



APPLYING FOR HUD HOUSING ASSISTANCE?

**THINK ABOUT THIS...
IS FRAUD WORTH IT?**

Do You Realize...

If you commit fraud to obtain assisted housing from HUD, you could be:

- Evicted from your apartment or house.
- Required to repay all overpaid rental assistance you received.
- Fined up to \$10,000.
- Imprisoned for up to five years.
- Prohibited from receiving future assistance.
- Subject to State and local government penalties.

Do You Know...

You are committing fraud if you sign a form knowing that you provided false or misleading information.

The information you provide on housing assistance application and recertification forms will be checked. The local housing agency, HUD, or the Office of Inspector General will check the income and asset information you provide with other Federal, State, or local governments and with private agencies. Certifying false information is fraud.

So Be Careful!

When you fill out your application and yearly recertification for assisted housing from HUD make sure your answers to the questions are accurate and honest. You must include:

All sources of income and changes in income you or any members of your household receive, such as wages, welfare payments, social security and veterans' benefits, pensions, retirement, etc.

Any money you receive on behalf of your children, such as child support, AFDC payments, social security for children, etc.

Any increase in income, such as wages from a new job or an expected pay raise or bonus.

All assets, such as bank accounts, savings bonds, certificates of deposit, stocks, real estate, etc., that are owned by you or any member of your household.

All income from assets, such as interest from savings and checking accounts, stock dividends, etc.

Any business or asset (your home) that you sold in the last two years at less than full value.

The names of everyone, adults or children, relatives and non-relatives, who are living with you and make up your household.

(Important Notice for Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita Evacuees: HUD's reporting requirements may be temporarily waived or suspended because of your circumstances. Contact the local housing agency before you complete the housing assistance application.)

Ask Questions

If you don't understand something on the application or recertification forms, always ask questions. It's better to be safe than sorry.

Watch Out for Housing Assistance Scams!

- Don't pay money to have someone fill out housing assistance application and recertification forms for you.
- Don't pay money to move up on a waiting list.
- Don't pay for anything that is not covered by your lease.
- Get a receipt for any money you pay.
- Get a written explanation if you are required to pay for anything other than rent (maintenance or utility charges).

Report Fraud

If you know of anyone who provided false information on a HUD housing assistance application or recertification or if anyone tells you to provide false information, report that person to the HUD Office of Inspector General Hotline. You can call the Hotline toll-free Monday through Friday, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time, at 1-800-347-3735. You can fax information to (202) 708-4829 or e-mail it to Hotline@hudoig.gov. You can write the Hotline at:



HUD OIG Hotline, GFI
451 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410

FACT SHEET

For HUD ASSISTED RESIDENTS

Project-Based Section 8

“HOW YOUR RENT IS DETERMINED”

Office of Housing

September 2010

This Fact Sheet is a general guide to inform the Owner/Management Agents (OA) and HUD-assisted residents of the responsibilities and rights regarding income disclosure and verification.

Why Determining Income and Rent Correctly is Important

Department of Housing and Urban Development studies show that many resident families pay incorrect rent. The main causes of this problem are:

- Under-reporting of income by resident families, and
- OAs not granting exclusions and deductions to which resident families are entitled.

OAs and residents all have a responsibility in ensuring that the correct rent is paid.

OAs' Responsibilities:

- Obtain accurate income information
- Verify resident income
- Ensure residents receive the exclusions and deductions to which they are entitled
- Accurately calculate Tenant Rent
- Provide tenants a copy of lease agreement and income and rent determinations Recalculate rent when changes in family composition are reported
- Recalculate rent when resident income decreases
- Recalculate rent when resident income increases by \$200 or more per month
- Recalculate rent every 90 days when resident claims minimum rent hardship exemption
- Provide information on OA policies upon request
- Notify residents of any changes in requirements or practices for reporting income or determining rent

Residents' Responsibilities:

- Provide accurate family composition information
- Report all income
- Keep copies of papers, forms, and receipts which document income and expenses
- Report changes in family composition and income occurring between annual recertifications
- Sign consent forms for income verification
- Follow lease requirements and house rules

Income Determinations

A family's anticipated gross income determines not only eligibility for assistance, but also determines the rent a family will pay and the subsidy required. The anticipated income, subject to exclusions and deductions the family will receive during the next twelve (12) months, is used to determine the family's rent.

What is Annual Income?

$\text{Gross Income} - \text{Income Exclusions} = \text{Annual Income}$

What is Adjusted Income?

$\text{Annual Income} - \text{Deductions} = \text{Adjusted Income}$

Determining Tenant Rent

Project-Based Section 8 Rent Formula:

The rent a family will pay is the **highest** of the following amounts:

- 30% of the family's monthly *adjusted* income
- 10% of the family's monthly income
- Welfare rent or welfare payment from agency to assist family in paying housing costs.

OR

- \$25.00 Minimum Rent

Income and Assets

HUD assisted residents are required to report **all** income from all sources to the Owner or Agent (OA).

Exclusions to income and deductions are part of the tenant rent process.

When determining the amount of income from assets to be included in annual income, the actual income derived from the assets is included except when the cash value of all of the assets is in excess of \$5,000, then the amount included in annual income is the higher of 2% of the total assets or the actual income derived from the assets.

Annual Income Includes:

- Full amount (before payroll deductions) of wages and salaries, overtime pay, commissions, fees, tips and bonuses and other compensation for personal services
- Net income from the operation of a business or profession
- Interest, dividends and other net income of any kind from real or personal property (See Assets Include/Assets Do Not Include below)
- 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 lump-sum amount or prospective monthly amounts for the delayed start of a periodic amount (except for deferred periodic payments of supplemental security income and social security benefits, see Exclusions from Annual Income, below)
- Payments in lieu of earnings, such as unemployment and disability compensation, worker's compensation and severance pay (except for lump-sum additions to

family assets, see Exclusions from Annual Income, below Welfare assistance

- 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
- All regular pay, special pay and allowances of a member of the Armed Forces (except for special pay for exposure to hostile fire)
- For Section 8 programs only, any financial assistance, in excess of amounts received for tuition, that an individual receives under the Higher Education Act of 1965, shall be considered income to that individual, except that financial assistance is not considered annual income for persons over the age of 23 with dependent children or if a student is living with his or her parents who are receiving section 8 assistance. For the purpose of this paragraph, "financial assistance" does not include loan proceeds for the purpose of determining income.

Assets Include:

- Stocks, bonds, Treasury bills, certificates of deposit, money market accounts
- Individual retirement and Keogh accounts
- Retirement and pension funds
- Cash held in savings and checking accounts, safe deposit boxes, homes, etc.
- Cash value of whole life insurance policies available to the individual before death
- Equity in rental property and other capital investments
- Personal property held as an investment
- Lump sum receipts or one-time receipts
- Mortgage or deed of trust held by an applicant
- Assets disposed of for less than fair market value.

Assets Do Not Include:

- Necessary personal property (clothing, furniture, cars, wedding ring, vehicles specially equipped for persons with disabilities)
- Interests in Indian trust land
- Term life insurance policies
- Equity in the cooperative unit in which the family lives
- Assets that are part of an active business
- Assets that are not effectively owned by the applicant

or are held in an individual's name but:

- The assets and any income they earn accrue to the benefit of someone else who is not a member of the household, and
- that other person is responsible for income taxes incurred on income generated by the assets
- Assets that are not accessible to the applicant and provide no income to the applicant (Example: A battered spouse owns a house with her husband. Due to the domestic situation, she receives no income from the asset and cannot convert the asset to cash.)
- Assets disposed of for less than fair market value as a result of:
 - Foreclosure
 - Bankruptcy
 - Divorce or separation agreement if the applicant or resident receives important consideration not necessarily in dollars.

Exclusions from Annual Income:

- Income from the employment of children (including foster children) under the age of 18
- Payment received for the care of foster children or foster adults (usually persons with disabilities, unrelated to the tenant family, who are unable to live alone)
- 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
- Amounts received by the family that are specifically for, or in reimbursement of, the cost of medical expenses for any family member
- Income of a live-in aide
- Subject to the inclusion of income for the Section 8 program for students who are enrolled in an institution of higher education under Annual Income Includes, above, the full amount of student financial assistance either paid directly to the student or to the educational institution
- The special pay to a family member serving in the Armed Forces who is exposed to hostile fire
- Amounts received under training programs funded by HUD
- Amounts received by a person with a disability 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)

- 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
- Resident service stipend (not to exceed \$200 per month)
- Incremental earnings and benefits resulting to any family member from participation in qualifying State or local employment training programs and training of a family member as resident management staff
- Temporary, non-recurring or sporadic income (including gifts)
- Reparation 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
- Earnings in excess of \$480 for each full time student 18 years old or older (excluding head of household, co-head or spouse)
- Adoption assistance payments in excess of \$480 per adopted child
- Deferred periodic payments of supplemental security income and social security benefits that are received in a lump sum amount or in prospective monthly amounts
- 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
- Amounts paid by a State agency to a family with a member who has a developmental disability and is living at home to offset the cost of services and equipment needed to keep the developmentally disabled family member at home

Federally Mandated Exclusions:

- Value of the allotment provided to an eligible household under the Food Stamp Act of 1977
- Payments to Volunteers under the Domestic Volunteer Services Act of 1973
- Payments received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act
- Income derived from certain submarginal land of the US that is held in trust for certain Indian Tribes

- Payments or allowances made under the Department of Health and Human Services' Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- Payments received under programs funded in whole or in part under the Job Training Partnership Act
- Income derived from the disposition of funds to the Grand River Band of Ottawa Indians
- The first \$2000 of per capita shares received from judgment funds awarded by the Indian Claims Commission or the US. 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
- Payments received from programs funded under Title V of the Older Americans Act of 1985
- 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*
- Payments received under the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980
- 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
- Earned income tax credit (EITC) refund payments on or after January 1, 1991
- Payments by the Indian Claims Commission to the Confederated Tribes and Bands of Yakima Indian Nation or the Apache Tribe of Mescalero Reservation
- Allowance, earnings and payments to AmeriCorps participants under the National and Community Service Act of 1990
- Any allowance paid under the provisions of 38U.S.C. 1805 to a child suffering from spina bifida who is the child of a Vietnam veteran
- 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
- Allowances, earnings and payments to individuals participating under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

Deductions:

- \$480 for each dependent including full time students or persons with a disability
- \$400 for any elderly family or disabled family
- Unreimbursed medical expenses of any elderly family or disabled family that total more than 3% of Annual Income
- Unreimbursed reasonable attendant care and auxiliary apparatus expenses for disabled family member(s) to allow family member(s) to work that total more than 3% of Annual Income
- If an elderly family has both unreimbursed medical expenses and disability assistance expenses, the family's 3% of income expenditure is applied only one time.
- Any reasonable child care expenses for children under age 13 necessary to enable a member of the family to be employed or to further his or her education.

Reference Materials

Legislation:

- Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, Public Law 105-276, 112 Stat. 2518 which amended the United States Housing Act of 1937, 42 USC 2437, et seq.

Regulations:

- General HUD Program Requirements; 24 CFR Part 5

Handbook:

- 4350.3, Occupancy Requirements of Subsidized Multifamily Housing Programs

Notices:

"Federally Mandated Exclusions" Notice 66 FR 4669, April 20, 2001

For More Information:

Find out more about HUD's programs on HUD's Internet homepage at <http://www.hud.gov>



RENTAL HOUSING INTEGRITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

EIV & You

ENTERPRISE INCOME VERIFICATION



What YOU Should Know
if You are Applying for or are Receiving
Rental Assistance through the Department of
Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

What is EIV?

EIV is a web-based computer system containing employment and income information on individuals participating in HUD's rental assistance programs. This information assists HUD in making sure "the right benefits go to the right persons".

What income information is in EIV and where does it come from?

The Social Security Administration:

- Social Security (SS) benefits
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits
- Dual Entitlement SS benefits

The Department of Health and Human Services (HSS) National Directory of New Hires (NDNH):

- Wages
- Unemployment compensation
- New Hire (W-4)

What is the information in EIV used for?

The EIV system provides the owner and/or manager of the property where you live with your income information and employment history. This information is used to meet HUD's requirement to independently verify your employment and/or income when you recertify for continued rental assistance. Getting the information from the EIV system is more accurate and less time consuming and costly to the owner or manager than contacting your income source directly for verification.

Property owners and managers are able to use the EIV system to determine if you:

- correctly reported your income

They will also be able to determine if you:

- Used a false social security number
- Failed to report or under reported the income of a spouse or other household member
- Receive rental assistance at another property

Is my consent required to get information about me from EIV?

Yes. When you sign form HUD-9887, Notice and Consent for the Release of Information, and form HUD-9887-A, Applicant's/Tenant's Consent to the Release of Information, you are giving your consent for HUD and the property owner or manager to obtain information about you to verify your employment and/or income and determine your eligibility for HUD rental assistance. Your failure to sign the consent forms may result in the denial of assistance or termination of assisted housing benefits.

Who has access to the EIV information?

Only you and those parties listed on the consent form HUD-9887 that you must sign have access to the information in EIV pertaining to you.

What are my responsibilities?

As a tenant in a HUD assisted property, you must certify that information provided on an application for housing assistance and the form used to certify and recertify your assistance (form HUD-50059) is accurate and honest. This is also described in the *Tenants Rights & Responsibilities* brochure that your property owner or manager is required to give to you every year.



Penalties for providing false information

Providing false information is fraud. Penalties for those who commit fraud could include eviction, repayment of overpaid assistance received, fines up to \$10,000, imprisonment for up to 5 years, prohibition from receiving any future rental assistance and/or state and local government penalties.

Protect yourself, follow HUD reporting requirements

When completing applications and recertifications, you must include all sources of income you or any member of your household receives. Some sources include:

- Income from wages
- Welfare payments
- Unemployment benefits
- Social Security (SS) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits
- Veteran benefits
- Pensions, retirement, etc.
- Income from assets
- Monies received on behalf of a child such as:
 - Child support
 - AFDC payments
 - Social security for children, etc.

If you have any questions on whether money received should be counted as income, ask your property owner or manager.

When changes occur in your household income or family composition,

immediately contact your property owner or manager to determine if this will affect your rental assistance.



Your property owner or manager is required to provide you with a copy of the fact sheet "How Your Rent Is Determined" which includes a listing of what is included or excluded from income.

What if I disagree with the EIV information?

If you do not agree with the employment and/or income information in EIV, you must tell your property owner or manager. Your property owner or manager will contact the income source directly to obtain verification of the employment and/or income you disagree with. Once the property owner or manager receives the information from the income source, you will be notified in writing of the results.

What if I did not report income previously and it is now being reported in EIV?

If the EIV report discloses income from a prior period that you did not report, you have two options: 1) you can agree with the EIV report if it is correct, or 2) you can dispute the report if you believe it is incorrect. The property owner or manager will then conduct a written third party verification with the reporting source of income. If the source confirms this income is accurate, you will be required to repay any overpaid rental assistance as far back as five (5) years and you may be subject to penalties if it is determined that you deliberately tried to conceal your income.

What if the information in EIV is not about me?

EIV has the capability to uncover cases of potential identity theft; someone could be using your social security number. If this is discovered, you must notify the Social Security Administration by calling them toll-free at 1-800-772-1213. Further information on identity theft is available on the Social Security Administration website at: <http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/10064.html>.

Who do I contact if my income or rental assistance is not being calculated correctly?

First, contact your property owner or manager for an explanation.

If you need further assistance, you may contact the contract administrator for the property you live in; and if it is not resolved

to your satisfaction, you may contact HUD. For help locating the HUD office nearest you, which can also provide you contact information for the contract administrator, please call the Multifamily Housing Clearinghouse at: 1-800-685-8470.



Where can I obtain more information on EIV and the income verification process?

Your property owner or manager can provide you with additional information on EIV and the income verification process. They can also refer you to the appropriate contract administrator or your local HUD office for additional information.

If you have access to a computer, you can read more about EIV and the income verification process on HUD's Multifamily EIV homepage at: www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/mfh/rhiip/eiv/eivhome.cfm.



JULY 2009



RESIDENT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES



Secretary of HUD

This brochure does not apply to the Public Housing Program, the Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Program (except for multifamily housing properties insured by HUD), and the Housing Choice Voucher Program (except when a voucher is used in a multifamily housing property with a HUD-insured mortgage).

AS A RESIDENT, YOU HAVE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES THAT HELP MAKE YOUR HUD-ASSISTED HOUSING A BETTER HOME FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

This brochure is being distributed to you because the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which regulates the property in which you live, has provided some form of assistance or subsidy for your apartment. As part of its dedication to maintaining the best possible living environment for all residents, your local HUD office encourages and supports the following:

- Management agents and property owners communicate with residents on any and all issues
- Owners and managers give prompt consideration to all valid resident complaints and resolve them as quickly as possible
- Your right to file complaints with management, owners, or government agencies without retaliation, harassment or intimidation
- Your right to organize and participate in certain decisions regarding the well-being of the property and your home
- Your right to appeal a decision made by the local HUD office to the Office of Asset Management and Portfolio Oversight at HUD Headquarters.

Along with the owner/management agent, you play an important role in making your apartment, the grounds, and other common areas—a better place to live.

This brochure briefly lists some of the most important rights and responsibilities to help you get the most out of your home.



YOUR RIGHTS

As a resident of a HUD-assisted multifamily housing property, you should be aware of your rights.

Rights: Involving Your Apartment

- The right to live in decent, safe, and sanitary housing that is free from environmental hazards including lead-based paint.
- The right to have repairs performed in a timely manner, upon request.
- The right to be given reasonable notice, in writing, of any non-emergency inspection or other entry into your apartment.
- The right to protection from eviction except for specific causes stated in your lease.
- The right to request that your rent be recalculated if your income decreases.
- The right to access your tenant file.

Rights: Involving Resident Organizations

- The right to organize as residents without obstruction, harassment, or retaliation from property owners or management.
- The right to provide leaflets and post materials in common areas informing other residents of their rights and opportunities to involve themselves in their property.
- The right to use appropriate common space or meeting facilities to organize (this may be subject to a reasonable, HUD-approved fee).
- The right to meet without representatives or employees of the owner/management company present.
- The right to be recognized by property owners/management company as having a voice in residential community affairs.

Rights: Involving Nondiscrimination

The right to equal and fair treatment and use of your building's services and facilities, without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, familial status (children under 18), national origin (ethnicity or language), or in some circumstances, age.



YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

As a resident of a HUD-assisted multifamily housing property, you also have certain responsibilities to ensure that your building remains a suitable home for you and your neighbors. By signing your lease, you, the owner and the management company have entered into a legal, enforceable contract. You are responsible for complying with your lease, house rules, and local laws governing your property. If you have any questions about your lease or do not have a copy of it, contact your property management agent or the local HUD office.

Responsibilities: To Your Property Owner or Management Agent

- Complying with the rules and guidelines that govern your lease.
- Paying the correct amount of rent on time each month.
- Providing accurate information to the owner/management agent's company at the certification or recertification interview to determine your total tenant payment, and consenting to the release of information by a third party to allow for verification.
- Reporting changes in the family's income or composition to the owner/management agent's company in a timely manner.

Responsibilities: To the Property and Your Fellow Residents

- Complying with rules and guidelines that govern your lease.
- Conducting yourself in a manner that will not disturb your neighbors.
- Not engaging in criminal activity in your apartment, common areas or grounds.
- Keeping your apartment reasonably clean, with exits and entrances free of debris, clutter or fire hazards and not littering the grounds or common areas.
- Disposing of garbage and waste in the proper manner.
- Maintaining your apartment and common areas in the same general physical condition as when you moved in.
- Reporting any apparent environmental hazards to the management (such as peeling paint, which is a hazard if it is a lead-based paint) and any defects in building systems, fixtures, appliances, or other parts of the apartment, the grounds, or related facilities.



YOUR RIGHT TO BE INVOLVED

In decisions affecting your home

As a resident in HUD-assisted multifamily housing, you play an important role in decisions that affect your community. Different HUD programs provide for specific resident rights. You have the right to know under which HUD program your building is assisted. To find out if your apartment building is covered under any of the following programs, contact your management agent, Section 8 contract administrator, or the HUD office nearest you. If your building was funded under HUD's Rental Assistance Demonstration Program, or HUD's Section 236, 221(d)(3)/BMIR, Rental Assistance, Section 202 Direct Loan or Section 202/811 Capital Advance Programs or is assisted under any applicable project based Section 8 program or Rent Supplement, you have the right to be notified of, or in some instances, to comment on, the following:

- Nonrenewal of a project based Section 8 contract
- An increase in the maximum permissible rent
- Conversion of a project from project-paid utilities to tenant-paid utilities
- A proposed reduction in tenant utility allowance
- Conversion of residential apartments in a multifamily housing property to a nonresidential use or to condominiums, or the transfer of the housing property to a cooperative housing mortgagor corporation or association
- Transfer of the project-based Section 8 contract in your property to one or more buildings at other locations
- Partial release of mortgage security
- Capital improvements that represent a substantial addition to the project
- Prepayment of mortgage (*if prior HUD approval is required before owner can prepay*)
- Any other action, which could ultimately lead to involuntary, temporary or permanent relocation of residents
- If you live in a building that is owned by HUD and is being sold, you have the right to be notified of, and comment on HUD's plans for disposing of the building.



ELIGIBILITY FOR ENHANCED VOUCHERS

If your apartment is assisted under a project-based Section 8 contract that is ending, and if the owner decides not to renew it, the owner is required by law to notify you in writing of that decision at least one year before the contract expires. Under these circumstances, you may be eligible for an Enhanced Voucher (EV), which owners are required to accept and which would give you the Right to Remain in a apartment at your property, provided that you are in compliance with your lease and the property remains rental housing. HUD will select a local Public Housing Agency (PHA) to provide an EV for eligible families who decide to remain at the property and to administer this assistance.

If you decide to remain at your property using an EV, a higher payment standard will be used to determine the amount of Section 8 assistance that is paid on your behalf if the gross rent for the apartment is more than the PHA's payment standard. However, the PHA must determine that the rent that the owner charges for your apartment is reasonable, and you must continue paying at least the amount of rent that you were previously paying.

If you are eligible for an EV, you can instead choose to move out of the property and use the voucher to rent a apartment anywhere in the United States where the owner will accept the voucher and the rents are in an allowable range, subject to approval. If you move out, however, the voucher is no longer "enhanced," and the amount of Section 8 assistance that is paid on your behalf will be based on the PHA's normally applicable payment standard.



ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

For additional help or information, you may contact:

- Your property manager or the management company
- The account executive for your property in HUD's Multifamily Regional Center or Regional Satellite Center
- HUD's National Multifamily Housing Clearinghouse at 1-800-685-8470 to report maintenance or management concerns
- HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at 1-800-669-9777, if you believe you've been discriminated against
- HUD's Office of Inspector General Hot Line at 1-800-347-3735 to report fraud, waste, or mismanagement
- HUD's Housing Counseling Service locator at 1-800-569-4287 for the housing counseling agency in your community
- Your local government tenant/landlord affairs office, legal services office or tenant organizations to obtain information on additional rights under local and state law
- If appealing a local HUD Office decision, you may contact the Director of the Office of Asset Management and Portfolio Oversight in Washington, DC at 202-708-3730

ON-LINE RESOURCES:

- **Housing and Urban Development website:** www.hud.gov
- **The local HUD Field Office:** <http://www.hud.gov/local/index.cfm>.
- **Note: To locate your local field office, select:** Contact My Local Office (under the I Want To section)



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Multifamily Housing Programs
Washington, DC 20410-0000 Official Business
Penalty for Private Use \$300



This brochure about your rights and responsibilities as a resident of HUD assisted multifamily housing is available in 13 alternate languages in addition to English and Braille. To determine if your language is available, please contact HUD's National Multifamily Housing Clearinghouse at 1-800-685-8470 or visit <http://www.hud.gov/offices/fheo/lep.xml>.



**New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
Division of Codes and Standards
Landlord-Tenant Information Service**



PETS IN HOUSING PROJECTS
N.J.S.A. 2A:42-103 through N.J.S.A. 2A:42-113

Printed February 2008

2A:42-103. Definitions

As used in this act:

"Continuing nuisance" means the keeping of a domesticated animal in a manner which interferes with the health, security and comfort of the other residents of a senior citizen housing project, or the keeping of domesticated animals of a number, size, breed or species inappropriate for the type or size of senior citizen housing project or a dwelling unit within that senior citizen housing project.

"Domesticated animal" means a dog, cat, bird, fish or other animal which does not constitute a health or safety hazard.

"Landlord" means, in the case of a senior citizen housing project in which dwelling units are rented or offered for rent under either a written or oral lease, the person or persons who own or purport to own the building, structure or complex of buildings or structures in which those rental dwelling units are situated. In the case of a senior citizen housing project that is organized or operated as a planned real estate development, landlord means the governing board or body of that development.

"Planned real estate development" means any real property situated within the State, whether contiguous or not, which consists of, or will consist of, separately owned areas, irrespective of form, be it lots, parcels, units, or interests, and which are offered or disposed of pursuant to a common promotional plan, and providing for common or shared elements or interests in real property. It shall include, but not be limited to, property subject to the "Condominium Act," P.L.1969, c.257 (C.46:8B-1 et seq.), any form of homeowners' association, any housing cooperative or any community trust or other trust device.

"Senior citizen" means a person 62 years of age or over and shall include a surviving spouse if that surviving spouse is 55 years of age or over.

"Senior citizen housing project" or "project" means any building or structure, and any land appurtenant thereto, having three or more dwelling units, be they rental or owner-occupied,

intended for, and solely occupied by, senior citizens; except that, it shall not include owner-occupied premises having not more than three dwelling units that are rented or offered for rent, or any health care facility as defined in the "Health Care Facilities Planning Act," P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.).

L.1990,c.55,s.1.

2A:42-104. Resident of senior citizen housing project permitted to have domesticated animal

Any senior citizen residing in a senior citizen housing project shall, upon providing written notice to the landlord, be permitted to own, harbor or care for a domesticated animal while a resident of that project.

L.1990,c.55,s.2.

2A:42-105. Arbitrary refusal to renew lease; penalty

a. A landlord shall not arbitrarily refuse to renew a lease for a dwelling unit in a senior citizen housing project to any senior citizen who owns, harbors or cares for a domesticated animal in accordance with the provisions of section 2 of this act, except as provided in section 5 of this act.

Any landlord who so refuses to renew any such lease shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$500 for each offense, recoverable by the senior citizen resident in a civil action in a summary proceeding under "the penalty enforcement law" (N.J.S.2A:58-1 et seq.). The municipal court or the Special Civil Part of the Law Division of the Superior Court of the county in which the senior citizen housing project is located shall have jurisdiction to enforce the penalty.

b. A landlord shall not require any senior citizen who resides in a senior citizen housing project to remove, by sale, donation, gift, or otherwise, any domesticated animal which that senior citizen owns, harbors or cares for in accordance with the provisions of section 2 of this act, except as provided in section 5 of this act.

L.1990,c.55,s.3.

2A:42-106. Landlord immunity

a. A landlord who is in compliance with the provisions of this act shall not be liable to respond in damages in any civil action for injury to persons or property caused by a domesticated animal owned, harbored or cared for by a senior citizen who is in compliance with the provisions of this act.

b. Nothing in this section shall grant the landlord immunity for a willful or wanton act of commission or omission.

L.1990,c.55,s.4.

2A:42-107. Allowable circumstances for refusal to renew lease

Under the following circumstances, a landlord may refuse to renew a senior citizen's lease for a dwelling unit in a senior citizen housing project or may require that a senior citizen remove, by sale, donation, gift, or otherwise, a domesticated animal from a dwelling unit in a senior citizen housing project:

- a. When the existence of a domesticated animal or the senior citizen's refusal to comply with the rules and regulations governing domesticated animals constitutes a violation of federal, State or local building, health or use codes;
- b. When the senior citizen fails to properly care for the domesticated animal;
- c. When the senior citizen fails to properly control the domesticated animal by using a leash, if appropriate, or other necessary safety devices when walking or taking the domesticated animal to or from his dwelling unit or while on the land appurtenant thereto, or fails to take prompt action to remove any animal waste when requested by the landlord; or
- d. When the senior citizen fails to confine the domesticated animal's body waste functions to areas that do not interfere with the ingress and egress of any person to or from the senior citizen housing project, or with the use of common areas in and about the senior citizen housing project by the other residents thereof and their invitees.

L.1990,c.55,s.5.

2A:42-108. Guard dog

The presence of a guard dog used by the landlord shall not constitute a waiver of the provisions of this act.

L.1990,c.55,s.6.

2A:42-109. Rights of handicapped

7. Nothing in this act shall impair the rights of a person with disabilities to own, harbor or care for a domesticated animal, including guide dogs and service dogs, in accordance with the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).

L.1990,c.55,s.7; amended 2003, c.180, s.1.

2A:42-110. Removal of continuing nuisance

Nothing in this act shall limit the legal rights and remedies of a landlord under the lease or the master deed and bylaws, as the case may be, to remove a domesticated animal that constitutes a continuing nuisance to the welfare or property of either the landlord or the other residents of a senior citizen housing project, nor shall it limit the legal rights and remedies of that landlord or other residents.

In any action to remove a domesticated animal or to evict a senior citizen from a senior citizen housing project for violating a lease due to the presence of a domesticated animal that is alleged

to be a continuing nuisance, the plaintiff shall have the burden of proving that the domesticated animal is a continuing nuisance.

L.1990,c.55,s.8.

2A:42-111. Rules, regulations

a. A landlord shall have the right to promulgate reasonable written rules and regulations, in accordance with the provisions of this act, relating to the care and maintenance of domesticated animals by senior citizens, except that a landlord may not require that the domesticated animal be spayed or neutered. All such rules and regulations shall be transmitted, in writing, to the residents of each dwelling unit in the senior citizen housing project and shall be incorporated within each lease upon its subsequent renewal and the master deed and bylaws, as the case may be.

b. A landlord may require that a senior citizen remove from the senior citizen housing project any offspring of his domesticated animal within eight weeks of their birth; except that, the landlord may require their removal at an earlier date if the offspring of that domesticated animal may be so removed without unreasonable danger to their health.

L.1990,c.55,s.9.

2A:42-112. Rights of municipality not limited

Nothing in this act shall limit the rights of a municipality to prohibit, by ordinance, the owning, harboring or keeping of certain species of animals within the municipality.

L.1990,c.55,s.10.

2A:42-113. Definitions; disclosure statements to senior citizen housing residents

2. a. As used in this section:

"Landlord" means, in the case of a senior citizen housing project in which dwelling units are rented or offered for rent, the person or persons who own or purport to own the building, structure or complex of buildings or structures in which those rental dwelling units are situated. In the case of a senior citizen housing project that is organized or operated as a planned real estate development, landlord means the governing board or body of that development.

"Planned real estate development" means any real property situated within the State, whether contiguous or not, which consists of, or will consist of, separately owned areas, irrespective of form, be it lots, parcels, units, or interests, and which are offered or disposed of pursuant to a common promotional plan, and providing for common or shared elements or interests in real property. It shall include, but not be limited to, property subject to the "Condominium Act," P.L.1969, c.257 (C.46:8B-1 et seq.), any form of homeowners' association, any housing cooperative or any community trust or other trust device.

"Senior citizen" means a person 62 years of age or older and shall include a surviving spouse if that surviving spouse is 55 years of age or over.

"Senior citizen housing project" means any building or structure, and any land appurtenant thereto, having three or more dwelling units, be they rental or owner occupied, intended for, and solely occupied by, senior citizens; except that, it shall not include owner-occupied premises having not more than three dwelling units that are rented or offered for rent, or any health care facility as defined in the "Health Care Facilities Planning Act," P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.).

b. Every landlord of a senior citizen housing project, and every landlord of a unit within a senior citizen housing project that is a planned unit development, shall give copies of the statements required by P.L.1974, c.50 (C.46:8-27 et seq.), P.L.1975, c.310 (C.46:8-43 et seq.) and section 1 of this act to each resident at the time of the signing of the lease and any renewal thereof, if the units in the project are rented or offered for rent. If the project is organized or operated as a planned real estate development, the governing board or body shall provide copies of the public offering statement approved by the Department of Community Affairs in accordance with P.L.1969, c.215 (C.45:22A-1 et seq.) or P.L.1977, c.419 (C.45:22A-21 et seq.) and of the current bylaws of the planned real estate development to all residents to whom copies of those documents were not previously issued either by the developer or by the governing board or body.

Upon receipt of the statements or documents, as the case may be, the resident shall sign a form indicating that the landlord delivered the statements or documents as required under the provisions of this section. The owner shall keep the form on file for one year.

The landlord shall post copies of the statements and documents in one or more locations so the statements and documents are prominently displayed and accessible to all the residents of the senior citizen housing project.

c. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as affecting a right guaranteed, or a responsibility imposed, on any person by any other law.

Resources for Help

National Domestic Violence Hotline

Phone: 800-799-7233

Domestic Abuse Services, Inc. Newton NJ

973-579-2386

24 Hour Helpline: 973-875-1211

<http://www.dasi.org/>

DASIs Emergency Safe House provides food, transportation, individual supportive counseling, support groups, services for children, advocacy, legal advocacy including court preparation, court accompaniment, information and referrals. Mothers remain responsible for their children, share cooking and cleaning duties, and may continue to work and attend school or other activities if it is safe to do so. Because this is temporary housing, DASI can help you in your efforts to obtain more permanent housing. Women who are afraid of leaving their homes due to instability and homelessness may want to consider this home.

Services to Victims of Crime

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

vw@scpo.sussex.nj.us

973-383-1570

If you are a victim of domestic violence, call 911 or your local police department for immediate assistance. For information regarding cases being handled at the Family or Superior Court level, please contact the Sussex County

Prosecutor's Office at 973-383-1570 and ask for the Advocate for the Domestic Violence Unit.

Halfway Home For Women- Franklin, NJ

(973) 827-5489

<https://sunrisehouse.com/>

Set amid twenty-two acres in the serene mountains of Sussex County, New Jersey, Sunrise House provides state-of-the-art clinical services for substance abusing adults and their families.

The goal of Sunrise House is to intervene in the progression of chemical abuse and dependency and promote change through individualized treatment. In an atmosphere of compassion and safety, clinical services are designed to provide intensive, ongoing support that helps people meet their life challenges. Our mission reflects the belief that people are our most precious resource. Restoration to health and well-being is a gift to themselves, their families and the community.

Sussex County Shelters and Emergency Housing

Birth Haven, Inc.

P.O. Box 50

Andover, NJ 07821

(201) 579-7979

Resources for Help

Domestic Abuse Services, Inc.

P.O. Box 805

Newton, NJ 07860

(201) 875-1121

Family Promise of Sussex County, Inc.

P.O. Box 154

Newton, N.J. 07860

(973) 579-1180

Samaritan Inn, Inc.

103 Route 23

Hamburg, NJ 07419

(201) 827-8911

Project Self-Sufficiency

<https://www.projectsselfsufficiency.org/>

127 Mill Street, Newton, NJ 07860

973-940-3500 or 844-807-3500

Market Street Mission – Sussex County

Overnight shelter for men

Daily meals and showers

Clothing

Thrift Store Vouchers

Access to group counseling meetings & long-term recovery care

If you need services in Sussex County, please call (973) 538-5854 or walk in to 274 Spring Street, Newton, NJ 07860.

Domestic Violence Representation Project:

**Sussex County Offices Legal Services of
Northwest Jersey**

7.41 miles away - Get Directions

18 Church Street

Suite 120

Newton, NJ 08818

Phone: 973-383-7400

**CERTIFICATION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE,
SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING**

Confidentiality Note: Any personal information you share in this form will be maintained by your covered housing provider according to the confidentiality provisions below.

Purpose of Form: If you are a tenant of or applicant for housing assisted under a covered housing program, or if you are applying for or receiving transitional housing or rental assistance under a covered housing program, and ask for protection under the Violence Against Women Act ("VAWA"), you may use this form to comply with a covered housing provider's request for written documentation of your status as a "victim". This form is accompanied by a "Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act," Form HUD-5380.

VAWA protects individuals and families regardless of a victim's age, sex, or marital status.

You are not expected **and cannot be asked or required** to claim, document, or prove victim status or VAWA violence/abuse other than as stated in "Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act," Form HUD-5380.

This form is **one of your available options** for responding to a covered housing provider's written request for documentation of victim status or the incident(s) of VAWA violence/abuse. If you choose, you may submit one of the types of third-party documentation described in Form HUD-5380, in the section titled, "What do I need to document that I am a victim?". Your covered housing provider must give you at least 14 business days (weekends and holidays do not count) to respond to their written request for this documentation.

Will my information be kept confidential? Whenever you ask for or about VAWA protections, your covered housing provider must keep any information you provide about the VAWA violence/abuse or the fact you (or a household member) are a victim, including the information on this form, strictly confidential. This information should be securely and separately kept from your other tenant files. This information can only be accessed by an employee/agent of your covered housing provider if (1) access is required for a specific reason, (2) your covered housing provider explicitly authorizes that person's access for that reason, **and** (3) the authorization complies with applicable law. This information will not be given to anyone else or put in a database shared with anyone else, unless your covered housing provider (1) gets your written permission to do so for a limited time, (2) is required to do so as part of an eviction or termination hearing, **or** (3) is required to do so by law.

In addition, your covered housing provider must keep your address strictly confidential to ensure that it is not disclosed to a person who committed or threatened to commit VAWA violence/abuse against you (or a household member).

What if I require this information in a language other than English? To read this in Spanish or another language, please contact Knoll Heights Village 39 Trapasso Drive Sparta, NJ 07871 973-729-4311
or go to

. You can read translated VAWA forms at https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/administration/hudclips/forms/hud5a#4. If you speak or read in a language other than English, your covered housing provider must give you language assistance regarding your VAWA protections (for example, oral interpretation and/or written translation).

Can I request a reasonable accommodation? If you have a disability, your covered housing provider must provide reasonable accommodations to rules, policies, practices, or services that may be necessary to allow you to equally benefit from VAWA protections (for example, giving you more time to submit documents or assistance with filling out forms). You may request a reasonable accommodation at any time, even for the first time during an eviction. If a provider is denying a specific reasonable accommodation because it is not reasonable, your covered housing provider must first engage in the interactive process with you to identify possible alternative accommodations. Your covered housing provider must also ensure effective communication with individuals with disabilities.

Need further help? For additional information on VAWA and to find help in your area, visit <https://www.hud.gov/vawa>. To speak with a housing advocate, contact HUD's Newark Field Office at 973-622-7900

TO BE COMPLETED BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING

1. Name(s) of victim(s): _____

2. Your name (if different from victim's): _____

3. Name(s) of other member(s) of the household: _____

4. Name of the perpetrator (if known and can be safely disclosed): _____

5. What is the safest and most secure way to contact you? (You may choose more than one.)

If any contact information changes or is no longer a safe contact method, notify your covered housing provider.

☐ Phone Phone Number: _____

Safe to receive a voicemail: ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ E-mail E-mail Address: _____

Safe to receive an email: ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Mail Mailing Address: _____

Safe to receive mail from your housing provider: ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Other Please List: _____

6. Anything else your housing provider should know to safely communicate with you?

Applicable definitions of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking:

Domestic violence includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who lives with or has lived with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction, 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.

Spouse or intimate partner of the victim includes a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim, as determined by the length of the relationship, the type of the relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Dating violence means 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.

Sexual assault means any nonconsensual sexual act proscribed by Federal, tribal, or State law, including when the victim lacks capacity to consent.

Stalking means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

- (1) Fear for the person's individual safety or the safety of others **or**
- (2) Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Certification of Applicant or Tenant: By signing below, I am certifying that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection, and that one or more members of my household is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking as described in the applicable definitions above.

Signature

Date

Public Reporting Burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 20 minutes per response. This includes the time for collecting, reviewing, and reporting. Comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing this burden can be sent to the Reports Management Officer, QDAM, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20410. Housing providers in programs covered by VAWA may request certification that the applicant or tenant is a victim of VAWA violence/abuse. A Federal agency may not collect this information, and you are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget control number.

Protections for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault or Stalking

When should I receive this form? A covered housing provider must provide a copy of the Notice of Occupancy Rights Under The Violence Against Women Act (Form HUD-5380) and the Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking (Form HUD-5382) when you are admitted as a tenant, when you receive an eviction or termination notice and prior to termination of tenancy, or when you are denied as an applicant. A covered housing provider may provide these forms at additional times.

What is the Violence Against Women Act ("VAWA")? This notice describes protections that may apply to you as an applicant or a tenant under a housing program covered by a federal law called the Violence Against Women Act ("VAWA"). VAWA provides housing protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking. VAWA protections must be in leases and other program documents, as applicable. VAWA protections may be raised at any time. You do not need to know the type or name of the program you are participating in or applying to in order to seek VAWA protections.

What if I require this information in a language other than English? To read this information in Spanish or another language, please contact Knoll Heights Village 39 Trapasso Drive Sparta, NJ 07871 973-729-4311
or go to

You can read translated VAWA forms at
https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/administration/hudclips/forms/hud5a#4. If you speak or read in a language other than English, your covered housing provider must give you language assistance regarding your VAWA protections (for example, oral interpretation and/or written translation).

What do the words in this notice mean?

- *VAWA violence/abuse* means one or more incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
- *Victim* means any victim of *VAWA violence/abuse*.
- *Affiliated person* means the tenant's spouse, parent, sibling, or child; or any individual, tenant, or lawful occupant living in the tenant's household; or anyone for whom the tenant acts as parent/guardian.
- *Covered housing program*¹ includes the following HUD programs:
 - Public Housing
 - Tenant-based vouchers (TBV, also known as Housing Choice Vouchers or HCV) and Project-based Vouchers (PBV) Section 8 programs
 - Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA)
 - Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Single Room Occupancy
 - Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly
 - Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities
 - Section 221(d)(3)/(d)(5) Multifamily Rental Housing
 - Section 236 Multifamily Rental Housing
 - Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) program
 - HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) program
 - The Housing Trust Fund
 - Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program
 - Continuum of Care program
 - Rural Housing Stability Assistance program
- *Covered housing provider* means the individual or entity under a covered housing program that is responsible for providing or overseeing the VAWA protection in a specific situation. The covered housing provider may be a public housing agency, project sponsor, housing owner, mortgagor, housing manager, State or local government, public agency, or a nonprofit or for-profit organization as the lessor.

¹ For information about non-HUD covered housing programs under VAWA, see Interagency Statement on the Violence Against Women Act's Housing Provisions at <https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/PA/documents/InteragencyVAWAHousingStmnt092024.pdf>.

What if I am an applicant under a program covered by VAWA? You can't be denied housing, housing assistance, or homeless assistance covered by VAWA just because you (or a household member) are or were a victim or just because of problems you (or a household member) had as a direct result of being or having been a victim. For example, if you have a poor rental or credit history or a criminal record, and that history or record is the direct result of you being a victim of VAWA abuse/violence, that history or record cannot be used as a reason to deny you housing or homeless assistance covered by VAWA.

What if I am a tenant under a program covered by VAWA? You cannot lose housing, housing assistance, or homeless assistance covered by VAWA or be evicted just because you (or a household member) are or were a victim of VAWA violence/abuse. You also cannot lose housing, housing assistance, or homeless assistance covered by VAWA or be evicted just because of problems that you (or a household member) have as a direct result of being or having been a victim. For example, if you are a victim of VAWA abuse/violence that directly results in repeated noise complaints and damage to the property, neither the noise complaints nor property damage can be used as a reason for evicting you from housing covered by VAWA. You also cannot be evicted or removed from housing, housing assistance, or homeless assistance covered by VAWA because of someone else's criminal actions that are directly related to VAWA abuse/violence against you, a household member, or another affiliated person.

How can tenants request an emergency transfer? Victims of VAWA violence/abuse have the right to request an emergency transfer from their current unit to another unit for safety reasons related to the VAWA violence/abuse. An emergency transfer cannot be guaranteed, but you can request an emergency transfer when:

1. You (or a household member) are a victim of VAWA violence/abuse;
2. You expressly request the emergency transfer; **AND**
3. **EITHER**
 - a. you reasonably believe that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence, including trauma, if you (or a household member) stay in the same dwelling unit; **OR**
 - b. if you (or a household member) are a victim of sexual assault, either you reasonably believe that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence, including trauma, if you (or a household member) were to stay in the unit, or the sexual assault occurred on the premises and you request an emergency transfer within 90 days (including holidays and weekend days) of when that assault occurred.

You can request an emergency transfer even if you are not lease compliant, for example if you owe rent. If you request an emergency transfer, your request, the information you provided to make the request, and your new unit's location must be kept strictly confidential by the covered housing provider. The covered housing provider is required to maintain a VAWA emergency transfer plan and make it available to you upon request. To request an emergency transfer or to read the covered housing provider's VAWA emergency transfer plan,

Knoll Heights Village 39 Trapasso Drive Sparta, NJ 07871 973-729-4311

The VAWA emergency transfer plan includes information about what the covered housing provider does to make sure your address and other relevant information are not disclosed to your perpetrator.

Can the perpetrator be evicted or removed from my lease? Depending on your specific situation, your covered housing provider may be able to divide the lease to evict just the perpetrator. This is called "lease bifurcation."

What happens if the lease bifurcation ends up removing the perpetrator who was the only tenant who qualified for the housing or assistance? In this situation, the covered housing provider must provide you and other remaining household members an opportunity to establish eligibility or to find other housing. If you cannot or don't want to establish eligibility, then the covered housing provider must give you a reasonable time to move or establish eligibility for another covered housing program. This amount of time varies, depending on the covered housing program involved. The table below shows the reasonable time provided under each covered housing programs with HUD. Timeframes for covered housing programs operated by other agencies are determined by those agencies.

NOTICE OF OCCUPANCY RIGHTS UNDER
THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT
HUD-5380: Rights for Survivors

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
OMB Approval No. 2577-0286
Expires 1/31/2028

Covered Housing Program(s)	Reasonable Time for Remaining Household Members to Continue to Receive Assistance, Establish Eligibility, or Move.
HOME and Housing Trust Fund, Continuum of Care Program (except for permanent supportive housing), ESG program, Section 221(d)(3) Program, Section 221(d)(5) Program, Rural Housing Stability Assistance Program	Because these programs do not provide housing or assistance based on just one person's status or characteristics, the remaining tenant(s), or family member(s) in the CoC program, can keep receiving assistance or living in the assisted housing as applicable.
Permanent supportive housing funded by the Continuum of Care Program	The remaining household member(s) can receive rental assistance until expiration of the lease that is in effect when the qualifying member is evicted.
Housing Choice Voucher, Project-based Voucher, and Public Housing programs (for Special Purpose Vouchers (e.g., HUD-VASH, FUP, FYI, etc.), see also program specific guidance)	If the person removed was the only tenant who established eligible citizenship/immigration status, the remaining household member(s) must be given 30 calendar days from the date of the lease bifurcation to establish program eligibility or find alternative housing. For HUD-VASH, if the veteran is removed, the remaining family member(s) can keep receiving assistance or living in the assisted housing as applicable. If the veteran was the only tenant who established eligible citizenship/immigration status, the remaining household member(s) must be given 30 calendar days to establish program eligibility or find alternative housing.
Section 202/811 PRAC and SPRAC	The remaining household member(s) must be given 90 calendar days from the date of the lease bifurcation or until the lease expires, whichever is first, to establish program eligibility or find alternative housing.
Section 202/8	The remaining household member(s) must be given 90 calendar days from the date of the lease bifurcation or when the lease expires, whichever is first, to establish program eligibility or find alternative housing. If the person removed was the only tenant who established eligible citizenship/immigration status, the remaining household member(s) must be given 30 calendar days from the date of the lease bifurcation to establish program eligibility or find alternative housing.
Section 236 (including RAP); Project-based Section 8 and Mod Rehab/SRO	The remaining household member(s) must be given 30 calendar days from the date of the lease bifurcation to establish program eligibility or find alternative housing.
HOPWA	The remaining household member(s) must be given no less than 90 calendar days, and not more than one year, from the date of the lease bifurcation to establish program eligibility or find alternative housing. The date is set by the HOPWA Grantee or Project Sponsor.

NOTICE OF OCCUPANCY RIGHTS UNDER
THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT
HUD-5380: Rights for Survivors

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Are there any reasons that I can be evicted or lose assistance? VAWA does not prevent you from being evicted or losing assistance for a lease violation, program violation, or violation of other requirements that are not due to the VAWA violence/abuse committed against you or an affiliated person. However, a covered housing provider cannot be stricter with you than with other tenants, just because you or an affiliated person experienced VAWA abuse/violence. VAWA also will not prevent eviction, termination, or removal if other tenants or housing staff are shown to be in immediate, physical danger that could lead to serious bodily harm or death if you are not evicted or removed from assistance. **But only if no other action can be taken to reduce or eliminate the threat** should a covered housing provider evict you or end your assistance, if the VAWA abuse/violence happens to you or an affiliated person. A covered housing provider must provide a copy of the Notice of Occupancy Rights Under The Violence Against Women Act (Form HUD-5380) and the Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking (Form HUD-5382) when you receive an eviction or termination notice and prior to termination of tenancy.

What do I need to document that I am a victim of VAWA abuse/violence? If you ask for VAWA protection, the covered housing provider may request documentation showing that you (or a household member) are a victim. BUT the covered housing provider must make this request in writing and must give you at least 14 business days (weekends and holidays do not count) to respond, and you are free to choose any one of the following:

1. A self-certification form (for example, Form-HUD 5382), which the covered housing provider must give you along with this notice. Either you can fill out the form or someone else can complete it for you;
2. A statement from a victim/survivor service provider, attorney, mental health professional or medical professional who has helped you address incidents of VAWA violence/abuse. The professional must state "under penalty of perjury" that he/she/they believes that the incidents of VAWA violence/abuse are real and covered by VAWA. Both you and the professional must sign the statement;
3. A police, administrative, or court record (such as a protective order) that shows you (or a household member) were a victim of VAWA violence/abuse; OR
4. If allowed by your covered housing provider, any other statement or evidence provided by you.

It is your choice which documentation to provide and the covered housing provider must accept any one of the above as documentation. The covered housing provider is prohibited from seeking additional documentation of victim status or requiring more than one of these types of documentation, unless the covered housing provider receives conflicting information about the VAWA violence/abuse.

If you do not provide one of these types of documentation by the deadline, the covered housing provider does not have to provide the VAWA protections you requested. If the documentation received by the covered housing provider contains conflicting information about the VAWA violence/abuse, the covered housing provider may require you to provide additional documentation from the list above, but the covered housing provider must give you another 30 calendar days to do so.

Will my information be kept confidential? If you share information with a covered housing provider about why you need VAWA protections, the covered housing provider must keep the information you share strictly confidential. This information should be securely and separately kept from your other tenant files. No one who works for your covered housing provider will have access to this information, unless there is a reason that specifically calls for them to access this information, your covered housing provider explicitly authorizes their access for that reason, and that authorization is consistent with applicable law.

Your information **will not be disclosed** to anyone else or put in a database shared with anyone else, except in the following situations:

1. If you give the covered housing provider written permission to share the information for a limited time;
2. If the covered housing provider needs to use that information in an eviction proceeding or hearing; or
3. If other applicable law requires the covered housing provider to share the information.

NOTICE OF OCCUPANCY RIGHTS UNDER
THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT
HUD-5380: Rights for Survivors

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
OMB Approval No. 2577-0286
Expires 1/31/2028

How do other laws apply? VAWA does not limit the covered housing provider's duty to honor court orders about access to or control of the property, or civil protection orders issued to protect a victim of VAWA abuse/violence.

Additionally, VAWA does not limit the covered housing provider's duty to comply with a court order with respect to the distribution or possession of property among household members during a family break up. The covered housing provider must follow all applicable fair housing and civil rights requirements.

Can I request a reasonable accommodation? If you have a disability, your covered housing provider must provide reasonable accommodations to rules, policies, practices, or services that may be necessary to allow you to equally benefit from VAWA protections (for example, giving you more time to submit documents or assistance with filling out forms). You may request a reasonable accommodation at any time, even for the first time during an eviction. If a provider is denying a specific reasonable accommodation because it is not reasonable, your covered housing provider must first engage in the interactive process with you to identify possible alternative accommodations. To request a reasonable accommodation, please contact Knoll Heights Village 39 Trapasso Drive Sparta, NJ 07871 973-729-4311. Your covered housing provider must also ensure effective communication with individuals with disabilities.

Have your protections under VAWA been denied? If you believe that the covered housing provider has violated these rights, you may seek help by contacting HUD's Newark Field Office at 973-622-7900

. You can also find additional information on filing VAWA complaints at

<https://www.hud.gov/VAWA> and https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/VAWA. To file a VAWA complaint, visit <https://www.hud.gov/fairhousing/fileacomplaint>.

Need further help?

- For additional information on VAWA and to find help in your area, visit <https://www.hud.gov/vawa>.
- To talk with a housing advocate, contact HUD's Newark Field Office at 973-622-7900

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Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to range from 45 to 90 minutes per each covered housing provider's response, depending on the program. This includes time to print and distribute the form. Comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing this burden can be sent to the Reports Management Officer, QDAM, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20410. This notice is required for covered housing programs under section 41411 of VAWA and 24 CFR 5.2003. Covered housing providers must give this notice to applicants and tenants to inform them of the VAWA protections as specified in section 41411(d)(2). This is a model notice, and no information is being collected. A Federal agency may not collect this information, and you are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget control number.