



Berkshire
Housing
Development
Corporation

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OWNER/MANAGER LETTER REGARDING FRAUD

In the Section 8 Housing Program

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has conveyed to us its serious concerns about violations of the Section 8 Housing Program regulations. The HUD office of Inspector General (IG) has recently identified cases of fraud by Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) and their employees, owners/managers and tenants participating in the Section 8 Housing Program.

In order to provide rental assistance to as many needy families as possible, all participants in HUD sponsored programs must help properly utilize Government funds and follow HUD regulations. Incidents of fraud, willful misrepresentation, or intent to deceive, with regard to participation in HUD sponsored programs, are criminal acts. If you are suspected of committing any fraudulent acts, we are required to refer the matter to the proper authority for investigation and appropriate action. This could lead to an investigation of the allegation and could result in your being accused of a federal crime. You could also be terminated from participation in the program.

Some examples of fraud identified in the Inspector General's investigation included:

1. Collecting extra ("side") payments in excess of the family's share of the rent or requiring the family to perform extra ordinary services in lieu of payments;
2. Collecting assistance payments for units not occupied by program participants;
3. Collecting false vacancy loss or damage claims;
4. Bribing PHA employees to certify substandard units as standard and other violations of Housing Quality Standards (HQS), which involve misrepresentation or deceit.

You as well as your tenant must abide by the provisions of the lease and program regulations.

We urge you to report any violations of the Section 8 Housing Program regulations. These violations should be reported immediately. All reports will be treated as confidential.

If you wish to make a report, please contact your Program Representative

In addition to your self, we are providing this letter to all tenants of the Section 8 Housing Program, requesting their assistance and cooperation in working with HUD to prevent fraudulent acts on the programs.

Thank you for your cooperation.

I have received the above information:

Landlord Signature _____

Date _____

Applicant/Participant Signature _____

Date _____