping habits which cause a hazard to the health, safety, and/or property are cause for termination of tenancy. An annual inspection will be done to check the unit to ensure that it is decent, safe and sanitary.
7. Vehicles: Tenants are to park in assigned parking spaces only where assigned, and otherwise only in marked parking spaces. Vehicles which block driveways or entrances, unauthorized vehicles parked in assigned parking, and/or inoperable or abandoned vehicles will be towed at owner's expense. Repairing or washing of vehicles is not allowed on the premises.
8. No pets are permitted without the written consent of the Housing Authority.
9. Waterbeds require prior written consent & possible increased security deposit.
10. Bikes, skates, toys, items of furniture, etc. must not be left outside of the unit. Patios are not to be used for storage, with the exception of Bar-B-Que's or patio furniture. Any items left outside will be removed at the tenant's expense.
11. Stoves and refrigerators furnished by the Housing Authority are not to be removed from the unit. Excess or inoperable appliances are not to be left inside, outside, or anywhere on the property. For safety reasons, refrigerators must be used in the kitchen area provided.
12. Tenants, family members or guests are not permitted on the roofs.
13. Television and sound equipment must be utilized at a volume level that will not interfere with neighborhood peace and quiet. Tenants may not install any outside antenna or satellite dish without a signed agreement with the HA.
14. Where drapes or mini blinds are provided, tenants shall not replace with their own.
15. No washers/dryers are permitted unless the unit has the appropriate hook-ups.
16. Tenants are not allowed to change the locks under any circumstances. Replacement or repair of doors/locks must be done by our maintenance staff.

17. No signs, signals or advertisements shall be affixed to any part of the premises without written permission of the Housing Authority. Holiday decorations and lights must be fully contained inside the unit. No outside decorations/lights.
18. Occupants are not to loiter, ride bikes/skateboards, etc. in the driveways, sidewalks and parking areas. Loitering in stairways, halls and laundry rooms is prohibited. For Health and Safety reasons: Playing near or riding on drive through gates or pedestrian gates is prohibited.
19. Provide a valid phone number for the unit in order to keep the gate system updated, where one is installed.
20. Provide information for all vehicles registered to your household, including the license plate numbers, in order to maintain an active listing of vehicles authorized to be on the property and park in resident parking.
21. Egress: Residents shall not in any way block any windows or doors necessary for emergency exit. No blocking of the bedroom windows with large furniture, no installation of other appliances, such as window air conditioners and/or swamp coolers, etc.
22. Use only in a reasonable manner all electrical, water, plumbing, sanitary, heating, ventilating, air conditioning and other facilities and appliances. Excessive use of utilities will result in additional charges as per the Statement of Policies. Exterior water is for the use of Authorized HA Personnel only. Exterior water for personal use (car washing/wading pools, etc.) is prohibited; Utilities must be maintained at all times without any interruption of service. Residents who have caused disconnection of utilities due to non-payment will be subject to termination and/or eviction.

Before the application or reexamination for housing assistance can be completed, all adult members of the assisted family (see page 2 of the Lease Agreement) aged 18 years or older must read the above information, sign and date this form.

Head of Household	Date	Adult Family Member	Date
Adult Family Member	Date	Adult Family Member	Date
Adult Family Member	Date	Adult Family Member	Date

**EXHIBIT J**  
**Live-In Aide Addendum to Lease**

STATEMENT OF LIVE-IN ATTENDANT

I understand that I am living at \_\_\_\_\_ Apt # \_\_\_\_\_  
and am enjoying the benefits of the public housing program solely because of my employment with \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ to provide necessary supportive services for a family member who is a person  
with disabilities on a daily (24 hour) basis.  
(Resident)

I agree to follow all terms in the public housing lease, as well as the rules and regulations of the public housing program. I acknowledge that it is also my responsibility to maintain the unit in a safe and sanitary manner.

I understand that I will be allowed to remain in the unit only as long as I am employed by the above-named person. If, under any circumstances, I am found to be in violation of the lease agreement or house rules, my employer will terminate my services and require that I vacate the premises immediately.

I understand that if my employer moves out of public housing, is evicted, abandons the unit, or dies, I am not entitled to any benefits or continued housing and must vacate the premises immediately.

I understand that if I am ever arrested, cited or charged with violent criminal activity, drug related criminal activity or alcohol related charges, I will no longer be eligible to be a live-in attendant and must vacate the premises immediately.

I understand that if I am ever subject to a lifetime registration requirement under a State Sex Offender Registration Program, I will no longer be eligible to be a live-in attendant and must vacate the premises immediately.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Live-in Attendant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Resident

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Resident

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Resident

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Housing Authority Staff

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

***Note: Social Security card and picture I.D. must be provided.***

**EXHIBIT K**  
**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE**  
**Lease Agreement**

This lease is entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ between the HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE (landlord, hereinafter called HA or owner) and \_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter called tenant or resident), for the following dwelling unit: \_\_\_\_\_.

**1. Term of Lease:** The initial term of the lease must be for at least one year. The initial term begins on \_\_\_\_\_ and ends on \_\_\_\_\_. After expiration of the term, the lease will be automatically renewed for another year unless: (1) terminated by the landlord in accordance with paragraph 13 of this lease, or (2) terminated by the tenant in accordance with paragraph 14 of this lease or (3) by mutual agreement during the term of the lease.

**2. Rental Rate:** Tenant agrees to pay \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month, payable in advance on or before the first day of day of each month. The first payment is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. Monthly rent is delinquent if not paid by the second day of each month. On the sixth day of the month, a \$35.00 Administrative Late Fee will become due and payable within 14 days for any rent not received by the fifth of the month. Any check returned for non-sufficient funds (NSF) will be subject to a \$35.00 NSF fee in addition to the \$35.00 late fee and checks will no longer be accepted. Payments must be made payable to the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside. Payments must be paid in person or mailed to: 5555 Arlington Ave., Riverside, CA 92504 Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Office is closed on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Contact by phone can be made at (800) 655-4228. Payments must be made by check or money order. Payments received will be applied to any outstanding balance first. Tenants who accrue more than three late charges in any twelve-month period will be subject to tenancy termination.

Resident shall make all payments in full. Receipt of a payment of less than the amount due shall be deemed to be nothing more than partial payment on the tenant's account. Under no circumstances shall HA's acceptance of a partial payment constitute accord and satisfaction. Nor will the HA's acceptance of a partial payment forfeit the HA's right to collect the balance due on the account, despite any endorsement, stipulation, or other statement on the check or money order.

**Choice of Rent:** The amount payable monthly by the family as rent to the HA will be based on the family's choice of rent options as described here. Family may only request to have the choice of rent switched once per year. Family may only choose to switch to Flat Rent at their annual re-examination.

- (a) **Flat rent.** A flat rent is the amount of tenant rent as determined by the HA to be the market value of the unit. The flat rent amount is subject to change annually in accordance with the Statement of Policies. Under this choice, there will be no rent adjustments unless, due to financial hardship the family chooses to be switched to Income-based rent.
- (b) **Income-based rent.** An income-based rent is the amount of tenant rent as determined by the HA based on family income. There is an established minimum rent of \$50.00 less the utility allowance. Under this choice the monthly rental rate may be adjusted after the tenant's annual reexamination of eligibility, when the tenant's family composition or income changes, or verification of income causing a change in rent. The tenant may ask for an explanation of the specific grounds of an adjustment and shall have the right to request a hearing under the grievance policy as outlined in paragraph 15 of this Lease Agreement.

**3. Utilities and Appliances:** The HA will supply water, trash and sewer (except for El Dorado Garden Apts. where tenant pays the City of Riverside sewer with electricity). The HA shall also supply a stove and window coverings. Tenant shall pay all other utilities and supply a refrigerator. Utilities must be maintained at all times without any interruption of service. Residents who have caused disconnection of utilities due to non-payment will be subject to termination and/or eviction.

**4. Authorized Occupants:** The following are the only Authorized Occupants of the unit:

Name	Date of Birth	Name	Date of Birth

**Occupancy by guests staying more than 7 cumulative days in any six month period without the written consent of the HA shall be considered a lease violation.**

**Resident must notify the HA of the birth, adoption or court-awarded custody of a child, and must request HA approval to add any other person as an occupant.**

If the head of the household signer ceases to be a member of the household, the Lease will be voided and a new Dwelling Lease Agreement will be executed and signed by the new Head of the Household, provided the family is eligible for continued occupancy.

- (a) **Foster Children/ Live in Aide:** With the consent of the HA, a foster child or Live in Aide may reside in the unit. The HA will not approve the addition of foster children if it will cause overcrowding according to HUD occupancy standards. A live-in aide, foster child or foster adult is not a family member and is not eligible for continued assistance or occupancy as a remaining member. Upon incapacitation or death of Head of Household, a live-in aide, foster child or foster adult must immediately vacate the unit. In determining whether to grant approval for a live in aide, the HA will consider the size of the unit, the family size and the HA's obligation to provide reasonable accommodation for disabled/handicapped persons.
- (b) **Transfers:** When it is found that the size of the dwelling is no longer suitable for the family in accordance with the HA's occupancy standards, the family will be required to move as soon as a dwelling of appropriate size becomes available. If a tenant transfers to a different housing unit operated by the HA, the existing Lease Agreement will terminate, a new Lease Agreement will be executed for the new dwelling unit, and the appropriate Security deposit will be paid at the time of the transfer. Any unused security deposit from the old unit will be dispersed according to the guidelines stated under Section 5 of this Agreement. The Housing Authority allows 48 hours for the tenant to turn in the keys and release possession of the old unit to the Housing Authority or the Resident Services Assistant from the date the lease is signed or keys received for the new unit. Paragraph 8 (q) of the lease agreement states that the tenant shall "Not receive assistance for occupancy of any other unit assisted under any Federal housing assistance program during the term of this lease." Tenant must pay rent until the keys are turned in for the old unit. If the tenant does not turn in the keys or release possession of the old unit within 48 hours, the tenant is responsible to pay the daily Market Rate based on the Flat Rent Amount for the old unit based on Site and bedroom size of old unit. The tenant cannot receive subsidy for two units and because the lease was signed and the tenant issued keys for the new unit, the new unit is subsidized as of the date the lease was signed or keys received.
- (c) If the unit is a designated handicapped unit the following shall apply: Non-handicapped residents living in a designated handicapped unit will be required to move (at their own expense) when there is a handicapped family who requires the unit. A \$50.00 rent credit will be given the month they move to assist with the costs of transferring units.

**5. Security Deposit \$ \_\_\_\_\_** (an amount equal to one month's Flat Rent based on the Flat Rental Value of the Unit as determined by the PHA and referenced in the Statement of Policies, Section II, item E. West County Flat Rents and item F. East County Flat Rents). ~~Tenant Rent or \$260, whichever is greater~~ plus an addition to the security deposit of any pet deposit and/or gate card). (Please note: The amount of the required security deposit is less than required by state law. Based on the unit flat rent amount, the security deposit must not exceed two times the rent for an unfurnished apartment or three times the rent for a furnished apartment).

When a family moves out of the leased unit, the HA, subject to state and local law, may use the Security Deposit as reimbursement for any unpaid rent, damages to the unit, costs to clean the unit, costs to repair or replace personal property or other amounts that the Tenant owes under the law and in accordance with the Lease Agreement. The HA must give the Tenant a list of all items charged against the security deposit and the amount of each item within twenty-one (21) days of the vacancy. The Tenant is liable for any costs beyond the Security Deposit amount. Upon one or more household members vacating the unit (but not all household members) the full security deposit will be forfeited by the vacating members and will remain on file with the PHA until such a time that all household members vacate the unit. At that time the Security Deposit will be accounted for in accordance with state law as stated above.

**6. Pets:** There will be no pets allowed except with the prior written approval of the HA and a signed Pet Addendum. An addition to the security deposit, as well as a monthly pet charge of \$10.00 will be required. Tenants are prohibited from feeding stray animals. Feeding of strays shall constitute having a pet without permission from the HA. (Refer to Pet Policy/Agreement/Addendum for restrictions, rules and requirements related to pets)

**7. HOUSING AUTHORITY'S OBLIGATIONS.** The HA shall:

- (a) Maintain the premises and the project in decent, safe and sanitary condition;
- (b) Comply with requirements of applicable building codes, housing codes and Federal directives materially affecting health and safety;
- (c) Make necessary repairs to the premises;
- (d) Keep project buildings, facilities and common areas, not otherwise assigned to the tenant for maintenance and upkeep, in a clean and safe condition;
- (e) Maintain in good and safe working order and condition: electrical, plumbing, sanitary, heating, ventilating and other facilities and appliances, supplied or required to be supplied by the HA;
- (f) Provide and maintain appropriate receptacles and facilities (except containers for the exclusive use of an individual tenant family) for the deposit of garbage, rubbish and other waste removed from the premises by the tenant in accordance with paragraph 8(h);
- (g) Supply running water and reasonable amounts of hot water and reasonable amounts of heat at appropriate times of the year (according to local custom and usage) except where heat or hot water is generated by an installation within the exclusive control of the tenant and supplied by a direct utility connection;
- (h) Provide to the Tenant reasonable notice of what information and/or documentation must be supplied to the HA, and of the time by which any such item must be supplied;
- (i) In the event of damage to the premises which creates a condition hazardous to the life, health, or safety of the occupants, the HA is responsible to repair the damage within a reasonable time. If the damage was caused by a tenant, members of the tenant's family or guests, the reasonable cost of the repairs shall be charged to the tenant. If necessary repairs cannot be made to the damaged dwelling within a reasonable time, the HA shall offer standard alternative accommodations to the tenant, if available. The rent for the damaged dwelling unit shall be abated in proportion to the seriousness of the damage and loss of value as a dwelling in the event repairs are not made or alternative accommodations are not provided, except that no abatement of rent shall occur if the tenant rejects the alternative accommodation or if the damage was caused by the tenant, tenant's household or guests;
- (j) Afford elements of due process as defined in Conventional/ Public Housing regulations for all eviction actions or terminations of tenancy;
- (k) Notify the tenant of the specific grounds for any proposed adverse action by the HA. (Such adverse action by the HA includes, but is not limited to, a proposed lease termination, transfer of the tenant to another unit, or



imposition of charges for maintenance and repair, or for excess consumption of utilities).

**8. Tenant Obligations:** The tenant shall:

- (a) Not assign the lease or sublease the premises;
- (b) Not provide accommodations for boarders or lodgers;
- (c) Not make any alteration, repair or decoration to the premises without prior written consent of the HA. Resident shall not publicly display any sign or exhibit on the premises without the prior written consent of the HA. Any alterations not approved are subject to charges as specified in our Statement of Policies and subject to removal at the tenant's expense;
- (d) Use the premises solely as a private dwelling and primary residence for the tenant and the tenant's household as identified in number 4 (Authorized Occupants) of this lease, and not use or permit its use for any other purpose;
- (e) Abide by necessary and reasonable regulations promulgated by The HA for the benefit and well-being of the housing project and the tenants which are posted in the project office and incorporated by reference in this lease;
- (f) Comply with all obligations imposed upon tenants by applicable provisions of building and housing codes materially affecting health and safety;
- (g) Keep the premises and such other areas as may be assigned to him for his exclusive use in a clean and sanitary condition;
- (h) Dispose of all ashes, garbage, rubbish and other waste from the premises in a sanitary and safe manner;
- (i) Use only in a reasonable manner all electrical, water, plumbing, sanitary, heating, ventilating, air conditioning and other facilities and appliances. Excessive use of utilities may result in additional charges as per the Statement of Policies. Exterior water is for the use of Authorized HA Personnel only. Exterior water for personal use (car washing/wading pools) is prohibited;
- (j) Refrain from, and cause his household and guests to refrain from destroying, defacing, damaging, or removing any part of the premises or project;
- (k) Promptly pay the HA, within 14 days, for any and all assessed charges such as late fees, carport charges, and maintenance charges for (or related to) the repair of damages to the premises (other than for normal wear and tear), project buildings, facilities or common areas caused by the tenant, his household or guests. Maintenance charges shall be assessed in accordance with Exhibit C of the Statement of Policies;
- (l) Conduct himself and cause household members or guests to act, in a manner which will not disturb other resident's peaceful enjoyment of their accommodations and will be conducive to maintaining the project in a decent, safe and sanitary condition;
- (m) Assure that they, any member of the household, guest or another person under the tenant's control shall not engage in any illegal or other activity that may interfere with the health, safety or right of other's peaceful enjoyment of the property which impairs the physical or social environment of the project, including sale or use of drugs or illegal narcotics or abuse or pattern of abuse of alcohol on or off the premises;
- (n) Not have more than two vehicles parked on the property. Vehicles must be currently registered, in operable condition, and be parked only in marked/assigned parking spaces;
- (o) Comply with HA reexamination process by providing true and complete information, and notify the HA in writing of any changes in family income or composition within 10 days of the change in order for the HA to make annual or interim determination with respect to rent, eligibility and the appropriateness of the dwelling size. The family must promptly (within 10 days) inform the HA of the birth, adoption or court-awarded custody of a child. The family must request HA approval in advance to add any other family member or other person as an occupant of the unit. If changes in the household composition indicate that a smaller or larger dwelling unit is justified, the tenant agrees to transfer to a more suitable unit in order to comply with this requirement;
- (p) Shall immediately notify the HA in the event of damage to the premises which creates a hazardous condition. If the damage was caused by a tenant, members of the tenant's family or guests, the reasonable cost of the repairs shall be charged to the tenant in accordance with Exhibit C of the Statement of Policies. The tenant must move from the dwelling unit if it is determined that continued occupancy of the unit poses a threat to the health or safety of the residents;
- (q) Not receive assistance for occupancy of any other unit assisted under any Federal housing assistance program during the term of this lease;
- (r) Certify that neither he, nor other members of the household have committed any fraud in connection with any

Federal housing assisted program, unless such fraud was fully disclosed to the HA before execution of the lease;

- (s) In those dwelling units which include a garden area to which the tenant, his household and guests have exclusive use, the tenant is required to perform normal maintenance such as litter removal, mowing, and watering necessary to maintaining the area of the patio, flower beds, and grounds in the immediate area around the unit;
- (t) Not harass, strike, threaten or cause any physical violence against any employee of the HA or their property. The tenant shall not permit any person or persons who are on the premises with his consent to strike, threaten or cause any physical violence against any employee of the HA or their property;
- (u) Upon proper notice by the HA, the tenant shall prepare the unit as instructed and permit entry for the purpose of extermination services provided by licensed technicians;
- (v) May not engage in legal profit making activities in the unit without prior written permission from the HA and only if the HA determines that such activities are incidental to primary use of the leased unit for residence by members of the household;
- (w) Permission to install a satellite dish must be obtained from the HA prior to installation. A signed satellite agreement, proper installation, and proof of liability insurance are required.
- (x) Abide by the terms of the Statement of Drug and Crime-Free Housing.
- (y) Abide by the terms of the No-Trespassing Clause.
- (z) Abide by all other terms of this lease and applicable law.
- (aa) Residents shall not in any way block any windows or doors necessary for emergency exit.

**9. Self-Sufficiency Activities:** (a) *Service requirement.* Except for any family member who is an exempt individual, each adult resident (18 years of age and older) of public housing must: (1) Contribute 8 hours per month of community service or (2) Participate in an economic self-sufficiency program for 8 hours per month; or (3) Perform 8 hours per month of combined activities as described in paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this section. Community Services is the performance of voluntary work or duties that are a public benefit, and that serve to improve the quality of life, enhance resident self-sufficiency, or increase resident self-responsibility in the community. Community service is not employment and may not include political activities; *Exempt individual.* An adult who: (1) Is 62 years or older; (2) Is a blind or disabled individual, as defined under 216(i)(1) or 1614 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 416(i)(1); 1382c), and who certifies that because of this disability she or he is unable to comply with the service provisions of this subpart, or (ii) Is a primary caretaker of such individual; (3) Is engaged in work activities; (4) Meets the requirements for being exempted from having to engage in a work activity under the State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) or under any other welfare program of the State in which the PHA is located, including a State-administered welfare-to-work program; or (5) Is a member of a family receiving assistance, benefits or services under a State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) or under any other welfare program of the State in which the Public Housing Agency (PHA) is located, including a State-administered welfare-to-work program, and has not been found by the State or other administering entity to be in noncompliance with such a program.

Verification of the above must be presented to the HA at the time of eligibility re-examination. The HA has written materials available describing the service requirement, the process for determining which family members are subject to or exempt from the service requirement, the process for determining any changes to exempt or non-exempt status of family members and the process for claiming status as an exempt person. The qualified community service activities or economic self-sufficiency programs may be determined by the HA.

In implementing the service requirement under 960 Subpart F, the PHA may not substitute community service or self-sufficiency activities performed by residents for work ordinarily performed by PHA employees or replace a job at any location where residents perform activities to satisfy the service requirement.

(b) *Family violation of service requirement.* The lease shall not be renewed if a family member fails to comply with the service requirement. Violation of the service requirement is grounds for non-renewal of the lease at the end of the twelve-month lease term, but not for termination of tenancy during the course of the twelve-month lease term.

**10. Pre-Occupancy and Move Out Inspections:** The HA and the tenant or his representative shall

simultaneously inspect the premises prior to commencement of occupancy by the tenant. The HA will furnish the tenant with a written statement of the conditions of the premises, the dwelling unit and the appliances provided with the unit. The statement shall be signed by the HA and the tenant, and a copy of the statement shall be retained by the HA in the tenant's file. Upon receipt of written notification of either party's intention to terminate the tenancy (except due to failure to pay rent), the tenant has the legal right to request an initial inspection of the rental unit within 14 days before the termination or the end of the lease date and be present during the inspection. The purpose of the inspection is to allow the tenant the opportunity to correct any deficiencies in the unit in order to avoid deductions from the security deposit. Tenant must contact the Landlord to request an initial inspection. The HA shall be further obligated to inspect the unit at the time tenant moves out of the unit. The tenant may make arrangements to participate in the move-out inspection unless the tenant vacates without notice to the HA.

**11. Entry of Premises During Tenancy:** The tenant agrees to permit the HA to enter the premises during the tenant's possession thereof under the following conditions:

- (a) The HA shall, upon at least a 48 hour written notice to the tenant, be permitted to enter the dwelling unit during reasonable hours for the purpose of performing routine inspections, maintenance, repairs or improvements, or to show the premises for re-leasing.
- (b) Landlord will have the right to enter the premises as allowed by law. Law permits entry in case of emergency, to make necessary or agreed repairs, decorations, alterations or improvements, supply necessary or agreed services, to test smoke detectors, or exhibit the dwelling unit to prospective or actual purchasers, mortgagees, tenants, workmen or contractors or to make an inspection pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 1950.5, when Resident has abandoned or surrendered the premises and pursuant to court order. Landlord will serve Resident with written notice before entry unless: (1) Entry is due to an emergency, surrender or abandonment of the unit; (2) Resident and Landlord agree orally to an entry to make agreed repairs or supply agreed services at an approximate day and time within one week of the oral agreement; (3) Resident is present and consents to an entry at the time of entry; (4) To exhibit the unit to prospective or actual purchasers of the property, provided that Landlord has notified Resident in writing within 120 days of the oral notices that the property is for sale and that Resident may be contacted to allow for an inspection. In the event that the tenant and all adult members of the household are absent from the premises at the time of entry, the HA shall leave on the premises a written statement specifying the date, time and purpose of entry prior to leaving the premises.

**12. Notice Procedures:** In giving notice one party to the other party the following procedure is required:

- (a) Notice to the tenant shall be in writing and delivered to the tenant or to any adult member of the tenant's household residing in the unit or sent by prepaid first class mail properly addressed to the tenant; and
- (b) Notice to the HA shall be in writing, delivered to the HA office or sent by prepaid first-class mail properly addressed.

**13. Termination of Tenancy and Eviction:** The HA shall not terminate or refuse to renew the lease other than for serious or repeated violations of material terms of the lease such as the following:

- a) Failure to make payments due under the lease shall be cause for termination of tenancy.
- b) Other good cause or any violation of the Lease Addendum of Drug and Crime Free Housing shall be cause for termination of tenancy.
- c) Discovery after admission of facts that made the tenant ineligible.
- d) Discovery of material false statements or fraud by the tenant in connection with an application for assistance or with re-examination of income.
- e) The HA shall prohibit admission, and terminate tenancy to any individual who is subject to a lifetime registration under a State sex offender registration program.
- f) Failure to accept an offer of a new lease or lease revision in a timely manner.
- g) Failure of a family member to comply with the community service requirement.
- h) There are no remaining members with eligible immigration status or U. S. Citizenship.

**14. Lease Termination Notice:** The HA shall give written notice of lease termination of:

- (a) 14 days in the case of failure to pay rent
- (b) a reasonable time considering the seriousness of the situation (but not to exceed 30 days):

- (1) when the health or safety of other residents, HA employees or persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises is threatened or
- (2) if any member of the household has engaged in any drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity or
- (3) If any member of the household has been convicted of a felony
- (c) 30 days in any other case, except that if a State or local law allows a shorter notice period, such period shall apply.
- (d) The tenant shall give the HA 30 days advance written notice of his intention to terminate the lease and vacate the premises.

**15. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Lease Provisions:** If a member of the tenant's household, or their guest of other person under their control engages in criminal activity directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, such conduct shall not be cause for termination of the lease or occupancy rights, of the victim, if the tenant or an immediate member of the tenant's family is the victim or threatened victim of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking.

One or more incidents of actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking will not be construed as a serious or repeated violation of the lease by the victim or threatened victim of that violence, and shall not be good cause for terminating the assistance, tenancy or occupancy right of the victim of such violence.

Nothing in this lease revision prohibits the HA from evicting the member of the household who has engaged in actual or threatened actions of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking.

A resident who claims as a defense to an eviction action that the eviction action is brought because of criminal activity directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, must provide a written certification in a form provided by the HA or substantially similar thereto, that they are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, and that the incident or incidents which are the subject of the eviction notice are bona fide incidents of actual or threatened abuse. This written certification must be provided within fourteen days after the HA requests the certification in writing, which may be the date of the termination of lease letter. It may also be the date of any other written communication from the HA stating that the tenant is subject to eviction due to the incident which the tenant then wishes to allege was a bona fide instance of actual or threatened abuse. The certification requirement may be complied with by completing the certification form which is available from the HA office. Information provided in the certification form shall be retained in confidence, shall not be entered into a shared data base, and shall not be provided to a related entity unless the tenant consents in writing, the information is required for use in eviction proceedings, or its use is otherwise required by law.

The HA may bifurcate (split/divide) the lease under, in order to evict, remove, or terminate assistance to any individual who is a tenant or lawful occupant and who engages in criminal acts of physical violence against family members or others, without evicting, removing, terminating assistance to, or otherwise penalizing the victim of such violence who is also a tenant or lawful occupant.

The HA may evict a tenant for any violation of a lease not premised on the act or acts of violence in question against the tenant or a member of the tenant's household, provided that the HA does not subject an individual who is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to a more demanding standard than other tenants in determining whether to evict or terminate. A victim tenant who allows a perpetrator to violate a court order relating to the act or acts of violence is subject to eviction. A victim tenant who allows a perpetrator who has been barred from HA property to come onto HA property, including but not limited to the victim's apartment and any other are under their control, is subject to eviction.

The HA may terminate the tenancy of any tenant if the HA can demonstrate an actual and imminent threat to other tenants or those employed at or providing service to the HA if that tenant's tenancy is not terminated; and

None of these provisions shall be construed to supersede any provision of any Federal, State, or local law that provides greater protection than this section for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or

stalking.

**16. Grievance Procedures:** Disputes concerning the obligations of the tenant or the HA shall be resolved in accordance with the HA grievance procedures which are incorporated in the operation policy of the HA. The HA is not required to award a grievance hearing to a tenant if a termination of tenancy or eviction notice has been served to the tenant for:

- (a) any criminal activity that threatens the health, safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises of other residents or employees of the HA.
- (b) any violent or drug related criminal activity on or off such premises. any criminal activity that resulted in felony conviction of a household member.
- (c) the grievance procedure shall not be applicable to disputes between tenants not involving the HA or class grievances. The grievance procedure is not intended as a forum for initiating or negotiating policy changes between a group or groups of tenants and the HA's Board of Commissioners.
- (d) Non-payment of rent.

**17. Provisions for Modifications:** If at any time during the life of the Lease Agreement any other change in the tenant's status results in the need to change or amend any provision of this Lease, or if the HA desires to waive any provision with respect to the tenant,

- (a) The existing Lease will be canceled and a new Lease executed, or
- (b) An appropriate Rider (amendment) will be prepared and executed and made a part of the existing lease.

**18. Abandonment:** The tenant shall not vacate the premises prior to the expiration or termination of this agreement. If the tenant abandons the unit, the HA shall have the right of re-entry pursuant to the laws of the State of California.

**19. Legal Fees:** In the event of any legal action by the parties arising out of this Agreement, the losing party shall pay the prevailing party reasonable attorney's fees up to a maximum of \$5700.00 & costs in addition to all other relief.

**20. Smoke Detectors:** The premises are equipped with at least one smoke detector(s). The tenant acknowledges that its operation was explained by the HA at the time of initial occupancy. The tenant further acknowledges and agrees to inspect and test each detector monthly, to replace the batteries as needed and to notify the HA, in writing of any defect or malfunction promptly. The tenant will not remove or dismantle or otherwise render the smoke detector(s) inoperable. Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_

**21. Liquid furniture:** No liquid furniture of any kind is allowed on the premises without the prior written consent of the HA. If permission is granted, a waterbed agreement and an addition to the security deposit will be required in the amount of one-half the unit flat monthly rental rate.

**22. Hold Harmless Waiver:** No insurance is provided by the HA for the tenant's personal property. The tenant agrees to indemnify and hold the HA harmless and in no way accountable for any liability for personal injury or property damage caused or permitted by the tenant or any other person on the premises with the tenant's consent except as may be caused by the negligence, violation of law, or intentional wrongful action of the HA. It is recommended that tenants maintain renter's insurance.

**23. California Compliance Statement:** Proposition 65 does not apply to any city, county, district, state or federal government or agency. The HA is a Federal Agency. The following warning statement is provided for informational purposes. WARNING: This Property Contains Chemicals Known To The State Of California To Cause Cancer and Birth Defects Or Other Reproductive Harm. Proposition 65 requires all California businesses to disclose that the premises may contain asbestos, a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, and other chemicals including but not limited to tobacco smoke, exhaust, lead, carbon monoxide and gasoline components known to the State of California to cause cancer and/or birth defects and other reproductive harm. These hazardous substances may be contained in some of the original building materials, in some of the products and materials used to maintain the property or present in the common areas of the property. A list of chemicals \_\_\_\_\_

listed under proposition 65 is available from the Office of Environmental Health's website: [www.oehha.org/prop65/prop65\\_list/newlist.html](http://www.oehha.org/prop65/prop65_list/newlist.html) or in the project office. Disturbance or damage to certain interior apartment surfaces may increase the potential exposure to these substances. Residents or their guest, employees and contractors shall not take or permit any action which in any way damages or disturbs the ceiling in the premises or any part thereof. Any alteration must be with prior written consent of owner. Resident agrees to notify Owner/Agent immediately if there is any damage to the ceiling.

**24. Water Intrusion/Mold Information:** Resident is hereby notified that the premises are subject to the infestation of mold or mildew if not properly maintained by Resident. When moldy materials are damaged or disturbed, mold organisms and associated products are released into the air; and some molds produce toxic chemicals, which may contaminate Premises' air space. Exposure to spores can occur through inhalation or direct contact. Resident acknowledges that routine visual inspections for mold growth or signs of water damage and wetness as well as locating sources of mold odors by smell, are the most reliable method for identifying the presence of mold or mildew and should be addressed immediately. Resident agrees to maintain the Premises in a manner that prevents the occurrence of an infestation of mold or mildew in the premises. Resident agrees to hold Owner harmless from any and all damages incurred by Resident as a result of Resident's failure to properly maintain the premises or timely inform Owner of maintenance requirements. Resident acknowledges and agrees as follows:

Resident agrees to immediately report any water intrusion, such as plumbing leaks, drips, or "sweating" pipes. Resident agrees to allow Owner/Agent to enter the dwelling unit to inspect and make necessary repairs in the sole discretion of Owner/Agent. Resident agrees to vacate the dwelling unit should the same be necessary to make repairs. Resident agrees to use the bathroom fans and/or open a bathroom window while showering or bathing. Resident agrees to use exhaust fans whenever cooking, dishwashing or cleaning. Resident agrees to use reasonable care to close all windows and other openings in the premises to prevent outdoor water from penetrating into the interior of the dwelling unit. Resident agrees to clean and dry any visible moisture on windows, walls, and other surfaces, including personal property, as soon as reasonably possible. (Note: Mold can grow on damp surfaces within 24 hours to 48 hours). Resident agrees to report any problems with the air conditioner or heating systems that are discovered by the Resident. Resident agrees not to bring any personal property into the Premises that may contain mold, especially "soft possessions" such as sofas, mattresses and pillows.

**25. Satellite Dishes:** Permission to install a satellite dish must be obtained from the HA prior to installation. A signed satellite agreement, proper installation, and proof of liability insurance are required. Owner will permit Resident to install a satellite dish for personal, private use on the premises under the following conditions:

- (a) The satellite dish must be one meter or less in diameter.
- (b) The satellite dish may only be installed on the inside of the dwelling unit, balcony, patio or terrace that is under the exclusive use of the Resident. Resident acknowledges that some dwelling units do not have an exclusive use patio. Patios that open to a common area are not exclusive use patios. Said satellite dish, or any part thereof shall not extend beyond the balcony, patio or terrace railing.
- (c) Resident is specifically prohibited from making physical modifications to the premises and is prohibited from installing said satellite dish in the common areas of the premises, including by not limited to, outside walls, roofs, door jambs, fascia (trim), window sills of the building or any other location that might impair the building's weatherproofing or there is a risk of striking electrical or water lines. Resident shall not install said satellite dish in a manner which alters the unit or causes physical or structural damage to the premises, excluding ordinary wear and tear, including but not limited to, holes drilled through exterior walls.
- (d) Resident shall hire a professional to install, maintain and remove said satellite dish at the Resident's expense and the owner's maintenance staff will supervise the installation. Satellite dish must be securely mounted. A tripod or other portable, heavy object may be used but must be anchored in a safe manner and not to interior or exterior walls, floors, ceilings, existing patio or walkway decks. Satellite dish must be mounted in such a manner that it cannot become dislodged. A "flat" cable may be used under a door jam in a manner that does not interfere with proper operation of the door. *If a "flat" cable is not used in the above manner then the cable line must be installed within the current cable lines that already exist within the interior walls and the connection must be made in such a fashion that when dish is removed, it will not impair normal operation of the cable line.* Resident may not hang a dish out the window.
- (e) The installation and operation of said satellite dish is at the Resident's own risk. Resident shall be liable for

any damage or injury to persons or property sustained as a result of the negligent installation, maintenance and removal of said satellite dish and related equipment.

- (f) Resident shall indemnify, defend and hold Owner/Agent harmless for any damage or injury resulting from said negligence, including paying Owner/Agent's attorney's fees and costs.
- (g) Resident shall obtain and all times retain an active liability insurance policy for said satellite dish with a minimum of \$100,000 coverage and cause Owner/Agent to become an "additional insured" under said policy. Resident shall provide proof of said insurance to the satisfaction of Owner/Agent before said satellite dish is installed.
- (h) An alteration addendum must be signed prior to any installation.
- (i) Resident is advised that allowable locations may not provide an optimal signal, or any signal. The HA does not warrant that the apartment will provide a suitable location for receiving a satellite signal.

**26. Fair Housing/Civil Rights Commitment:** Every individual has the right to live in an environment free from discrimination. Owner is an Equal Housing Opportunity Provider strictly complying with all federal and state fair housing laws. Resident acknowledges that the complex has a zero tolerance policy for discriminatory conduct, comments or other behaviors. Resident and household members agree to at all times conduct themselves and their guests in compliance with fair housing laws. Any violation may lead to termination of tenancy.

**27. Registered Sex Offenders Notice:** The California Department of Justice, sheriff's departments, police departments serving jurisdictions of 200,000 or more and many other law enforcement authorities maintain for public access a data base of locations of persons required to register pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 290.4 of the Penal Code. The data base is updated on a quarterly basis and is a source of information about the presence of these individuals in any neighborhood. Notice: Pursuant to Section 290.46 of the Penal Code, information about specified registered sex offenders is made available to the public via an Internet Web site maintained by the Department of Justice at [www.meganslaw.ca.gov](http://www.meganslaw.ca.gov). Depending on an offender's criminal history, this information will include either the address at which the offender resides or the community of residence and ZIP Code in which he or she resides.

**28. Credit Reporting:** As required by law, Resident is notified that a negative credit report reflecting on Resident's credit record may be submitted to a credit reporting agency if Resident fails to fulfill the terms of this lease by failing to pay sums due in accord with this Lease. If Resident fails to honor all obligations to the HA, Resident authorizes the HA and the HA's agents permission to run credit reports on Resident for debt collection purposes, at any time during or after tenancy, until the debt has been paid in full.

**29. Statement of Drug and Crime Free Housing:**

- (a) Tenant, any member of the tenant's household, or a guest or other person under the tenant's control shall not engage in violent criminal activity, including drug-related criminal activity, on or off the property's premises. "Drug-related criminal activity" means the illegal manufacture, sale, distribution, use or possession with intent to manufacture, sell, distribute, or use a controlled substance (as defined in Section 102 of the Controlled Substance Act, 21 U.S.C. 802).
- (b) Tenant, any member of tenant's household, or a guest or other person under tenant's control, shall not engage in any act intended to facilitate criminal activity, including drug-related criminal activity, gang activity, sexual offenses which endanger the safety of other residents or the social climate of the project, or illegal defacement of property with graffiti, on or off public or private property and premises.
- (c) Tenant or members of the household will not permit the dwelling unit to be used for or facilitate criminal activity, including drug-related criminal activity, regardless of whether the individual engaging in such activity is a member of the household or a guest.
- (d) Tenant or members of the household will not engage in the manufacture, sale or distribution of illegal drugs at any location, whether on or off project premises or otherwise.
- (e) Tenant, or any member of the tenant's household, or a guest or other person under tenant's control shall not engage in the abuse or pattern of abuse of alcohol in a way that the HA determines may interfere with the health, safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents.
- (f) Tenant or members of the household, or a guest or other person under tenant's control shall not engage in acts of violence or threats of violence, including, but not limited to, the unlawful discharge of firearms, threatening

and/or brandishing of weapons likely to cause serious bodily injury, or acts likely to provoke an act of violence on or off property premises.

(g) VIOLATION OF THE ABOVE PROVISIONS SHALL BE A MATERIAL VIOLATION OF THE LEASE AND GOOD CAUSE FOR THE TERMINATION OF TENANCY. A single violation of any of the provisions of this addendum shall be deemed a serious violation and a material noncompliance with the lease. It is understood and agreed that a single violation shall be good cause for termination of the lease. Unless otherwise provided by law, proof of violation under this Addendum shall not require criminal conviction, but may exist by a preponderance of the evidence.

**30. No Trespassing Clause:** The Housing Authority shall maintain a No Trespassing Policy to protect the peaceful enjoyment of residents living in Affordable Public Housing communities. In keeping with the Zero Tolerance Policy and the Drug and Crime Free Multi Housing Program, those people who are involved in criminal activity and/or those people who have been evicted from Public Housing, shall not be permitted on the grounds. Residents who allow such persons access to the community shall be given one warning. Residents who continue to violate the No Trespassing policy shall be violating the lease and may be considered for termination of the Lease Agreement.

**The tenant(s) certifies by signature below that the lease has been read and that he/she understands this lease and that all information and/or documentation submitted by the tenant and other members of the household is complete and true to the best of his/her knowledge and belief. It is further understood that all occupants 18 years or older are jointly and severally responsible for the condition of the unit and any related charges, including but not limited to rent charges.**

This Lease, the "Exhibit A - Move In and Move Out," "Rules and Responsibilities," "Eligibility Questionnaire(s)," "Alteration Addendum(s)," and "Pet Addendum" if applicable, constitute the entire agreement between the HA and the tenant.

**Tenant understands that lease term paragraph 1 above contains an automatic renewal provision.**

Tenant _____	Date _____
Tenant _____	Date _____
Tenant _____	Date _____
Tenant _____	Date _____
Tenant _____	Date _____

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE**

BY \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**EXHIBIT L**  
**ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE**  
**AMENDED POLICY ON ZERO TOLERANCE**  
**OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY**

July 1, 2012

**PURPOSE**

To establish a Housing Authority (HA) policy for zero tolerance of housing and/or welfare fraud, violent, gang-related, and drug-related (including medical marijuana) criminal activity or any criminal activity that threatens the health, safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of other residents or others in the immediate vicinity in any housing program administered by the Housing Authority. If a family is granted court ordered drug diversion then it is the family responsibility to adhere to court mandated requirements and furnish to the PHA proof that the charge was dismissed. Failure to comply with drug diversion will result in termination. Drug diversion will be granted once in a lifetime while on program. The PHA may terminate assistance for criminal activity by a household member as authorized in this section if the PHA determines, based on a preponderance of the evidence, that the household member has engaged in the activity, regardless of whether the household member has been arrested or convicted for such activity [24 CFR 982.553 (c), 24 CFR 966.4]. Preponderance of evidence is defined as evidence which is of greater weight or more convincing than the evidence which is offered in opposition to it; that is, evidence which as a whole shows that the fact sought to be proved is more probably than not. The intent is not to prove criminal liability, but to establish that the act(s) occurred. Preponderance of evidence may not be determined by the number of witnesses, but by the greater weight of all evidence. Credible evidence may be obtained from police and/or court records. Testimony from neighbors, when combined with other factual evidence can be considered credible evidence. Other credible evidence includes documentation of drug raids or arrest warrants. Criminal activity as listed above, misdemeanor and felony the same, will hereinafter be called "prohibited criminal activity." "Minor traffic offenses" may include offenses such as parking violations, registration violations or failure to provide proof of insurance. Traffic offenses that include illegal use of controlled substances or alcohol related violations of traffic laws are not considered minor. Two or more alcohol related criminal actions within the last five year period constitute an abuse of alcohol. All persons receiving rental assistance, regardless of age, will be held to the same standard. Persons convicted of manufacturing or producing methamphetamine on the premises of federally assisted housing will be permanently denied admission to any federally assisted housing program. Persons convicted of sex offenses that require a lifetime registration as a sex offender are prohibited from participation in any housing assistance programs administered by the Housing Authority in accordance with Federal Regulations. Exceptions in this policy do not apply to registered sex offenders or any person who was convicted of manufacturing or producing methamphetamine on the premises of federally assisted housing. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) prohibits the eviction of, and removal of assistance from, victims living in public or Section 8 assisted housing if the asserted grounds for such action is an instance of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

**BACKGROUND**

The primary mission of the Housing Authority is to assist low and moderate income families, including elderly and disabled persons, by operating programs which provide them decent, safe and sanitary housing at affordable costs. The programs currently administered by the Housing Authority include the following: Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher, Affordable Public Housing, MOD Rehab, Project-based, Family Unification, Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA), Shelter Plus Care and

## Mainstream Vouchers.

### POLICY

It is the policy of the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside that:

Prohibited criminal activity will not be tolerated. The Housing Authority will foster crime-free housing by implementing aggressive strategies which will reflect a zero tolerance of prohibited criminal activity by:

The Housing Authority may deny or terminate assistance to any household containing a member that has a history of criminal activity involving crimes of physical violence to persons or property and other criminal acts which would adversely affect the health, safety, or welfare of other tenants. {24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 982.553 (c); 24 CFR 960.202 (a) (2) iii & 24 CFR 203c}

1. Denying or terminating rental assistance to all households containing a member that has engaged in prohibited criminal activity, unless that member can demonstrate the following:
  - a. Evidence of crime-free living within the last five years and no occurrence of criminal behavior (other than minor traffic offenses), **and**
  - b. Applicant/tenant must not have been incarcerated (in custody or doing any jail time) during the last five years for any action related to any prohibited criminal activity; **and**
  - c. Applicant/tenant would not threaten the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of other residents and persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises (i.e. gang related activity); **and**
  - d. Satisfactory adherence to all court and probation/parole mandated conditions for any action related to any prohibited criminal activity;
  - e. For drug-related criminal activity (Evidence of drug-related activity (use/possession of drugs and/or drug-related paraphernalia): The HA may consider enrollment in a court ordered drug rehabilitation/diversion program if there is an active drug-related charge against the applicant/participant. At RHA discretion, first offenders may be only granted an exception to the Zero Tolerance Policy only once (1) per Lifetime due to participation in court ordered drug rehabilitation/diversion program. Approval is not automatic. Repeat or habitual offenders will not be granted an exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy and rental assistance will be denied and/or terminated. The participant cannot elect to join a drug rehabilitation/diversion program in lieu of termination of assistance after the HA has discovered illegal drug-related activity. For consideration of one lifetime exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy, the following conditions must exist:
    - i. The applicant/participant must be a first time participant in a court ordered drug rehabilitation program for any drug-related offense that they are requesting an exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy, **and**
    - ii. The applicant/participant must have enrolled in the court ordered drug rehabilitation program prior to the date of the HA's discovery of the drug-related activity, **and**
    - iii. Completion of the program must be achieved within the allowed time by the courts, **and**
    - iv. Evidence of completion must be provided to the HA within 10 calendar days from the date of completion of the program.

If an exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy is granted by the PHA, the PHA will monitor compliance at the next regularly scheduled re-examination for determination of rental assistance eligibility and if it is found that the participant violation of court ordered rehabilitation/diversion requirements/obligations rental assistance will be denied and/or terminated.

2. Denying or terminating tenancy, in any Housing Authority owned rental unit, to any household containing a member that has engaged in prohibited criminal activity, and who has a history or pattern of criminal activity which would adversely affect the health, safety, or welfare of other tenants, unless that member can demonstrate the following:
  - a. Evidence of crime-free living within the last five years and no occurrence of criminal behavior (other than minor traffic offenses), **and**
  - b. Applicant/tenant must not have been incarcerated (in custody or doing any jail time) during the last five years for any action related to any prohibited criminal activity; **and**
  - c. Applicant/participant would not be a detriment to the health, safety, or welfare of his/her neighbors or the community in which they live; whose expected behavior would not have an adverse influence upon sound family and community life; who would not be a source of danger to the peaceful occupancy by the other tenants or cause damage to the premises or property of the Housing Authority or the immediate vicinity; **and**
  - d. Satisfactory adherence to all court and probation/parole mandated conditions for any action related to any prohibited criminal activity;
  - e. For drug-related criminal activity (Evidence of drug-related activity (use/possession of drugs and/or drug-related paraphernalia): The HA may consider enrollment in a court ordered drug rehabilitation/diversion program if there is an active drug-related charge against the applicant/participant. At PHA discretion, first offenders may be only granted an exception to the Zero Tolerance Policy only once (1) per Lifetime due to participation in court ordered drug rehabilitation/diversion program. Approval is not automatic. Repeat or habitual offenders will not be granted an exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy and rental assistance will be denied and/or terminated. The participant cannot elect to join a drug rehabilitation/diversion program in lieu of termination of assistance after the HA has discovered illegal drug-related activity. For consideration of one lifetime exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy, the following conditions must exist.
    - i. The applicant/participant must be a first time participant in a court ordered drug rehabilitation program for any drug-related offense that they are requesting an exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy, **and**
    - ii. The applicant/participant must have enrolled in the court ordered drug rehabilitation program prior to the date of the HA's discovery of the drug-related activity, **and**
    - iii. Completion of the program must be achieved within the allowed time by the courts, **and**
    - iv. Evidence of completion must be provided to the HA within 10 calendar days from the date of completion of the program.

If an exception to our Zero Tolerance Policy is granted by the PHA, the PHA will monitor compliance at the next regularly scheduled re-examination for determination of rental assistance eligibility and if it is found that the participant violation of court ordered rehabilitation/diversion

requirements/obligations rental assistance will be denied and/or terminated.

3. Criminal activity directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, engaged in by a member of a tenant's household or any guest or other person under the tenant's control shall not be cause for termination of assistance, tenancy, or occupancy rights if the tenant or an immediate member of the tenant's family is the victim or threatened victim of that domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, provided that the victim member demonstrates the following:
  - a. The perpetrator of the domestic violence no longer resides in the assisted unit.
  - b. Applicant/tenant requesting exception based on 3 above shall complete HUD form 50066 within 14 business days after the HA has requested such certification in writing.
  - c. If the applicant/tenant does not provide the certification within 14 business days after the HA has requested such certification in writing, assistance may be denied/terminated.
4. Alerting all rental assistance program participants and tenants residing in Housing Authority owned housing about their obligation to keep rental units free from prohibited criminal activity.
5. Incorporating the HUD required Tenancy Addendum which includes grounds for termination of tenancy due to criminal activity into all rental leases used by the Housing Authority and requiring the use of said Tenancy Addendum for all private rental property owners in the county.
6. Conducting workshops for rental property owners and managers to stress the importance of screening potential tenants, inspecting the premises of rental property, and taking action against tenants engaged in criminal activity, fraud, or side payments.
7. Seeking a collaborative relationship with all law enforcement agencies within the County of Riverside and the Office of Inspector General to assist in the enforcement of this Amended Policy on Zero Tolerance Policy of Criminal Activity.
8. Screening all housing program applicants and participants including but not limited to the Riverside Superior Court online system, Consolidated Courts of the County of San Bernardino online system, Consolidated Courts of the County of Los Angeles online system, National Credit Reporting (or similar service), any and all available Sex Offender registries, and any other available sources (i.e. police reports, court records, information that is independently verifiable, law enforcement investigations and arrest warrants) to disclose any criminal background information.
9. Providing the Riverside County Sheriff Department with requested incident reports from Public Housing properties, to be used by the Crime Analysis unit in identifying crime patterns, series, and other potential problems.

## EXHIBIT M CODE OF CONDUCT

The Housing Authority of the County of Riverside strives to conduct business in accordance with core values and ethical standards. Professional conduct, ethical practices and adherence to all laws, regulations, and government codes are expected by all employees at all times. To ensure compliance with these standards, the following policies have been established:

### PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES:

1. Employees shall not engage in any employment, activity, or enterprise for compensation which is inconsistent, incompatible, in conflict with, or inimical to his or her duties, functions, or responsibilities in a position with the Housing Authority. Employees shall not perform any work, service or counsel for compensation outside of the agency where any part of his/her efforts will be subject to approval by any other officer, employee, board, or commission of this Housing Authority.
2. Prohibited activities shall include but not be limited to:
  - a. Acceptance of money or other consideration from anyone other than the Housing Authority for the performance of duties required or expected of him/her in the regular course of Housing Authority employment.
  - b. Performance of an act in other than his/her capacity as an officer or employee which act may later be subject directly or indirectly to the control, inspection, review, audit, or enforcement of any other officer or employee of the Housing Authority.
  - c. Any act wherein time demands would render performance of his or her duties as an officer or employee less efficient and productive.
  - d. Embezzlement and falsification of accounts as defined in the California Penal Code.

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

1. To avoid potential conflicts of interest, or the appearance of such, it is the policy of this Housing Authority that:
  - A. No employee shall enter into any agreement, written or unwritten, without prior approval from the Assistant Executive Director or his designee, that involves any direct payment or other form of compensation as a result of any program administered by this Housing Authority, either directly or indirectly, through agreements with other parties.
  - B. No employee, officer, or agent of the Housing Authority shall participate directly or indirectly in the selection, award or administration of any contract if a conflict, real or perceived, would be involved. Such conflict would arise when a financial or other interest in the execution of a contract or in Housing Authority program participation is held by:
    - (1) An employee, officer, or agent involved in making the award;
    - (2) The relative of such a person (including, but not limited to, spouse/co-head or domestic partner or significant other, father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first cousin, father-in-law, mother in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half sister);
    - (3) The business partner of such a person; or someone with an interest in,
    - (4) An organization which employs, is negotiating to employ, or has an arrangement concerning prospective employment of any of the above.

### THE CONSEQUENCES OF RULE VIOLATIONS:

Any violation of prohibited activities shall be handled as for the acts set out under Section 2.I. (3) of the Agency's personnel policies on Discipline, Dismissal, and Review.

## APPENDIX N PROGRAM INTEGRITY MONITORING (PIM)

### **INTRODUCTION**

The U.S. Department of HUD conservatively estimates that 200 million dollars is paid annually to program participants who falsify or omit material facts in order to gain more rental assistance than they are entitled to under the law. HUD further estimates that 12% of all HUD-assisted families are either totally ineligible, or are receiving benefits which exceed their legal entitlement.

The HA is committed to assuring that the proper level of benefits is paid to all participating families, and that housing resources reach only income-eligible families so that program integrity can be maintained. The HA will take all steps necessary to prevent fraud, waste, and mismanagement so that program resources are utilized judiciously.

This chapter outlines the HA's policies for the prevention, detection and investigation of program abuse and fraud.

### **A. CRITERIA FOR INVESTIGATION OF SUSPECTED ABUSE AND FRAUD**

The HA's expectation is that participating families will comply with HUD requirements, provisions of the voucher, and other program rules. The HA staff will make every effort (formally and informally) to orient and educate all families in order to avoid unintentional violations. However, the HA has a responsibility to HUD, the County of Riverside, and to eligible families in need of housing assistance, to monitor participants and owners for compliance and, when indicators of possible abuse come to the HA's attention, to investigate such claims.

The HA will initiate an investigation of a participating family in the event of one or more of the following circumstances:

#### **1. Referrals, Complaints, or Tips**

The HA will follow up on referrals from other agencies, companies or persons which are received by mail, by telephone or in person, which allege that a family is in non-compliance with, or otherwise violating the family obligations or any other program rules. Such follow-up will be made providing that the referral contains at least one item of information that is independently verifiable. A copy of the allegation will be retained in the family's file in such a way as to protect and observe the confidentiality of the informant.

#### **2. Internal File Review**

A follow-up will be made if HA staff discovers (as a function of a certification or recertification, an interim redetermination, or a quality control review), information or facts which conflict with previous file data, the HA's knowledge of the family, or is discrepant with statements made by the family.

#### **3. Verification of Documentation**

A follow-up will be made if the HA receives independent verification or documentation which conflicts with representations in the family's file (such as public record information or credit bureau reports, reports from other agencies).

### **B. STEPS THE HA WILL TAKE TO PREVENT PROGRAM ABUSE AND FRAUD**

The HA management and staff will utilize various methods and practices (listed below) to prevent program abuse, non-compliance, and willful violations of program rules by applicants and participating families. This policy objective is to establish confidence and trust in the management by emphasizing program education as the primary means to obtain compliance by families.

#### **1. Things You Should Know**

This program integrity bulletin (created by HUD's Inspector General) will be furnished to all applicants to promote understanding of program rules, and to clarify the HA's expectations for cooperation and compliance.

## **2. Program Orientation Session**

Mandatory orientation sessions will be conducted by the HA staff for all prospective program participants, either prior to or upon leasing of a unit. At the conclusion of all Program Orientation Sessions, the family representative will be required to sign a "Move In Checklist for New Tenants" to confirm that all rules and pertinent regulations were explained to them.

## **3. Resident Counseling**

The HA will encourage participants to communicate with their assigned Public Housing Property Manager and/or the HA to clarify any confusion pertaining to program rules and requirements.

## **4. Review and Explanation of Forms**

At appropriate times and/or at the family's request staff may explain all required forms and review the contents of all (re)certification documents prior to signature.

## **5. Use of Instructive Signs and Warnings**

Instructive signs such as the "What you should Know about EIV" form will be provided to participants prior to leasing a unit to reinforce compliance with program rules and to warn about penalties for fraud and abuse

## **6. Participant Certification**

All family representatives will be required to sign a briefing checklist, titled Move In Checklist for New Tenants", "Tenant Rules and Responsibilities", certification pages in the Eligibility Questionnaire and the Tenant Obligations as contained within the lease agreement.

## **C. STEPS THE HA WILL TAKE TO DETECT PROGRAM ABUSE AND FRAUD**

The HA Staff will maintain a high level of awareness to indicators of possible abuse and fraud by assisted families.

### **1. Quality Control File Reviews**

Prior to initial annual certification, and at the completion of all subsequent recertifications, a percentage of files will be reviewed. Such reviews shall include, but are not limited to:

- Assurance that verification of all income and deductions is present.
- Changes in reported Social Security Numbers or dates of birth.
- Authenticity of file documents.
- Ratio between reported income and expenditures.
- Review of signatures for consistency with previously signed file documents.
- All forms are correctly dated and signed.

### **2. Observation**

The HA Management and Occupancy Staff (to include maintenance and inspection personnel) will maintain high awareness of circumstances which may indicate program abuse or fraud, such as unauthorized persons residing in the household and unreported income. Observations will be documented in the family's file.

### **3. Public Record Bulletins**

Public Record Bulletins may be reviewed by Management and Staff.

### **4. State Wage Data Record Keepers**

Inquiries to State Wage and Employment record keeping agencies as authorized under Public Law 100-628, the Stewart B. McKinley Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1988, may be made annually in order to detect unreported wages or unemployment compensation benefits.

### **5. Credit Bureau Inquiries**

Credit Bureau inquiries may be made (with proper authorization by the participant) in the following circumstances:

- At the time of final eligibility determination

- When an allegation is received by the HA wherein unreported income sources are disclosed.
- When a participant's expenditures exceed his/her reported income, and no plausible explanation is given.

#### **D. THE HA'S HANDLING OF ALLEGATIONS OF POSSIBLE ABUSE AND FRAUD**

The HA staff will encourage all participating families to report suspected abuse to **the Program Integrity Monitoring (PIM) division**. All such referrals, as well as referrals from community members and other agencies, will be thoroughly documented, remain anonymous and/or placed in the participant's file. All allegations, complaints and tips will be carefully evaluated in order to determine if they warrant follow-up. The **HA Staff** will not follow up on allegations which are vague or otherwise non-specific. They will only review allegations which contain one or more independently verifiable facts.

##### **1. File Review**

An internal file review will be conducted to determine if the subject of the allegation is a client of the HA and, if so, to determine whether or not the information reported has been previously disclosed by the family. It will then be determined if the HA is the most appropriate authority to do a follow-up (more so than police or social services). Any file documentation of past behavior as well as corroborating complaints will be evaluated.

##### **2. Conclusion of Preliminary Review**

If at the conclusion of the preliminary file review there is/are fact(s) contained in the allegation which conflict with file data, and the fact(s) are independently verifiable, the HA Staff will initiate an investigation to determine if the allegation is true or false.

#### **E. OVERPAYMENTS TO OWNERS**

Not Applicable to the Affordable Public Housing Program

#### **F. HOW THE HA WILL INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AND FRAUD**

If the HA determines that an allegation or referral warrants follow-up, either the staff person who is responsible for the file, or a person designated by the Executive Director to monitor the program compliance will conduct the investigation. In all cases, the HA will secure the written authorization from the program participant for the release of information. The steps taken will depend upon the nature of the allegation and may include, but are not limited to:

##### **1. Credit Bureau Inquiries (CBI)**

In cases involving previously unreported income sources, a CBI inquiry may be made to determine if there is financial activity that conflicts with the reported income of the family.

##### **2. Verification of Credit**

In cases where the financial activity conflicts with file data, a *Verification of Credit* form may be mailed to the creditor in order to determine the unreported income source.

##### **3. Employers and Ex-Employers**

Employers or ex-employers may be contacted to verify wages which may have been previously undisclosed or misreported.

##### **4. Neighbors/Witnesses**

Neighbors and/or other witnesses may be interviewed who are believed to have direct or indirect knowledge of facts pertaining to the HA's review.

##### **5. Other Agencies**

Investigators, case workers or representatives of other benefit agencies may be contacted.

##### **6. Public Records**

If relevant, the HA will review public records kept in any jurisdictional courthouse. Examples of public



records which may be checked include (but not limited to): real estate, marriage, divorce, uniform commercial code financing statements, voter registration, judgments, court or police records, state wage records, utility records, postal records, etc.

**7. Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)**

In cases involving suspected unauthorized tenants and/or unreported vehicles.

**8. Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) reports**

In cases involving unreported income and/or unreported employers

**9. Interviews with Head of Household or Family Members**

The HA will discuss the allegation (or details thereof) with the Head of Household or family member by scheduling an appointment at the appropriate HA leasing office. A high standard of courtesy and professionalism will be maintained by the HA staff person who conducts such interviews. Under no circumstances will inflammatory language, accusation, or any unprofessional conduct or language be tolerated by the management. If possible or as necessary, an additional staff person will attend such interviews.

**10. Other**

The HA may use any other resources or tools available.

**G. PLACEMENT OF DOCUMENTS, EVIDENCE AND STATEMENTS OBTAINED BY THE HA**

Documents and other evidence obtained by the HA during the course of an investigation will be considered "work product" and will either be kept in the participant's file, or in a separate "work file." In either case, the participant's file or work file shall be kept in a locked file cabinet. Such cases under review will not be discussed among HA Staff unless they are involved in the process, or have information which may assist in the investigation.

**H. CONCLUSION OF THE HA'S INVESTIGATIVE REVIEW**

At the conclusion of the investigative review, the reviewer will report the findings to the Executive Director or designee. It will then be determined whether a violation has occurred, a violation has not occurred, or if the facts are inconclusive.

**I. EVALUATION OF THE FINDINGS**

If it is determined that a program violation has occurred, the HA will review the facts to determine:

- The type of violation (procedural, non-compliance, fraud).
- Whether the violation was intentional or unintentional.
- What amount of money (if any) is owed by the family.
- If the family is eligible for continued occupancy.

**J. ACTION PROCEDURES FOR VIOLATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN DOCUMENTED**

Once a program violation has been documented, the HA will propose the most appropriate remedy based upon the type and severity of the violation.

**1. Procedural Non-compliance (Pre-termination of Assistance or Pre-eviction Appointment)**

This category applies when the family "fails to" observe a procedure or requirement of the HA, but does not misrepresent a material fact, and there is no retroactive assistance payments owed by the family. Examples of non-compliance violations are:

- Failure to appear at a pre-scheduled appointment.
- Failure to return verification in time period specified by the HA.

**(a) Warning Notice to the Family**

In such cases a notice will be sent to the family which contains the following:

- A description of the non-compliance and the procedure, policy or obligation which was violated.
- The date by which the violation must be corrected, or the procedure complied with.

- The action which will be taken by the HA if the procedure or obligation is not complied with by the date specified by the HA.
- The consequences of serious or repeated (similar) violations.

## **2. Procedural Non-compliance - Overpaid Assistance.**

When the family owes money to the HA for failure to report changes in income or assets, the HA will issue a Pre-termination of Assistance or Pre-eviction Appointment letter. This Notice will contain the following:

- A description of the violation and the date(s).
- Any amounts owed to the HA, the amounts owed to the HA may also be provided at a later date in another notice such as a Notice to Quit.

### **(a) Participant Fails to Comply with HA's Notice**

If the Participant fails to comply with the HA's notice, and a family obligation and/or lease has been violated, the HA will initiate termination of assistance (Notice to Quit).

The family will be given the right to disagree and to request an informal hearing with instructions for the request of such hearing (unless the termination includes one or more elements where a grievance hearing is not afforded to the tenant in accordance with the Grievance Procedures governing the Affordable Public Housing Program.

### **(b) Participant Complies with HA's Notice**

When a family complies with the HA's notice, the staff person responsible will meet with him/her to discuss and explain the Family Obligation or program rule which was violated. The staff person will counsel the participant and may require that they sign Certified Statements regarding their family obligations with the understanding that the current or future incidents may result in termination.

## **3. Intentional Misrepresentations**

When a participant falsifies, misstates, omits or otherwise misrepresents a material fact which results (or would have resulted) in an under payment of the participants portion of rent to the HA, the HA will evaluate whether or not:

- The participant had knowledge that his/her actions were wrong, and
- The participant willfully violated the family obligations or the law.

### **(a) Knowledge that the action or inaction was wrong**

This will be evaluated by determining if the participant was made aware of program requirements and prohibitions. The participant's signature on various certifications, move in checklist form, rules and responsibilities, What is Fraud form, Personal Declarations, Eligibility Questionnaire certifications and receipt of What You Should Know about EIV are adequate to establish knowledge of wrong-doing.

### **(b) The participant willfully violated the law**

Any of the following circumstances will be considered adequate to demonstrate willful intent:

- An admission by the participant of the misrepresentation.
- That the act was done repeatedly.
- If a false name or Social Security Number was used.
- If there were admissions to others of the illegal action or omission.
- That the participant omitted material facts which were known to him/her (e.g., employment of self or other household member).
- That the participant falsified, forged or altered documents.
- That the participant uttered and certified to statements at an interim (re)determination which were later independently verified to be false.

## **4. Dispositions of Cases Involving Misrepresentations**

In all cases of misrepresentations involving efforts to recover monies owed, the HA may pursue, depending upon its evaluation of the criteria stated above, one or more of the following actions:

**(a) Criminal Prosecution**

If the HA has established criminal intent, and the case meets the criteria for prosecution, the HA will:

- Refer the case to the local State or District Attorney, notify HUD's Office of the Inspector General (OIG), and terminate rental assistance.
- Refer the case to HUD's OIG, and terminate rental assistance.

**(b) Administrative Remedies**

At its discretion, the HA will:

- Terminate assistance and demand payment of restitution in full.
- Terminate assistance and execute an administrative repayment agreement in accordance with the HA's Repayment Policy.
- Terminate assistance and pursue restitution through civil litigation.
- Continue assistance at the correct level upon repayment of restitution in full.
- Permit continued assistance at the correct level and execute an administrative repayment agreement in accordance with the HA's repayment policy.
- Collection of any debt owed through intercept of tax refunds through the Franchise Tax Board and/or IRS.

**5. The Case Conference (Meeting) for Serious Violations and Misrepresentations**

When the HA has established that material misrepresentation(s) have occurred, a Case Conference (Pre-Eviction Appointment) will be scheduled with the family representative and the HA staff person who is most knowledgeable about the circumstances of the case.

This conference will take place prior to any proposed action by the HA. The purpose of such conference is to review the information and evidence obtained by the HA with the participant, and to provide the participant an opportunity to explain any document findings which conflict with representations in the family's file. Any documents or mitigating circumstances presented by the family will be taken into consideration by the HA. The family may be given ten (10) days to furnish any mitigating evidence.

A secondary purpose of the Participant Conference is to assist the HA in determining the course of action most appropriate for the case. Prior to the final determination of the proposed action, the HA will consider:

- The duration of the violation and number of false statements.
- The family's ability to understand the rules.
- The family's willingness to cooperate, and to accept responsibility for his/her actions
- The amount of money involved.
- The family's past history
- Whether or not criminal intent has been established.
- The number of false statements.
- Any other information relevant to the participant's tenancy.

**6. Notification to Participant of Proposed Action**

The HA will notify the family of the proposed action no later than **30-60** days after the case conference by mail.

**Part 1: Summary**

PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside		Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027-50108 Replacement Housing Factor Grant No: Date of CFFP:		FFY of Grant: 2008 FFY of Grant Approval: 2008	
<input type="checkbox"/> Original Annual Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Performance and Evaluation Report for Period Ending:		<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve for Disasters/ Emergencies <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Final Performance and Evaluation Report		<input type="checkbox"/> Revised Annual Statement (revision no: 2)	
Line	Summary by Development Account	Total Estimated Cost		Total Actual Cost <sup>1</sup>	
		Original	Revised <sup>2</sup>	Obligated	Expended
1	Total non-CFF Funds				
2	1406 Operations (may not exceed 20% of line 20) <sup>3</sup>	152,525.00	152,525.00	152,525.00	152,525.00
3	1408 Management Improvements	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
4	1410 Administration (may not exceed 10% of line 20)	76,262.00	76,262.00	76,262.00	76,262.00
5	1411 Audit	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
6	1415 Liquidated Damages	0.00	0.00		
7	1430 Fees and Costs	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00
8	1440 Site Acquisition	0.00	0.00		
9	1450 Site Improvement	45,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00
10	1460 Dwelling Structures	407,838.00	407,838.00	407,838.00	407,838.00
11	1465.1 Dwelling Equipment—Nonexpendable				
12	1470 Non-dwelling Structures				
13	1475 Non-dwelling Equipment				
14	1485 Demolition				
15	1492 Moving to Work Demonstration				
16	1495.1 Relocation Costs				
17	1499 Development Activities <sup>4</sup>				
18a	1501 Collateralization or Debt Service paid by the PHA				
18b	9000 Collateralization or Debt Service paid Via system of Direct Payment				
19	1502 Contingency (may not exceed 8% of line 20)				
20	<b>Amount of Annual Grant: (sum of lines 2 to 19)</b>	<b>762,625.00</b>	<b>762,625.00</b>	<b>762,625.00</b>	<b>762,625.00</b>
21	Amount of line 20 Related to LBP Activities				
22	Amount of line 20 Related to Section 504 Activities				
23	Amount of line 20 Related to Security – Soft Costs				
24	Amount of line 20 Related to Security – Hard Costs				
25	Amount of line 20 Related to Energy Conservation Measures				

<sup>1</sup> To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report.  
<sup>2</sup> To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report or a Revised Annual Statement.  
<sup>3</sup> PHAs with under 250 units in management may use 100% of CFP grants for operations.  
<sup>4</sup> RHF funds shall be included here.

Annual Statement/Performance and Evaluation Report  
 Capital Fund Program, Capital Fund Program Replacement Housing Factor and  
 Capital Fund Financing Program

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
 Office of Public and Indian Housing  
 OMB No. 2577-0226  
 Expires 4/30/2011

**Part I: Summary**

PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside		Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027-50108		Replacement Housing Factor Grant No:		FFY of Grant: 2008	
Date of CFFP:		<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve for Disasters/ Emergencies		<input type="checkbox"/> Revised Annual Statement (revision no: 2)		FFY of Grant Approval: 2008	
<input type="checkbox"/> Original Annual Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Performance and Evaluation Report for Period Ending:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Final Performance and Evaluation Report		Total Estimated Cost		Total Actual Cost <sup>1</sup>	
Line Summary by Development Account		Original Date		Revised <sup>2</sup>		Obligated Expended	
Signature of Executive Director				Signature of Public Housing Director			
Date				Date			

**Part II: Supporting Pages**

PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside		Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027 50108 CFFP (Yes/No): No		Federal FY of Grant: 2008		
Development Number Name/PHA-Wide Activities	General Description of Major Work Categories	Development Account No.	Quantity	Total Estimated Cost		Status of Work
				Original	Revised <sup>1</sup>	
				Funds Obligated <sup>2</sup>	Funds Expended <sup>2</sup>	
Management Improvement	Operations Management Improvement Items- computers, hardware & software, upgrade video conferencing, digital camera, Preventive Maintenance Program, Energy Audit, Employee Training, Resident Services	1406 1408(a)		152,525.00 50,000.00	152,525.00 50,000.00	Completed Completed
Salaries	Staff, management including benefits Audit	1410 1411		76,262.00 1,000.00	76,262.00 0.00	Completed
Consultant Fees AMP 220 - CA027001 Beaumont Apts	Architect & Engineering Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible	1430 1450		30,000.00 45,000.00	30,000.00 45,000.00	Completed Completed Move Playground to 50110 Completed
AMP 230 - CA027027 Mecca	Kitchen & bath remodel-cabinets, vanities, countertops, floors and appliances	1460	40 units @ approx 10,196	407,838.00	407,838.00	Completed
Contingency	Contingency	1502		0.00	0.00	0.00

Annual Statement/Performance and Evaluation Report  
 Capital Fund Program, Capital Fund Program Replacement Housing Factor and  
 Capital Fund Financing Program

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
 Office of Public and Indian Housing  
 OMB No. 2577-0226  
 Expires 4/30/2011

<b>Part III: Implementation Schedule for Capital Fund Financing Program</b>									
PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside		Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program No: CA16 P027 - 50108				Federal FY of Grant: 2008			
Development Number Name/HA-Wide Activities	All Fund Obligated (Quarter Ending Date)			All Funds Expended (Quarter Ending Date)			Reasons for Revised Target Dates		
	Original	Revised	Actual	Original	Revised	Actual			
Operations	06/12/2010		05/19/2009	06/12/2012		05/21/2009			
Management Improvements	06/12/2010		06/12/2010	06/12/2012		02/28/2010			
Administration	06/12/2010		06/12/2010	06/12/2012		02/28/2010			
Audit	06/12/2010		03/07/2011	06/12/2012		06/09/2011			
Energy Audit/Arch & Eng	06/12/2010		05/31/2009	06/12/2012		06/29/2009			
AMP 220 - Site 224 (001 - Beaumont)	06/12/2010		11/04/2010	06/12/2012			Grant was over 90% obligated before deadline of 6/12/2010		
AMP 230 - Site 235 (027- Mecca)	06/12/2010		10/31/2009	06/12/2012		04/30/2010			
Contingency	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a				

<sup>1</sup> Obligation and expenditure end dates can only be revised with HUD approval pursuant to Section 9j of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended





Annual Statement/Performance and Evaluation Report  
 Capital Fund Program, Capital Fund Program Replacement Housing Factor and  
 Capital Fund Financing Program

<b>Part 1: Summary</b>		FFY of Grant: <b>2009</b>	
PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside		FFY of Grant Approval: <b>2009</b>	
Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027-50109		Replacement Housing Factor Grant No:	
Date of CFFP:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve for Disasters/ Emergencies <input type="checkbox"/> Original Annual Statement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Performance and Evaluation Report for Period Ending: 12/31/2011		<input type="checkbox"/> Revised Annual Statement (revision no:1) <input type="checkbox"/> Final Performance and Evaluation Report	
Line	Summary by Development Account	Total Estimated Cost	Total Actual Cost <sup>1</sup>
		Original	Revised <sup>2</sup>
Signature of Executive Director		Signature of Public Housing Director	
Date		Date	
		Obligated	Expended

**Part II: Supporting Pages**

PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside		Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027 50109 CFFP (Yes/No): No Replacement Housing Factor Grant No:		Federal FY of Grant: 2009				
Development Number Name/PHA-Wide Activities	General Description of Major Work Categories	Development Account No.	Quantity	Total Estimated Cost		Total Actual Cost		Status of Work
				Original	Revised <sup>1</sup>	Funds Obligated <sup>2</sup>	Funds Expended <sup>2</sup>	
	Operations	1406		152,139.00	152,139.00	152,139.00	0.00	
Management Improvement	Management Improvement Items- computers, hardware & software, upgrade video conferencing, digital camera, Preventive Maintenance Program, Energy Audit, Employee Training, Resident Services	1408(a)		44,000.00	44,000.00	38,000.00	29,096.75	
Salaries	Staff, management including benefits	1410		76,069.00	76,069.00	25,000.00	21,286.02	
Consultant Fees	Audit	1411		1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	
	Energy Audit	1430		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
AMP 210 - CA027019 Scattered Sites: Fort Dr	Carpet/vinyl floor replacement in 3 of 9 units 3974 #1-3 (3974 #4, 3990, 3992, 3986, 3996 & 3998 Fort already done)	1460	3 @ 6,000 ea	18,000.00	18,000.00	0.00	0.00	
AMP 210 - CA027019 Scattered Sites: Fort Dr	Replace swamp coolers w/ A/C dual pack For 6 of 9 units (3990, 3992, 3974 #1-4)	1460	6 @ 7,000	42,000.00	42,000.00	0.00	0.00	
AMP 220 - CA027008 Banning Apts	Replace swamp coolers w/ A/C dual pack	1460	14 units @ \$7,070 ea	98,987.00	98,987.00	0.00	0.00	
AMP 230 - CA027009, CA027017, CA027031 Church & Polk Apts	Water heater replacements to on-demand units	1460	53 @ 2500	132,500.00	132,500.00	0.00	0.00	
AMP 230 - CA027041 Aladdin Apartments	Remodel cabinets throughout units (kitchen, baths, hall, etc.)	1460	20 @ 9800	196,000.00	196,000.00	0.00	0.00	
Contingency	Contingency	1502		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	

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 Capital Fund Financing Program

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**Part III: Implementation Schedule for Capital Fund Financing Program**

PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside		Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program No: CA16 P027 - 50109 Replacement Housing Factor No:		Federal FY of Grant: 2009	
Development Number Name/HA-Wide Activities	All Fund Obligated (Quarter Ending Date)		All Funds Expended (Quarter Ending Date)		Reasons for Revised Target Dates
	Original	Revised	Original	Revised	
Operations	09/14/2011		01/31/2010	09/14/2013	
Management Improvements	09/14/2011			09/14/2013	
Administration	09/14/2011			09/14/2013	
Audit	09/14/2011			09/14/2013	
AMP 210 - CA027019 Scattered Sites: Fort Dr	09/14/2011			09/14/2013	
AMP 220 - CA027008 Banning Apts	09/14/2011			09/14/2013	
AMP 230 - CA027009, CA027017, CA027031 Church & Polk Apts	09/14/2011			09/14/2013	
AMP 230 - CA027041 Aladdin Apartments	09/14/2011			09/14/2013	
Contingency					

Obligation and expenditure end dates can only be revised with HUD approval pursuant to Section 9j of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended

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U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
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**Part 1: Summary**

PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside		Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027-50110	Replacement Housing Factor Grant No:	FFY of Grant: 2010	
Type of Grant		Date of CFFP:	FFY of Grant Approval: 2010		
<input type="checkbox"/> Original Annual Statement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Performance and Evaluation Report for Period Ending: 12/31/2011		<input type="checkbox"/> Revised Annual Statement (revision no: ) <input type="checkbox"/> Final Performance and Evaluation Report			
Line	Summary by Development Account	Original	Revised <sup>2</sup>	Obligated	Total Actual Cost <sup>1</sup> Expended
1	Total non-CFP Funds	0.00			
2	1406 Operations (may not exceed 20% of line 20) <sup>3</sup>	148,193.00			
3	1408 Management Improvements	50,000.00			
4	1410 Administration (may not exceed 10% of line 20)	74,096.00			
5	1411 Audit	1,000.00			
6	1415 Liquidated Damages	0.00			
7	1430 Fees and Costs	6,000.00			
8	1440 Site Acquisition	0.00			
9	1450 Site Improvement	270,660.00			
10	1460 Dwelling Structures	191,016.00			
11	1465.1 Dwelling Equipment—Nonexpendable	0.00			
12	1470 Non-dwelling Structures	0.00			
13	1475 Non-dwelling Equipment	0.00			
14	1485 Demolition	0.00			
15	1492 Moving to Work Demonstration	0.00			
16	1495.1 Relocation Costs	0.00			
17	1499 Development Activities <sup>4</sup>	0.00			
18a	1501 Collateralization or Debt Service paid by the PHA	0.00			
18b	9000 Collateralization or Debt Service paid Via system of Direct Payment	0.00			
19	1502 Contingency (may not exceed 8% of line 20)	0.00			
20	<b>Amount of Annual Grant: (sum of lines 2 to 19)</b>	<b>740,965.00</b>			
21	Amount of line 20 Related to LBP Activities	0.00			
22	Amount of line 20 Related to Section 504 Activities	205,660.00			
23	Amount of line 20 Related to Security – Soft Costs	0.00			
24	Amount of line 20 Related to Security – Hard Costs	0.00			
25	Amount of line 20 Related to Energy Conservation Measures	11,200.00			

<sup>1</sup> To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report.

<sup>2</sup> To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report or a Revised Annual Statement.

<sup>3</sup> PHAs with under 250 units in management may use 100% of CFP grants for operations.

<sup>4</sup> RHF funds shall be included here.

Annual Statement/Performance and Evaluation Report  
 Capital Fund Program, Capital Fund Program Replacement Housing Factor and  
 Capital Fund Financing Program

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
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**Part 1: Summary**

<b>PHA Name:</b> Housing Authority of the County of Riverside		<b>Grant Type and Number</b> Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027-50110      Replacement Housing Factor Grant No:		<b>FFY of Grant:</b> 2010	
<b>Date of CFFP:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve for Disasters/ Emergencies		<input type="checkbox"/> Revised Annual Statement (revision no: )	
<input type="checkbox"/> Original Annual Statement		<input type="checkbox"/> Performance and Evaluation Report for Period Ending: 12/31/2011		<input type="checkbox"/> Final Performance and Evaluation Report	
<b>Type of Grant</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Performance and Evaluation Report for Period Ending: 12/31/2011		Total Estimated Cost		Total Actual Cost <sup>1</sup>	
Line Summary by Development Account		Original		Revised <sup>2</sup>	
Signature of Executive Director		Signature of Public Housing Director		Expended	
Date		Date		Date	

<b>Part II: Supporting Pages</b>											
PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside											
Development Number Name/PHA-Wide Activities	General Description of Major Work Categories	Development Account No.	Quantity	Total Estimated Cost		Total Actual Cost		Federal FFY of Grant:		Status of Work	
				Original	Revised	Funds Obligated	Funds Expended	2010			
	Operations	1406		148,193.00							
	Management Improvement	1408		50,000.00							
Salaries	Staff, management including benefits	1410		74,096.00							
	Audit	1411		1,000.00							
Consultant Fees and Costs	Architect and Engineering, Environmental Reviews	1430		6,000.00							
AMP 210 - CA027007 - Jackson	Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible	1450	68 units	148,660.00							
AMP 220 - CA027001 - Beaumont	Remove / Replace Playground equipment and base including re-route sprinkler lines	1450		65,000.00							
AMP 220 - CA027008 - Banning	Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible	1450	14 units	57,000.00							
AMP 230 - CA027009, CA027017 - Thermal	Kitchen remodel- cabinets, counters, floors and appliances, excluding tenant provided refrigerator	1460	28 @ 6822	191,016.00							
Contingency	Contingency	1502		0.00							



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**Part 1: Summary**

PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside		Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027-50111		Replacement Housing Factor Grant No:		FFY of Grant: 2011	
Date of CFFP:		Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027-50111		Replacement Housing Factor Grant No:		FFY of Grant Approval: 2011	
Type of Grant <input type="checkbox"/> Original Annual Statement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Performance and Evaluation Report for Period Ending: 12/31/2011		<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve for Disasters/ Emergencies		<input type="checkbox"/> Revised Annual Statement (revision no: )		<input type="checkbox"/> Final Performance and Evaluation Report	
Summary by Development Account		Total Estimated Cost		Total Actual Cost <sup>1</sup>			
Line		Original	Revised <sup>2</sup>	Obligated	Expended		
1	Total non-CFP Funds	0.00					
2	1406 Operations (may not exceed 20% of line 20) <sup>3</sup>	92,000.00					
3	1408 Management Improvements	50,000.00					
4	1410 Administration (may not exceed 10% of line 20)	61,500.00					
5	1411 Audit	1,000.00					
6	1415 Liquidated Damages	0.00					
7	1430 Fees and Costs	4,720.00					
8	1440 Site Acquisition	0.00					
9	1450 Site Improvement	0.00					
10	1460 Dwelling Structures	406,000.00					
11	1465.1 Dwelling Equipment—Nonexpendable	0.00					
12	1470 Non-dwelling Structures	0.00					
13	1475 Non-dwelling Equipment	0.00					
14	1485 Demolition	0.00					
15	1492 Moving to Work Demonstration	0.00					
16	1495.1 Relocation Costs	0.00					
17	1499 Development Activities <sup>4</sup>	0.00					
18a	1501 Collateralization or Debt Service paid by the PHA	0.00					
18b	1500 Collateralization or Debt Service paid Via system of Direct Payment	0.00					
19	1502 Contingency (may not exceed 8% of line 20)	0.00					
20	<b>Amount of Annual Grant: (sum of lines 2 to 19)</b>	<b>615,220.00</b>					
21	Amount of line 20 Related to LBP Activities	0.00					
22	Amount of line 20 Related to Section 504 Activities	0.00					
23	Amount of line 20 Related to Security – Soft Costs	0.00					
24	Amount of line 20 Related to Security – Hard Costs	0.00					
25	Amount of line 20 Related to Energy Conservation Measures	308,000.00					

<sup>1</sup> To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report.

<sup>2</sup> To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report or a Revised Annual Statement.

<sup>3</sup> PHAs with under 250 units in management may use 100% of CFP grants for operations.

<sup>4</sup> RHF funds shall be included here.



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U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
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**Part 1: Summary**

PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside		Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027-50111 Date of CFFP: _____	Replacement Housing Factor Grant No: _____	FFY of Grant: 2011 FFY of Grant Approval: 2011
Type of Grant <input type="checkbox"/> Original Annual Statement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Performance and Evaluation Report for Period Ending: 12/31/2011		<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve for Disasters/ Emergencies <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Annual Statement (revision no: ) <input type="checkbox"/> Final Performance and Evaluation Report		
Line Summary by Development Account	Total Estimated Cost Original	Revised <sup>2</sup>	Total Actual Cost <sup>1</sup>	Expended
Signature of Executive Director		Signature of Public Housing Director		
Date		Date		

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**Part II: Supporting Pages**

PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside		Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027 50111 CFFP (Yes/No): No		Federal FFY of Grant: 2011		
Development Number Name/PHA-Wide Activities	General Description of Major Work Categories	Development Account No.	Quantity	Total Estimated Cost		Status of Work
				Original	Revised	
				Funds Obligated	Funds Expended	
	Operations – costs associated with building onsite leasing offices and maintenance shop in accordance with Asset Management- Average Cost of construction from planning to building to furnishing office is between \$75,000 to \$100,000.	1406		92,000.00		
	Management Improvement – Staff salaries for planning, design, implementation and monitoring of the physical improvements for the major activities below and employee benefit contributions. Training – Cost of travel and accommodations of bi-annual maintenance and modernization meetings.	1408		50,000.00		
Salaries	Staff, management including benefits - Staff salaries for planning, design, implementation and monitoring of the management improvements for the construction of the leasing offices and maintenance shops and employee benefit contributions. Staff costs to prepare and send out bid documents, County Counsel Reviews and plan checks by Riverside County Facilities Management divisions, including permit fees and costs.	1410		61,500.00		
	Audit for Grant No : CA16 P027 50111	1411		1,000.00		
Consultant Fees and Costs	Architect and Engineering, Environmental Reviews for the major work described in detail below. Should the Architect and Engineering, Environmental Reviews exceed the estimated costs of \$4,720, excess charges will be drawn from Operations (1406)	1430		4,720.00		

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**Part II: Supporting Pages**

Development Number Name/PHA-Wide Activities		General Description of Major Work Categories	Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027 50111 CFFP (Yes/No): No Replacement Housing Factor Grant No:	Quantity	Total Estimated Cost	Total Actual Cost	Status of Work
Development Number Name/PHA-Wide Activities		Development Account No.	Development Account No.	Quantity	Total Estimated Cost	Total Actual Cost	Status of Work
AMP 220: CA16-P027-015	Site 223 Idyllwild SAN JACINTO	Kitchen remodel-cabinets, counters, floors, & appliances [REDACTED]	1460	14 units @ 7000 ea.	98,000.00		
AMP 220: CA16-P027-013	Site 221 Fairview LAKE ELSINORE	Air Conditioning replacement-dual-pack (Energy conservation measure) [REDACTED]	1460	16 units @ 7000 ea.	112,000.00		
AMP 210: CA16-P027-018-1	Site 213 Dracaca MORENO VALLEY	Air conditioning replacement-dual-pack (Energy conservation measure) [REDACTED]	1460	28 units on roof @ 7000 ea.	196,000.00		
Contingency		Contingency	1502		0.00		



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**Part 1: Summary**

PHA Name: **Housing Authority of the County of Riverside**      Grant Type and Number: **Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027-50112**      Replacement Housing Factor Grant No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of CFFP: \_\_\_\_\_      FFY of Grant: **2012**  
 FFY of Grant Approval: **2012**

Line	Type of Grant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Annual Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Performance and Evaluation Report for Period Ending:	Reserve for Disasters/ Emergencies <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve for Disasters/ Emergencies	Total Estimated Cost		Total Actual Cost <sup>1</sup>	
			Original	Revised <sup>2</sup>	Obligated	Expended
1	Total non-CFP Funds		0.00			
2	1406 Operations (may not exceed 20% of line 20) <sup>3</sup>		130,000.00			
3	1408 Management Improvements		50,000.00			
4	1410 Administration (may not exceed 10% of line 20)		65,000.00			
5	1411 Audit		1000.00			
6	1415 Liquidated Damages		0.00			
7	1430 Fees and Costs		4,000.00			
8	1440 Site Acquisition		0.00			
9	1450 Site Improvement		0.00			
10	1460 Dwelling Structures					
11	1465.1 Dwelling Equipment—Nonexpendable		0.00			
12	1470 Non-dwelling Structures		0.00			
13	1475 Non-dwelling Equipment		0.00			
14	1485 Demolition		0.00			
15	1492 Moving to Work Demonstration		0.00			
16	1495.1 Relocation Costs		0.00			
17	1499 Development Activities <sup>4</sup>		0.00			
18a	1501 Collateralization or Debt Service paid by the PHA		0.00			
18b	9000 Collateralization or Debt Service paid Via system of Direct Payment		0.00			
19	1502 Contingency (may not exceed 8% of line 20)		0.00			
20	<b>Amount of Annual Grant: (sum of lines 2 to 19)</b>		<b>650,000.00</b>			
21	Amount of line 20 Related to LBP Activities		0.00			
22	Amount of line 20 Related to Section 504 Activities		0.00			
23	Amount of line 20 Related to Security – Soft Costs		0.00			
24	Amount of line 20 Related to Security – Hard Costs		0.00			
25	Amount of line 20 Related to Energy Conservation Measures		0.00			

<sup>1</sup> To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report.  
<sup>2</sup> To be completed for the Performance and Evaluation Report or a Revised Annual Statement.  
<sup>3</sup> PHAs with under 250 units in management may use 100% of CFP grants for operations.  
<sup>4</sup> RHF funds shall be included here.

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 Capital Fund Financing Program

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<b>Part 1: Summary</b>	
PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside	Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027-50112 Date of CFFP: _____
FFY of Grant: 2012	Replacement Housing Factor Grant No: _____
FFY of Grant Approval: 2012	
Type of Grant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Annual Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Performance and Evaluation Report for Period Ending: Line Summary by Development Account	<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve for Disasters/ Emergencies <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Annual Statement (revision no: ) <input type="checkbox"/> Final Performance and Evaluation Report
	Total Estimated Cost
	Revised <sup>2</sup>
	Obligated
	Expended
Signature of Executive Director	Date
Signature of Public Housing Director	
Date	

Annual Statement/Performance and Evaluation Report  
 Capital Fund Program, Capital Fund Program Replacement Housing Factor and  
 Capital Fund Financing Program

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**Part II: Supporting Pages**

PHA Name: Housing Authority of the County of Riverside		Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027 50111 CFFP (Yes/No): No Replacement Housing Factor Grant No:		Federal FFY of Grant: 2012		
Development Number Name/PHA-Wide Activities	General Description of Major Work Categories	Development Account No.	Quantity	Total Estimated Cost		Status of Work
				Original	Revised	
	Operations – costs associated with building onsite leasing offices and maintenance shop in accordance with Asset Management- Average Cost of construction from planning to building to furnishing office is between \$75,000 to \$100,000.	1406		130,000.00		
	Management Improvement – Staff salaries for planning, design, implementation and monitoring of the physical improvements for the major activities below and employee benefit contributions. Training – Cost of travel and accommodations of bi-annual maintenance and modernization meetings.	1408		50,000.00		
Salaries	Staff management including benefits - Staff salaries for planning, design, implementation and monitoring of the management improvements for the construction of the leasing offices and maintenance shops and employee benefit contributions. Staff costs to prepare and send out bid documents, County Counsel Reviews and plan checks by Riverside County Facilities Management divisions, including permit fees and costs.	1410		65,000.00		
	Audit for Grant No : CA16 P027 50111	1411		1,000.00		
Consultant Fees and Costs	Architect and Engineering, Environmental Reviews for the major work described in detail below. Should the Architect and Engineering, Environmental Reviews exceed the estimated costs of \$4,720, excess charges will be drawn from Operations (1406)	1430				

**Part II: Supporting Pages**

Development Number Name/PHA-Wide Activities		General Description of Major Work Categories	Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No: CA16 P027 50111 CFFP (Yes/No): No Replacement Housing Factor Grant No:	Quantity	Total Estimated Cost	Total Actual Cost	Status of Work
			Development Account No.				
AMP 210: CA16-P027-018-1 Site 213 Dracaea MORENO VALLEY		Air conditioning replacement-dual-pack (Energy conservation measure) [REDACTED]	1460	28 units @ \$7,000	\$196,000		
AMP 210: CA16-P027-016 CA16-P027-020 Site 213 Gloria Moreno Valley		Air conditioning replacement-dual-pack (Energy conservation measure) [REDACTED]	1460	6 units @ \$7,000	\$42,000		
Contingency		Contingency	1502		0.00		





**Capital Fund Program – Five Year Action Plan**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Office of Public and Indian Housing  
OMB No. 2577-0226  
Expires 4/30/2011

**Part I: Summary**

PHA Name/Number Housing Authority of the County of Riverside/C027		Locality (City/County and State) <b>Riverside/Riverside County, California</b>				<input type="checkbox"/> Original 5-Year Plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revision No: 7	
A.	Development Number and Name	Work Statement for Year 1 FFY Grant 2012	Work Statement for Year 2 FFY Grant: 2013 (Now 2013 info)	Work Statement for Year 3 FFY Grant: 2014 (Now 2014 info)	Work Statement for Year 4 FFY Grant: 2015 (Now 2015 info)	Work Statement for Year 5 FFY Grant: 2016 (Now 2016 info)	
210	Site 211 34 <sup>th</sup> Street CA16-P027-006/012 Riverside	NO WORK	\$203,000	\$107,300	\$70,000	\$120,000	
	Site 212 Jackson CA16-P027-007 Riverside	NO WORK	\$557,600	NO WORK	NO WORK	\$476,000	
	Site 213 Gloria CA16-P027-016 CA16- P027-020 Moreno Valley	NO WORK	NO WORK	\$228,000	\$327,000	\$70,000	
	Site 213 Dracaea CA16-P027-018-1 Moreno Valley	NO WORK	NO WORK	\$60,000	\$292,000	\$85,000	
	Site 214 Fort Drive CA16-P027-019-1 Riverside	NO WORK	\$63,000	NO WORK	\$52,000	\$49,000	
	Site 214 - Sherman CA16-P027-019-2 Moreno Valley	NO WORK	NO WORK	\$4,800	\$16,000	NO WORK	
	Site 214 Highland CA16-P027-022 Riverside	NO WORK	NO WORK	\$28,000	\$10,000	NO WORK	
	<b>AMP 210 SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>\$823,600</b>	<b>\$428,100</b>	<b>\$767,000</b>	<b>\$800,000</b>	

**Capital Fund Program – Five Year Action Plan**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
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**Part I: Summary**

PHA Name/Number Housing Authority of the County of Riverside/C027	Locality (City/County and State) Riverside/Riverside County, California					<input type="checkbox"/> Original 5-Year Plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revision No: 7
	Development Number and Name	Work Statement for Year 1 FFY Grant 2011	Work Statement for Year 2 FFY Grant: 2012	Work Statement for Year 3 FFY Grant: 2013	Work Statement for Year 4 FFY Grant: 2014	
AMP 220	Site 221 Broadway CA16-P027-011/014 Lake Elsinore	///	\$82,000	\$196,000	\$196,000	\$0
	Site 221 Fairview CA16-P027-013 Lake Elsinore	///	\$39,000	NO WORK	NO WORK	NO WORK
	Site 222 Midway CA16-P027-021 Perris	///	\$280,000	\$97,000	\$35,000	\$48,000
	Site 223 Idyllwild CA16-P027-015 San Jacinto	///	NO WORK	\$162,800	NO WORK	\$98,000
	Site 224 5 <sup>th</sup> & Maple CA16-P027-001 Beaumont	///	NO WORK	NO WORK	NO WORK	\$154,000
	Site 225 – Williams CA16-P027-008 Banning	///	\$126,000	\$49,000	\$16,800	\$75,000
	<b>AMP 220 SUBTOTAL</b>	///	<b>\$527,000</b>	<b>\$504,800</b>	<b>\$247,800</b>	<b>\$375,000</b>

**Capital Fund Program – Five Year Action Plan**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
 Office of Public and Indian Housing  
 OMB No. 2577-0226  
 Expires 4/30/2011

**Part I: Summary**

PHA Name/Number Housing Authority of the County of Riverside/C027		Locality (City/County and State) <b>Riverside/Riverside County, California</b>				
Development Number and Name		Work Statement for Year 1 FFY Grant 2011	Work Statement for Year 2 FFY Grant: 2012	Work Statement for Year 3 FFY Grant: 2013	Work Statement for Year 4 FFY Grant: 2014	Work Statement for Year 5 FFY Grant: 2015
AMP 230	Site 231 Don English CA16-P027-018-2 Desert Hot Springs		\$102,000	NO WORK	\$342,000	NO WORK
	Site 232 - Corrighdor CA16-P027-010 Cathedral City		\$34,000	\$60,000	\$57,000	\$16,800
	Site 233 Aladdin CA16-P027-041 Indio		49,000	NO WORK	NO WORK	\$74,000
	Site 234 Polk & Church CA16-P027-009/017/031 Thermal		NO WORK	\$364,000	\$120,000	\$68,000
	Site 235 Seventh St. CA16-P027-027 Mecca		NO WORK	NO WORK	NO WORK	\$97,000
	<b>AMP 230 SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>\$185,000</b>	<b>\$424,000</b>	<b>\$519,000</b>	<b>\$255,800</b>
	<b>TOTAL WORK FOR AMPS</b>		<b>\$1,535,600</b>	<b>\$1,356,900</b>	<b>\$1,533,800</b>	<b>\$1,430,800</b>
G	Operations		\$155,000	\$155,000	\$155,000	\$155,000
	Management Improvements		\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
	Administration		\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
	Consultant Fees		\$0	\$25,000	\$0	\$0
	Total CFP Funds (Est.)	\$750,000.00	\$1,815,600	\$1,661,900	\$1,813,800	\$1,710,800
	Total Replacement Housing Factor Funds	0	0	0	0	0



**Capital Fund Program – Five Year Action Plan**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
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AMP 210: CA16-P027-019-2 Site 214 - Sherman MORENO VALLEY	NO WORK				AMP 210: CA16-P027-019-2 Site 214 - Sherman MORENO VALLEY	4 units @ \$1200 ea		\$4,800
AMP 210: CA16-P027-022 Site 214 Highland RIVERSIDE	NO WORK				AMP 210: CA16-P027-022 Site 214 Highland RIVERSIDE	4 units @ \$ 7000 ea.		\$28,000
AMP 220: CA16-P027-011/014 Site 221 Broadway LAKE ELSINORE	Water main valve and pressure regulator replacement Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible	28 units	\$14,000		AMP 220: CA16-P027-011/014 Site 221 Broadway LAKE ELSINORE	Air Conditioning replacement-dual-pack	28 units @ \$7000 ea.	\$196,000
AMP 220: CA16-P027-013 Site 221 Fairview LAKE ELSINORE	Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible		\$39,000		AMP 220: CA16-P027-013 Site 221 Fairview LAKE ELSINORE	NO WORK		\$0
AMP 220: CA16-P027-021 Site 222 Midway PERRIS	Kitchen remove and replace	40 units @ \$7K ea.	280,000		AMP 220: CA16-P027-021 Site 222 Midway PERRIS	Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible		\$97,000

**Capital Fund Program – Five Year Action Plan**

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AMP 220: CA16-P027-015 Site 223 Idyllwild SAN JACINTO	AMP 220: CA16-P027-015 Site 223 Idyllwild SAN JACINTO								
NO WORK	NO WORK					\$0	14 units @ 1200	\$16,800	
							14 units @ \$8000 ea.	\$112,000	
								\$34,000	
AMP 220: CA16-P027-001 Site 224, 5 <sup>th</sup> & Maple BEAUMONT	AMP 220: CA16-P027-001 Site 224, 5 <sup>th</sup> & Maple BEAUMONT								
NO WORK	NO WORK					\$0		\$0	
AMP 220: CA16-P027-008 Site 225 – Williams BANNING	AMP 220: CA16-P027-008 Site 225 – Williams BANNING								
Kitchen remodel-cabinets, counters, floors, and appliances	Water heater replacement					\$126,000	14 units @ \$2500 ea.	\$49,000	
AMP 230: CA16-P027-018-2 Site 231 Don English DESERT HOT SPRINGS	AMP 230: CA16-P027-018-2 Site 231 Don English DESERT HOT SPRINGS								
Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible	NO WORK					\$102,000.00		\$0	
AMP 230: CA16-P027-010 Site 232 - Corrigan CATHEDRAL CITY	AMP 230: CA16-P027-010 Site 232 - Corrigan CATHEDRAL CITY								
Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible	Roof replacement					\$34,000.00	5 bldgs	\$60,000	

**Capital Fund Program – Five Year Action Plan**

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AMP 230: CA16-P027-041 Site 233 Aladdin INDIO	AMP 230: CA16-P027-041 Site 233 Aladdin INDIO								
Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible	NO WORK	\$49,000							\$0
AMP 230: CA16-P027-009/017/031 Site 234 Polk & Church THERMAL	AMP 230: CA16-P027-009/017/031 Site 234 Polk & Church THERMAL								
NO WORK	Carports	\$0					4 for T1 x 12=48 8 for T2 x 12=96 Total: 144@ \$1000		\$144,000
	Sewer Pump Improvements						T2		\$50,000
	Color Coat & Paint						T2		\$170,000
AMP 230: CA16-P027-027 Site 235 Seventh St. MECCA	AMP 230: CA16-P027-027 Site 235 Seventh St. MECCA								
NO WORK	NO WORK	\$0							\$0





**Capital Fund Program – Five Year Action Plan**

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AMP 210: CA16-P027-019-1 214 Fort Drive RIVERSIDE	Remove front wood siding and stucco and remove and replace windows Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible	9 units, 4 bldgs.	\$30,000	AMP 210: CA16-P027-019-1 Site 214 Fort Drive RIVERSIDE	Cooler remove and replace to a/c  7 units @ \$7000 ea (2 units excl)	\$49,000
AMP 210: CA16-P027-019-2 214 - Sherman MORENO VALLEY	Remove and replace garage doors Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible	4 units x \$1,500	\$6,000 \$10,000	AMP 210: CA16-P027-019-2 Site 214 - Sherman MORENO VALLEY	NO WORK	\$0
AMP 210: CA16-P027-022 Site 214 Highland RIVERSIDE	Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible		\$10,000	AMP 210: CA16-P027-022 Site 214 Highland RIVERSIDE	NO WORK	\$0
AMP 220: CA16-P027-011/014 Site 221 Broadway LAKE ELSINORE	Kitchen remodel	28 @ \$7000	\$196,000	AMP 220: CA16-P027-011/014 Site 221 Broadway LAKE ELSINORE	NO WORK	\$0
AMP 220: CA16-P027-013 Site 221 Fairview LAKE ELSINORE	NO WORK		\$0	AMP 220: CA16-P027-013 Site 221 Fairview LAKE ELSINORE	NO WORK	\$0
AMP 220: CA16-P027-021 Site 222 Midway PERRIS	Color coat stucco damaged areas	10 bldgs	\$35,000	AMP 220: CA16-P027-021 Site 222 Midway PERRIS	CARPET  40 units @ \$1200 ea	\$48,000

**Capital Fund Program – Five Year Action Plan**

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AMP 220: CA16-P027-015 Site 223 Idyllwild SAN JACINTO	AMP 220: CA16-P027-015 Site 223 Idyllwild SAN JACINTO								
NO WORK	NO WORK								
AMP 220: CA16-P027-001 Site 224, 5 <sup>th</sup> & Maple BEAUMONT	AMP 220: CA16-P027-001 Site 224, 5 <sup>th</sup> & Maple BEAUMONT								
NO WORK	NO WORK								
AMP 220: CA16-P027-008 Site 225 – Williams BANNING	AMP 220: CA16-P027-008 Site 225 – Williams BANNING								
Carpet	Playground	14 units @1200	\$16,800					1 unit	\$45,000
								1 unit	\$30,000
AMP 230: CA16-P027-018-2 Site 231 Don English DESERT HOT SPRINGS	AMP 230: CA16-P027-018-2 Site 231 Don English DESERT HOT SPRINGS								
Carpet	NO WORK	42 units @ 1200	\$48,000						\$0
Kitchen remodel	NO WORK	42 units @ \$7000	\$294,000						
AMP 230: CA16-P027-010 Site 232 -Corrigedor CATHEDRAL CITY	AMP 230: CA16-P027-010 Site 232 - Corrigedor CATHEDRAL CITY								
Playground w/cover	Carpet	1 unit	\$57,000					14 units @ \$1200	\$16,800.00
AMP 230: CA16-P027-041 Site 233 Aladdin INDIO	AMP 230: CA16-P027-041 Site 233 Aladdin INDIO								
NO WORK	Hot water heaters replacement to on-demand		\$0					20 @ \$2500	\$50,000
	Carpet							20 units @ \$1200 ea	\$24,000

**Capital Fund Program – Five Year Action Plan**

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<p>AMP 230: CA16-P027-009/017/031                  Site 234 Polk &amp; Church THERMAL</p>	<p>Front porch enhancements on Thermal                  1</p>	<p>28 units, 20k x 6                  bldgs</p>	<p>\$120,000</p>	<p>AMP 230: CA16-P027-027                  Site 235 Seventh St. MECCA                  Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible</p>	<p>\$68,000.00</p>
<p>AMP 230: CA16-P027-027                  Site 235 Seventh St. MECCA</p>	<p>NO WORK</p>	<p>\$0</p>	<p>Walkway ADA compliance (REAC deficiency) - Convert / Improve any needed thresholds / step-downs / walkways to handicapped accessible</p>	<p>\$97,000.00</p>	<p></p>



**ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN  
FOR THE HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM**

**Housing Authority of the  
County of Riverside**

**2012- DRAFT**

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## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

The Public Housing Reform Act of 1998 includes language that allows the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assist Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) recipients to purchase a home. HUD published the Section 8 Homeownership Program Final Rule that implemented this option under Section 8(y) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 that authorized a public housing agency (PHA) to provide tenant-based assistance for an eligible family that purchases a home. The rule became effective on October 12, 2000. 24 CFR 982.625(c)(1)(i) enables the Housing Authority to provide monthly homeownership assistance payments to eligible families.

The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Homeownership Program (HP) allows qualified participants the option to purchase a home and use the HCV Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) towards mortgage payments and other allowable housing costs.

The purpose of the Homeownership Program Administrative Plan is to establish policies for carrying out the program in a manner consistent with HUD requirements and local objectives. The Plan covers both admission and participation in the program. The HACR is responsible for complying with all changes in HUD regulations pertaining to these programs. If such changes conflict with this Plan, HUD regulations will have precedence.

The HACR's policies and practices are designed to provide assurances that all persons with disabilities will be provided reasonable accommodations so that they may fully access the housing program. Persons requiring special accommodations due to a disability must notify the HACR, in writing, of their needs. The reasonable accommodation request will be verified via a Licensed Professional and then reviewed by the HACR. The HACR will provide written notification of either the approval or denial of the reasonable accommodation request. In matters where the HACR has discretion, waivers to existing policy shall be determined by the Executive Director or designee.

## **A. FAMILY ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

The HCV Homeownership Program (HP) of the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside (HACR) is available to qualified Housing Choice Voucher participants. Participation in the Homeownership Program is voluntary. Applicants must meet the following criteria to be considered for the HACR HP.

### **1. First-Time Homeowner**

An eligible Section 8 HCVP family must be considered a first-time home buyer. A first-time home buyer means that no member of the household has had any interest or ownership in any residence during the three years before applying for homeownership assistance or at the commencement of participation in the homeownership program. The purchaser must sign a sworn application attesting that they have not owned a home or have been included on a home loan. In addition, the last three years tax returns will be reviewed to ascertain that no mortgage interest or real estate tax deductions have been claimed.

Single parents or displaced homemakers (as those terms are defined in 12 U.S.C. 12713) who, while married, owned a home with his or her spouse or resided in a home owned by his or her spouse also qualify as first time homebuyers. ~~provided that three years have passed since homeownership ended.~~

### **2. Minimum Income Requirements**

Calculation of income-eligibility for the purpose of admission to the HCV Homeownership Program will be conducted under the guidelines for HCV rental assistance as noted in this Administrative Plan.

The head of household, spouse and/or other adult member(s) of the household that will hold title to the home must have a combined annual gross income of not less than 50% of the Area Median Income (AMI) adjusted for the family size.

A family whose income does not meet the 50% AMI requirement, but does meet all other HP requirements, may request admission provided the family can demonstrate that the annual income is not less than the HUD minimum requirement established below:

- a. In the case of a disabled family, the monthly Federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit for an individual living alone (or paying his or her share of food and housing costs) multiplied by twelve; or
- b. In the case of other families, the Federal minimum wage multiplied by 2,000.

In addition, a family that meets the applicable HUD minimum income requirement described above, but not the HACR minimum income limit of 50% AMI, shall be considered to satisfy the minimum income requirement only if:



- a. The family demonstrates that it has been pre-qualified or pre-approved for financing;
- b. The pre-qualified or pre-approved financing meets any HACR established requirements under 24 CFR 982.632 for financing the purchase of the home (including qualifications of lenders and terms of financing); and
- c. The pre-qualified or pre-approved financing amount is sufficient to purchase housing that meets HQS in the HACR's jurisdiction.

Welfare assistance may not be included in the minimum gross annual income above, except for elderly or disabled families. Welfare assistance includes payments from Cal Works/TANF (Cash Aid for needy families), Supplementary Security Income (SSI) that is subject to an income eligibility test, food stamps, general assistance (GA); or other welfare assistance as specified by HUD.

### **3. Minimum Employment Requirements**

One or more adult members of the household that will hold title to the home must be currently employed and working not less than an average of 30 hours per week and has been so continuously employed for one year prior to execution of the sales agreement.

Once escrow has closed, employment by the adult member of the household that holds title to the home must continue at least 30 hours per week. Should an event arise that the homeowner loses employment a 90 day grace period will be granted for them to regain fulltime employment.

Employment requirements do not apply to elderly or disabled families that otherwise qualify for HP. A family with a member with disabilities may request an exemption from the work requirements if needed as a reasonable accommodation for the disabled family member. HACR and HUD minimum income requirements still apply.

The HACR's Executive Director and/or designee may also consider whether and to what extent an employment interruption is considered permissible in satisfying the employment requirement. The Executive Director and/or designee may also consider successive employment during the one-year period and self-employment in a business.

The family must still meet the overall minimum income requirements outlined in Section 2.

### **4. Minimum Down Payment Requirements**

- a. The family must demonstrate the ability to provide a minimum of three percent (3%) down payment on the home.
- b. At least one percent (1%) of the **down payment** must come from the family's personal resources. CFR 982.625(g)(1)
- c. FSS participants may use FSS escrows towards this requirement. Families with an Individual Development Account (IDA) may also count these funds towards the

minimum down payment.

**5. Other Program Requirements**

- a. The family must be under HCV rental assistance in Riverside County for the most recent 12 consecutive months prior to application for HCV Homeownership.
- b. The family must have completed an initial HCV lease term and completed the family's first annual recertification in the HCV Program. The family must terminate a current lease agreement in compliance with the lease when transitioning into homeownership.
- c. The family must verify that no family member has previously defaulted on a mortgage loan assisted under the HCV HP including any government buyer assistance programs.
- d. The head of household, spouse and/or other adult member(s) will be required to complete a series of 15 workshops through Community Action IDA Program and provide verification of workshop completion. Working families will be required to complete the application process to gain entry into the IDA Program so they may earn a 2:1 match of savings. Workshops may include the following:
  - First Time Home Buyers Information
  - Lenders Language and Procedures
  - Home Safety: Fire and Earthquake
  - Selecting a Realtor and the Right Home
  - Basic Repair & Maintenance
  - Budgeting
  - Balancing Your Checkbook
  - Understanding Credit & Credit Cards
  - Credit Repair
  - Debt Management
  - Financial Planning
  - Borrowing Basics (basic concepts of loans)
- d. The head of household, spouse and/or other adult member(s) that will hold title to the home must successfully complete a HUD approved 8 hour homeownership and housing counseling program. At a minimum, the counseling will cover the following:
  - Home Maintenance
  - Budgeting and money management
  - Credit Counseling
  - Financing
  - Locating a home
  - Fair housing, predatory lending
  - Truth in lending, RESPA
- e. Family members may not owe any debt to the HACR or other Housing Authority. EIV will be run to determine if the family has/had owed any debts to any Housing Authority. If it is found that the family owes money to any Housing Authority, they will be disqualified from utilizing this program.

- f. The family must maintain good tenant standing with its landlord and the HACR. The family must provide a letter from their landlord when entering this program. The letter must certify that the family has paid rent on time for the past 12 months, is current with rent and has kept the rental unit in good repair (ie: no damage beyond normal wear and tear).
- g. The head of household, spouse and/or other adult member(s) must be actively participating in the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program for a minimum of twelve (12) months with homeownership as one of the established goals and be able to demonstrate progress in resolving outstanding credit issues.
- h. The family must also:
  - Comply with HUD Family Obligations under the HCV Program. If the HA has mailed out one or more pre-termination appointments within the past 3 years for either failing to provide and/or other program violations, the family will be disqualified from utilizing the homeownership program until such time that this requirement is met;
  - Adhere to the requirements of their lease agreement;
  - Not have outstanding debts to the landlord or to any utility company;
  - Report all Household Income;
  - Pass the most recent Housing Quality Standards (HQS) inspection with no tenant-caused failure items.

## **B. Eligible Units**

HCV Homeownership assistance may be used to purchase units within the jurisdiction of the HACR that are under construction or already existing at the time the family is approved for homeownership. The family unit size will be determined as it is for the Housing Choice Voucher rental program.

### **1. Unit types**

- a. One unit property (single family residence).
- b. A single dwelling unit in a cooperative, condominium or planned use development.
- c. A manufactured home with a permanent foundation, if the family has the right to occupy the same site for a period of at least forty (40) years.
- d. The unit must be seller occupied or vacant for at least ninety (90) days; an exception is where the tenants are purchasing the unit in which they have been residing.
- e. The unit must pass HQS.

Depending on the unit size selected by the family, the HACR may approve the purchase of a unit up to one bedroom size larger than the authorized payment standard the family qualifies for and the unit must be deemed affordable (the family's portion cannot be higher than (50% of gross income).

### **2. HCV Housing Quality Standards**

The unit must be inspected by the HACR and satisfy the Housing Quality Standards (HQS) for the HCV Program before HP assistance can begin. The HQS inspection will be completed prior to the independent inspection to prevent the family from the added expense of an inspection in the event the home has major damage or necessary repairs that the Seller will not agree to repair and/or the buyer, made aware of the repairs, no longer wishes to purchase the home.

In the event the subject property receives a public complaint after escrow closes or is visibly in disrepair, the HACR reserves the right to conduct a HQS inspection.

### **3. Independent Inspection**

The unit must be inspected by a certified independent inspector designated and paid by the family, and pre-approved by the HACR. The inspector must be a member of the California Real Estate Inspectors Association, the American Society of Home Inspectors, or the International Conference of Building Officials. This inspection must cover, at a minimum, all major building systems and components including:

- Foundation and structure
- Housing interior and exterior
- Roofing
- Plumbing
- Electrical systems
- Heating systems

The HACR must receive and approve a copy of the inspection report before HP assistance will commence. The HACR may disapprove a unit for assistance under HP because of information obtained through the inspection report, even if the unit passes the HQS inspection. If the HACR or 3<sup>rd</sup> party (such as an entity providing down payment assistance) calls out additional repairs, the buyer will be required to pay a re-inspection fee to the certified inspector who completed the original home inspection.

### **4. Other Requirements for Eligible Units**

The seller of the home may not be on the HUD list of debarred and suspended contractors, or subject to a limited denial of participation under 24 CFR Part 24.

### **C. Homeownership Confirmation Letter**

Once approved for participation in the HCV HP, the family will be issued a confirmation letter subject to the following requirements:

- The family must execute a statement in which the family agrees to comply with all

family obligations under the Homeownership Option.

- **Selection Period:** The family will be given **90 calendar days** to locate a home to purchase. Within two weeks prior to the end of the selection period, if the family has not yet selected a home, the family may submit a written request to the HACR for **one 30 day extension**. The extension request must include the reason for the extension and outline the family's search efforts. The extension request will be reviewed and verified by the HACR and if an extension is granted, the family will receive a revised Confirmation Letter with the new Selection Period expiration date. Any extension granted is at the discretion of the HACR and the availability of funds to provide monthly mortgage assistance.
- After a home is chosen during the 90 day Selection Period, the family will be given **90 calendar days to open and close escrow**. The *opening* of escrow must occur no later than the last day of the Selection Period.
- It is the family's responsibility to find a home that meets the criteria for voucher homeownership assistance.
- The HACR may require families unable to locate a suitable unit during the Selection Period to wait for a minimum of one (1) year to re-apply for HP and is subject to availability of funds to provide monthly mortgage assistance.
- The family must report its progress towards locating and purchasing a unit if requested by the HACR.

If the family is unable to locate an acceptable unit for purchase during the Selection Period, the HACR may, at its discretion, allow the family to remain leased up under the HCV rental voucher.

If the family submits a purchase contract to the HACR that is not approved due to reasons other than the family's lack of compliance, the family may request an extension using the process outlined above in this paragraph under Selection Period.

#### **D. Purchase Agreement**

Prior to execution of the offer to purchase, or the Purchase Agreement, the financing terms must be provided by the family to the HACR for approval.

The Purchase Agreement must include the following:

- Specify the price and other terms of the sale by the seller to the purchaser.
- Provide that the purchaser will arrange for a certified inspection of the unit by an independent certified inspector selected by the purchaser.
- State that the purchaser is not obligated to purchase the unit unless such inspections are satisfactory to both the HACR and purchaser.
- Provide that the purchaser is not obligated to pay for any necessary repairs.
- Provide that the purchaser is not obligated to purchase if the mortgage financing terms, or any other terms, are not approved by the HACR, and

- Contain a seller certification from the HACR that the seller has not been debarred, suspended, or subject to a limited denial of participation in accordance with 24 CFR Part 24.

### **E. Affordability**

The purchase price of the home must be affordable to the family, as determined by the HACR and the Lender. The price shall be considered affordable if the monthly homeownership expenses payable by the family do not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the family's total monthly gross income.

### **F. Financing of Purchase**

The family must allow the HACR to review the terms of the mortgage secured to purchase the property before close of escrow. The HACR may disapprove proposed financing, refinancing or other debt if the HACR determines that the debt is unaffordable to the family or if the HACR determines that the lender or the loan terms do not meet HACR or HUD qualifications. The family must locate and qualify for a mortgage that meets the following requirements:

- a. The mortgage must be determined to be affordable by the HACR. The HACR may take into account expenses such as interest, taxes and insurance when determining affordability. The family's portion of the monthly homeownership expenses may not exceed (50%) of the family's total monthly gross income.
- b. Short-term mortgages with large final "balloon payment" will not be allowed.
- c. Interest only mortgages will not be allowed.
- d. Only fully amortized, fixed rate mortgages will be allowed.
- e. The family may not obtain private first mortgage financing from a family member or any other private source.
- f. The mortgage must be provided, insured, or guaranteed by the State or Federal government and comply with secondary mortgage market underwriting requirements.

### **G. Calculation of Homeownership Assistance Payment**

Calculation of income for the purpose of determining income eligibility for admission to the program and/or determining the family's total tenant payment will be conducted under the guidelines for the HCV rental assistance program except as otherwise noted in this section.

#### **1. Occupancy of Home**

The HAP will only be paid while the family resides in the home. If the family moves out of the home, the HACR will discontinue payment of the HAP commencing with the month after the family moves out.

- a. Amount of monthly homeownership assistance payment. While the family is residing in the home, the HACR shall pay a monthly homeownership assistance payment on behalf of the family that is equal to the lower of the payment standard minus the total tenant payment; or the family's monthly homeownership expenses minus the total tenant payment.
- b. Initial Payment Standard. The initial payment standard for a family is the lower of the payment standard for the family unit size (Voucher size); or the payment standard for the size of the home.
- c. Payment Standard for subsequent reexaminations. Reexaminations (interims and annual reexaminations) will use a Payment Standard that is the greater of the payment standard as determined in accordance with the initial payment standard at the commencement of homeownership assistance; or the Payment Standard in effect at the time of the reexamination as determined using the requirements of Section F(1)(b) of this plan. At no time will the HACR use a Payment Standard less than the initial Payment Standard at the close of escrow.
- d. The HACR will use the same Payment Standard schedule, Payment Standard amounts, and Subsidy Standards for the HP as for the rental voucher program.
- e. Exception rent areas. If the home is located in an exception payment standard area, the HACR must use the appropriate payment standard for the exception payment standard area.
- f. Affordability of housing costs. Total monthly homeownership expenses payable by the family, as defined in (g) below, must be less than (50%) of the family's total gross income.
- g. Homeownership expenses. The HACR will use the following expenses to determine the total homeownership expense for calculation of the HAP:
  - Principal, interest, taxes and insurance (PITI) and mortgage insurance/private mortgage insurance (Mi/PMI), if applicable on initial mortgage debt and any refinancing of such debt,
  - Real estate taxes may not exceed 2%.
  - Utility allowance for the home as determined by the HACR.
- h. If a member of the family is a person with disabilities, such debt may include debt incurred by the family to finance costs needed to make the home accessible for such person, if the HACR has determined that allowance of such costs as homeownership expenses is needed as a reasonable accommodation for the disabled family.

## **2. Planned Unit Developments and Condominiums**

For cooperative members only the following cooperative charges will also be used toward the homeownership expense:

- a. Charges included in the cooperative occupancy agreement including payment for real estate taxes and public assessments on the home;
- b. Cooperative or condominium operating charges or maintenance fees assessed by

the condominium or cooperative homeowner association.

### **3. HAP Payment**

- a. The HACR will pay the HAP according to the terms established in the agreement the HACR and Lender have entered into. If the assistance payment exceeds the amount due to the lender, the excess will be paid directly to the family.
- b. The HACR will provide the lender with notice of the amount of the HAP and amount of the family's portion of the total homeownership expenses prior to close of escrow.
- c. Procedure for termination of homeownership assistance.
  - The family shall be entitled to the same termination notice and informal hearing procedures set forth in this Administrative Plan for participants in the HCV rental assistance program.
- d. Automatic termination of HAP.
  - Homeownership assistance for a family terminates automatically 180 calendar days after the last HAP paid on behalf of the family. The HACR has the discretion to grant relief from this requirement in those cases where automatic termination would result in extreme hardship for the family.

### **4. Income Changes**

- a. Changes in income must be reported in writing within 10 days of the occurrence. Changes will be processed if they are anticipated to continue for sixty (60) or more days and is a monthly increase or decrease of \$100 or more. Once these changes have been verified, the HACR will process an interim to be applied, the first of the following month the change was reported.

### **H. Maximum Term of Homeownership Assistance**

The time limits below apply to all family members having an ownership interest in the unit during the time that homeownership payments are made; and, the spouse of any member of the household who has an ownership interest in the unit during the time that homeownership payment are made. Except in the case of a family that qualifies as an elderly or disabled family, all families, including families that become elderly during the term of the homeownership assistance are subject to the following maximum terms:

- Initial mortgage term of twenty (20) years or longer. The maximum term of homeownership assistance will be fifteen (15) years.
- Initial mortgage term of less than twenty (20) years. The maximum term of homeownership assistance will be ten (10) years.

If, during the course of homeownership assistance, the family ceases to qualify as elderly or disabled, the maximum term as defined in Section G will become applicable from the



date homeownership assistance commenced. The HACR will provide a family at least six (6) months of homeownership assistance after the maximum term becomes applicable provided the family is otherwise eligible to receive homeownership assistance in accordance with 682.634.

The initial maximum term limit applies if the family receives assistance for more than one home purchase, even if received from another housing authority.

## **I. Portability**

The HACR will permit portability of the homeownership assistance (the HACR's portion) to another jurisdiction, provided the receiving jurisdiction operates a similar homeownership program for which the applicant qualifies and for which the receiving PHA is accepting new homeownership families.

### **1. Incoming Portable Families**

- a. May purchase a unit within the jurisdiction of the HACR, provided the HACR is accepting new homeownership families at the time of the purchase.
- b. Must be under HCV rental assistance in Riverside County for the most recent 12 consecutive months prior to application for HCV Homeownership.
- c. Must meet the education, counseling, and all other HP requirements of the HACR.
- d. Must be certified by initiating Housing Authority that the family is in good standing with that HA and Landlord.

The HACR must promptly notify the initial HA if the Family has purchased an eligible unit under the program, or if the family is unable to purchase a home within the maximum time established by the HACR.

### **2. Outgoing Portable Families**

Outgoing portable families need to adhere to the following:

- a. Purchase a unit within the receiving jurisdiction, provided they operate a homeownership program and they are accepting new homeownership families at the time of the purchase.
- b. Must meet the education, counseling, and all other HP requirements of the receiving Housing Authority.
- c. Must be certified by the initiating HACR that the family is in good standing with the Housing Authority and Landlord.
- d. The initiating HACR must promptly notify the HA, if the Family has purchased an eligible unit under the program, or if the family is unable to purchase a home within the maximum time established by the HA.

## **J. Move with Continued Tenant-Based Assistance**

A family receiving HACR homeownership assistance may purchase and move to a new unit with continued voucher homeownership assistance as long as no family member owns any title or other interest in the prior home. A family receiving homeownership assistance may move to a new unit with continued voucher homeownership assistance no more than once every five (5) years and the total of such assistance terms is subject to the maximum term described in this paragraph.

### **1. Purchase of a new unit**

A family receiving homeownership assistance may purchase and move to a new unit with continued assistance, provided that the family fulfills all requirements of the HP at the time of the purchase of the new unit. The following applies to a family purchasing a new unit under the HP:

- a. The family will not be eligible to move with continued assistance for a period of Five (5) years after the initial purchase.
- b. The HACR may, at its discretion, require the family to complete a new housing counseling program or receive additional counseling prior to close of escrow.
- c. The requirement that the family must be a first time homebuyer is not applicable.
- d. The HACR may deny permission to move with continued assistance in the case of lack of funding or if the HACR has denied or terminated assistance to the family under section N below.

### **2. Sale of Original HP Unit and Return to Tenant-Based Rental Assistance**

The HACR may, at its discretion, allow a family to return to tenant-based rental assistance. The following applies to a family returning to tenant-based rental assistance:

- a. The HACR may deny permission to move with continued assistance in the case of lack of funding or if the HACR has denied or terminated assistance to the family as defined under Section K of this plan.
- b. The HACR will not commence continued tenant-based assistance for occupancy of a rental unit so long as any family member owns any title or other interest in the home previously assisted through the HP. In addition, Eighteen (18) months must have passed since the family's receipt of homeownership assistance.

## **K. Denial or Termination of Assistance**

The HACR shall deny or terminate homeownership assistance for the family in accordance with the following:

- Failure to report all household income.
- Failure to comply with Housing Authority County of Riverside HCV Homeownership Program requirements.

- Failure to comply with any HUD Family Obligations.
- Failure to meet the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside's Zero Tolerance Policy
- The family defaults on the mortgage(s).

**L. Recapture**

The HACR will not recapture any Homeownership Voucher payments unless there was an act of fraud or misrepresentation of material facts in order to obtain a benefit. The HCV HP recapture provision does not apply to any other program funds that may be used in the transaction.

**M. Program Size and Waiver or Modification of Homeownership Policies**

The Executive Director (ED) of the HACR, and/or designee shall have the discretion to waive or modify any provision of the Homeownership Program or policies not governed by statute or regulation for good cause or to comply with changes in HUD regulations or directives. The ED and/or designee may limit homeownership assistance to families in accordance of CFR 982.626 (b).

For fiscal year 2011-2012, the HACR has established a homeownership assistance limit of no more than 16 families.

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