

# S A F E T Y   A N D S E C U R I T Y   P O L I C Y

In accordance with the Department of Housing and Urban Development's requirements under the Management Assessment Subsystem (MASS), the Housing Authority is committed to taking all necessary actions to provide for the safety and well being of families living in public housing.

## ***Purpose of Policy***

1. Free public housing residents from threats to their personal and family safety.
2. Maintain public housing communities that are drug free, crime free and free of gang and gang-like activity.
3. Create an environment where people, especially children, can live, learn and grow up to be productive and responsible citizens.
4. Establish a cooperative relationship with local law enforcement agencies in an effort to make communities safer.
5. Support parents in their efforts to instill the values of hard work, personal responsibility and good citizenship in their families, and,
6. Evict those who violate the rules adopted by the Housing Authority.

## ***Provisions of Policy***

1. In cooperation with local police authorities, adopt and implement procedures to report incidents of crime by PHA staff and residents for all developments. Send notices to all residents and PHA staff advising them of Safety and Security Policy and solicit their assistance in reporting criminal activity to local police agency. Post notice of the Safety and Security Policy with phone number for police department in PHA main office.
2. Local law enforcement agencies will be requested to provide reports of criminal activity taking place on public housing property on a monthly basis.
3. Visitors who engage in criminal activity, inappropriate conduct or activity that threatens the safety and right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises shall be barred from the property in accordance with local law.

4. Develop procedures to track crime and crime-related problems at each development in an effort to improve law enforcement and crime prevention. Maintain a log of all incidents of criminal activity reported to local police as well as incidents of criminal activity reported to the PHA by the police department for each development each fiscal year and maintain documentation for audit purposes.
5. Conduct comprehensive background checks that include screening for criminal activity on all applicants 18 or older in accordance with the PHA's Criminal Records Management Policy. An effort will be made to get criminal records of juveniles. Admission will be denied to applicants who:
  - Have a recent history of criminal activity involving crime to persons or property.
  - Were evicted because of drug-related activity from assisted housing within the last three years unless the applicant has successfully completed a rehabilitation program approved by the PHA.
  - The PHA has reason to believe is illegally using a controlled substance or engages in any drug-related activity on or off PHA property, or
  - The PHA has reason to believe is abusing alcohol, which interferes with the health, safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents.
6. Maintain documentation for each fiscal year that reflects current screening procedures resulting in successfully denying admission to applicants who meet the above criteria.
7. Maintain documentation for each fiscal year that supports violations of the Safety and Security Policy resulting in the eviction of residents.
8. The Housing Authority will implement plans for prevention and crime reduction programs as funds are made available.





