

Heritage Towers

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Smoke Free Building

1 January 2017

Effective January 1, 2017 Heritage Towers is a smoke free building and the smoke free policy is adopted in to the **House Rules which is an attachment to the lease**. Heritage Towers Board of Directors, the building owners, have put this policy into place to provide a smoke free environment making Heritage Towers environment a healthy place for all who live, visit and work here.

Currently there are no laws, Federal, State of Wyoming or local laws that protect smokers. HUD encourages all properties where HUD holds housing contracts and financing with to implement smoke free building policies. HUD may at a future time implement by law a ban on smoking at HUD funded properties.

There are two exterior smoking areas that resident will be allowed to smoke. Residents who smoke in unauthorized areas and in their apartment will be sited with lease violations and after three violations for smoking in unauthorized areas will have their lease terminated in accordance with HUD regulations.

Smoking in apartments and in common areas is a **serious violation of the lease**. If you feel you cannot adhere to the Smoking Policy you may wish to reconsider moving into Heritage Towers.

Please do not hesitate to ask Questions about the Heritage Towers Smoking Policy of a smoke free building.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Ken Humphrey", is written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth R Humphrey
Project Administrator



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?

Gross Income – Income Exclusions = Annual Income

What is Adjusted Income?

Annual Income – Deductions = 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>

Heritage Towers

Notice of Occupancy Rights under the Violence Against Women Act¹

To all Tenants and Applicants

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) provides protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. VAWA protections are not only available to women, but are available equally to all individuals regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.² The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the Federal agency that oversees that **Heritage Towers a HUD 202/8 Project** is in compliance with VAWA. This notice explains your rights under VAWA. A HUD-approved certification form is attached to this notice. You can fill out this form to show that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and that you wish to use your rights under VAWA.”

Protections for Applicants

If you otherwise qualify for assistance under **HUD 202/8 Project** you cannot be denied admission or denied assistance because you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

¹ Despite the name of this law, VAWA protection is available regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

² Housing providers cannot discriminate on the basis of any protected characteristic, including race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability, or age. HUD-assisted and HUD-insured housing must be made available to all otherwise eligible individuals regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

Protections for Tenants

If you are receiving assistance under **HUD 202/8 Project**, you may not be denied assistance, terminated from participation, or be evicted from your rental housing because you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Also, if you or an affiliated individual of yours is or has been the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking by a member of your household or any guest, you may not be denied rental assistance or occupancy rights under **HUD 202/8 Project** solely on the basis of criminal activity directly relating to that domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Affiliated individual means your spouse, parent, brother, sister, or child, or a person to whom you stand in the place of a parent or guardian (for example, the affiliated individual is in your care, custody, or control); or any individual, tenant, or lawful occupant living in your household.

Removing the Abuser or Perpetrator from the Household

HP may divide (bifurcate) your lease in order to evict the individual or terminate the assistance of the individual who has engaged in criminal activity (the abuser or perpetrator) directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

If HP chooses to remove the abuser or perpetrator, HP may not take away the rights of eligible tenants to the unit or otherwise punish the remaining tenants. If the evicted abuser or perpetrator was the sole tenant to have established eligibility for assistance under the program, HP must allow the tenant who is or has been a victim and other household members to remain in the unit for a period of time, in order to establish eligibility under the program or under another HUD housing program covered by VAWA, or, find alternative housing.

In removing the abuser or perpetrator from the household, HP must follow Federal, State, and local eviction procedures. In order to divide a lease, HP may, but is not required to, ask you for documentation or certification of the incidences of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Moving to Another Unit

Upon your request, HP may permit you to move to another unit, subject to the availability of other units, and still keep your assistance. In order to approve a request, HP may ask you to provide documentation that you are requesting to move because of an incidence of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. If the request is a request for emergency transfer, the housing provider may ask you to submit a written request or fill out a form where you certify that you meet the criteria for an emergency transfer under VAWA. The criteria are:

- (1) You are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.** If your housing provider does not already have documentation that you are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, your housing provider may ask you for such documentation, as described in the documentation section below.
- (2) You expressly request the emergency transfer.** Your housing provider may choose to require that you submit a form, or may accept another written or oral request.
- (3) You reasonably believe you are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if you remain in your current unit.** This means you have a reason to fear that if you do not receive a transfer you would suffer violence in the very near future.

OR

You are a victim of sexual assault and the assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period before you request a transfer. If you are a victim of sexual assault, then in addition to qualifying for an emergency transfer because you reasonably believe you are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if you remain in your unit, you may qualify for an emergency transfer if the sexual assault occurred on the premises of the property from which you are seeking your transfer, and that assault happened within the 90-calendar-day period before you expressly request the transfer.

HP will keep confidential requests for emergency transfers by victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and the location of any move by such victims and their families.

HP's emergency transfer plan provides further information on emergency transfers, and HP must make a copy of its emergency transfer plan available to you if you ask to see it.

Documenting You Are or Have Been a Victim of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault or Stalking

HP can, but is not required to, ask you to provide documentation to "certify" that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Such request from HP must be in writing, and HP must give you at least 14 business days (Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays do not count) from the day you receive the request to provide the documentation. HP may, but does not have to, extend the deadline for the submission of documentation upon your request.

You can provide one of the following to HP as documentation. It is your choice which of the following to submit if HP asks you to provide documentation that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

- A complete HUD-approved certification form given to you by HP with this notice, that documents an incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. The form will ask for your name, the date, time, and location of the incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and a description of the incident. The certification form provides for including the name of the abuser or perpetrator if the name of the abuser or perpetrator is known and is safe to provide.
- A record of a Federal, State, tribal, territorial, or local law enforcement agency, court, or administrative agency that documents the incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Examples of such records include police reports, protective orders, and restraining orders, among others.
- A statement, which you must sign, along with the signature of an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, a medical professional or a mental health professional (collectively, “professional”) from whom you sought assistance in addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or the effects of abuse, and with the professional selected by you attesting under penalty of perjury that he or she believes that the incident or incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking are grounds for protection.
- Any other statement or evidence that HP has agreed to accept.

If you fail or refuse to provide one of these documents within the 14 business days, HP does not have to provide you with the protections contained in this notice.

If HP receives conflicting evidence that an incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking has been committed (such as certification forms from two or more members of a household each claiming to be a victim and naming one or more of the other petitioning household members as the abuser or perpetrator), HP has the right to request that you provide third-party documentation within thirty 30 calendar days in order to resolve the conflict. If you fail or refuse to provide third-party documentation where there is conflicting evidence, HP does not have to provide you with the protections contained in this notice.

Confidentiality

HP must keep confidential any information you provide related to the exercise of your rights under VAWA, including the fact that you are exercising your rights under VAWA.

HP must not allow any individual administering assistance or other services on behalf of HP (for example, employees and contractors) to have access to confidential information unless for reasons that specifically call for these individuals to have access to this information under applicable Federal, State, or local law.

HP must not enter your information into any shared database or disclose your information to any other entity or individual. HP, however, may disclose the information provided if:

- You give written permission to HP to release the information on a time limited basis.
- HP needs to use the information in an eviction or termination proceeding, such as to evict your abuser or perpetrator or terminate your abuser or perpetrator from assistance under this program.
- A law requires HP or your landlord to release the information.

VAWA does not limit HP's duty to honor court orders about access to or control of the property. This includes orders issued to protect a victim and orders dividing property among household members in cases where a family breaks up.

Reasons a Tenant Eligible for Occupancy Rights under VAWA May Be Evicted or Assistance May Be Terminated

You can be evicted and your assistance can be terminated for serious or repeated lease violations that are not related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking committed against you. However, HP cannot hold tenants who have been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to a more demanding set of rules than it applies to tenants who have not been victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

The protections described in this notice might not apply, and you could be evicted and your assistance terminated, if HP can demonstrate that not evicting you or terminating your assistance would present a real physical danger that:

- 1) Would occur within an immediate time frame, and
- 2) Could result in death or serious bodily harm to other tenants or those who work on the property.

If HP can demonstrate the above, HP should only terminate your assistance or evict you if there are no other actions that could be taken to reduce or eliminate the threat.

Other Laws

VAWA does not replace any Federal, State, or local law that provides greater protection for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. You may be entitled to

additional housing protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking under other Federal laws, as well as under State and local laws.

Non-Compliance with The Requirements of This Notice

You may report a covered housing provider's violations of these rights and seek additional assistance, if needed, by contacting or filing a complaint with **Cheyenne Housing Authority PBCA at 3304 Sheridan St. – Cheyenne, WY 82009** or at Toll Free 1-866-628-7222 and ask for **Project Based Contract Administration** or **Denver HUD office at 1-303- 672-5440**

For Additional Information

You may view a copy of HUD's final VAWA rule at

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/11/16/2016-25888/violence-against-women-reauthorization-act-of-2013-im>, HP must make a copy of HUD's VAWA regulations available to you if you ask to see them.

For questions regarding VAWA, please contact **Heritage Towers Management Office at 307-674-8825** or towers@fiberpipe.net.

For help regarding an abusive relationship, you may call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 or, for persons with hearing impairments, 1-800-787-3224 (TTY). You may also contact **Advocacy & Resource Center 136 Coffeen Ave – Sheridan, WY 82801 307-672-7471**

For tenants who are or have been victims of stalking seeking help may visit the National Center for Victims of Crime's Stalking Resource Center at <https://www.victimsofcrime.org/our-programs/stalking-resource-center>.

For help regarding sexual assault, you may contact **Advocacy & Resource Center 136 Coffeen Ave – Sheridan, WY 82801 – 307-672-7471** Victims of stalking seeking help may contact **Advocacy & Resource Center 136 Coffeen Ave – Sheridan, WY 82801 – 307-672-7471**

Attachment: Certification form HUD-5382

**CERTIFICATION OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE,
DATING VIOLENCE,
SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING,
AND ALTERNATE DOCUMENTATION**

**U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development**

OMB Approval No. 2577-0286
Exp. 06/30/2017

Purpose of Form: The Violence Against Women Act (“VAWA”) protects applicants, tenants, and program participants in certain HUD programs from being evicted, denied housing assistance, or terminated from housing assistance based on acts of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against them. Despite the name of this law, VAWA protection is available to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

Use of This Optional Form: If you are seeking VAWA protections from your housing provider, your housing provider may give you a written request that asks you to submit documentation about the incident or incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

In response to this request, you or someone on your behalf may complete this optional form and submit it to your housing provider, or you may submit one of the following types of third-party documentation:

- (1) A document signed by you and an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, or medical professional, or a mental health professional (collectively, “professional”) from whom you have sought assistance relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or the effects of abuse. The document must specify, under penalty of perjury, that the professional believes the incident or incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking occurred and meet the definition of “domestic violence,” “dating violence,” “sexual assault,” or “stalking” in HUD’s regulations at 24 CFR 5.2003.
- (2) A record of a Federal, State, tribal, territorial or local law enforcement agency, court, or administrative agency; or
- (3) At the discretion of the housing provider, a statement or other evidence provided by the applicant or tenant.

Submission of Documentation: The time period to submit documentation is 14 business days from the date that you receive a written request from your housing provider asking that you provide documentation of the occurrence of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Your housing provider may, but is not required to, extend the time period to submit the documentation, if you request an extension of the time period. If the requested information is not received within 14 business days of when you received the request for the documentation, or any extension of the date provided by your housing provider, your housing provider does not need to grant you any of the VAWA protections. Distribution or issuance of this form does not serve as a written request for certification.

Confidentiality: All information provided to your housing provider concerning the incident(s) of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking shall be kept confidential and such details shall not be entered into any shared database. Employees of your housing provider are not to have access to these details unless to grant or deny VAWA protections to you, and such employees may not disclose this information to any other entity or individual, except to the extent that disclosure is: (i) consented to by you in writing in a time-limited release; (ii) required for use in an eviction proceeding or hearing regarding termination of assistance; or (iii) otherwise required by applicable law.

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

1. Date the written request is received by victim: _____

2. Name of victim: _____

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

4. Name(s) of other family member(s) listed on the lease: _____

5. Residence of victim: _____

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

7. Relationship of the accused perpetrator to the victim: _____

8. Date(s) and times(s) of incident(s) (if known): _____

10. Location of incident(s): _____

<p>In your own words, briefly describe the incident(s):</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

This is to certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection, and that the individual named above in Item 2 is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. I acknowledge that submission of false information could jeopardize program eligibility and could be the basis for denial of admission, termination of assistance, or eviction.

Signature _____ Signed on (Date) _____

Public Reporting Burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response. This includes the time for collecting, reviewing, and reporting the data. The information provided is to be used by the housing provider to request certification that the applicant or tenant is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. The information is subject to the confidentiality requirements of VAWA. This 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.