



## **PHA 5-YEAR AND ANNUAL PLAN ELEMENT**

\*New policy and clarifications are highlighted in **yellow** and **underlined**

\*Current policy removed using ~~strikethrough~~

### **Chapter 13**

#### **LEASE TERMINATIONS**

##### **PART III: TERMINATION BY PHA – OTHER AUTHORIZED REASONS**

###### **Firearm Policy**

The HACSB has an important and substantial interest in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its residents, their guests, its employees, and the public at large while on HACSB property. While Public Housing residents have a second amendment right to bear legal firearms in their public housing unit, the HACSB may place reasonable restrictions on these rights for the safety of others.

###### **HACSB Policy**

The HACSB will allow lawful ownership, lawful possession and lawful transportation of firearms, ammunition, weapons and other lawful items and devices for which proper registration and/or permits are provided. Any tenant in lawful possession of a firearm must:

(1) Obtain a “Firearm Safety Certificate” issued by the California Department of Justice (“DOJ”). The “Firearm Safety Certificate” demonstrates basic familiarity with those firearms, including but not limited to, the safe handling and storage of those firearms. Proof of exemption pursuant to California Penal Code section 31700 must be provided if the Firearm Safety Certification was not obtained

(2) Provide a safe storage space, with a lock, for the lawful firearm;

(3) Provide proof of a firearm safety course having occurred within 90 calendar days of having received the firearm safety certificate; and

(4) Not sell the firearm unless conducted through a fully licensed California arms dealer.

The “Firearm Safety Certificate”; proof of safe storage and proof of having completed a firearm safety course are required to be submitted to the property office within 100 days of receipt of the Firearm Safety Certificate. These documents shall be stored in the tenant file.

A resident, guest, employee or any other individual or group do not have the right to possess and/or use firearms in the common area of any public housing development. A resident must make available a copy of any permit required by state, federal, or local law upon request when there is reasonable cause to believe that the law or the firearms policy has been violated.

Residents may not carry a concealed firearm on their person in public unless they have a valid Carry Concealed Weapon (CCW) license. CCW licenses are issued only by a California county sheriff to residents of the county, or the chief of police to residents of the city. California law does not honor or recognize CCW licenses issued outside this state. (Pen. Code sections 25400- 25700, 26150-26225.)

The HACSB has a zero tolerance policy for unlawful weapons and will take strict lease enforcement action against any tenant found in unlawful possession of firearms in accordance with this Chapter.

In the event that a firearm is stolen, the resident who is the legal owner must file a police report and provide a copy of the report, or the incident report number to the HACSB property manager within five (5) calendar days of the theft.

Illegal possession, use or sale of a firearm will result in a 3 day notice to the household. Removal of the party who had the illegal possession, use or sale of the firearm will not terminate eviction proceedings against the household.

## **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA) ACTIVITIES**

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) requires PHAs to describe any goals, objectives, policies, or programs that enable the PHA to serve the needs of child and adult victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

The HACSB supports the goals and objectives of VAWA and will continually assess programs and initiatives to ensure they further its requirements.

The Fair Housing Policies of the Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy (ACOP) and the Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Plan have been updated to reflect compliance with the provisions of VAWA.

The Eligibility Policies of the ACOP and Administrative Plan have been updated to reflect the HACSB policy prohibiting denial of assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking as required by VAWA.

The Transfer Policies and Termination of Assistance Policies of the ACOP and Administrative Plan have been updated to reflect VAWA objectives and requirements.

Information regarding VAWA is given to all public housing residents and Section 8 program beneficiaries. All HACSB residents and beneficiaries are required to sign a lease addendum acknowledging VAWA protections.

The HACSB has a Community Services Department, composed of experienced staff with backgrounds in health, social, and education services, tasked with supporting program beneficiaries with direct case management and referral assistance.

Through the Community Services Department, the HACSB has established partnerships with Interface Children's Services Family Violence Intervention Service, The Partnership for Safe Families & Communities of Ventura County, The Designated Child Abuse Prevention Council, and The Coalition for Family Harmony.

Through these partnerships, an array of direct and educational services are available to staff and residents, including, but not limited to:

- Advocacy, crisis intervention, assessment, safety planning and referrals service.
- Safe Haven Emergency Shelter – 30-day emergency assistance for victims and their children fleeing DV.
- Safe Journey Transitional Shelter – next step for survivors after emergency shelter.
- Rape Crisis Center
- Counseling & Support Groups
- Anger Management Classes – 15 group sessions
- Batterers' Intervention Program – 52 week group intervention program
- Co-custody Parenting – 10 session group program
- Parenting Education – evidence based group program

- Teen Dating Violence – to help teens deal with unhealthy, abusive, or violent relationships
- Family Harmony – 12 week program

Further educational and awareness opportunities available to resident groups and HACSB include,

- Preventing Family Violence
  - Child Sexual Abuse Prevention: “My Body Belongs to Me”
  - Teen Dating Violence Prevention
  - Family Violence Prevention
- Domestic Violence 101
- Effects of Domestic Violence on Children
- Domestic Violence in the Work Place
- Domestic Violence “Red Flag” training to raise awareness and safety levels, and generate referrals to appropriate services
- Adult Protective Services – highlighting the many signs of abuse (physical/sexual/economic/emotional/psychological)
- Understanding the Mandated Reporter process

HACSB’s Community Services Department Manager has also undertaken the following training:

- Domestic Violence Counselor
- Mandated Reporter Training: Preventing Abuse and Protecting Our Families
- Court Approved Mediator Training

Community Services will continue to establish partnerships with service providers in the community to raise awareness, improve access to resources, and prevent domestic violence and other forms of family abuse.

24-HOUR BILINGUAL HOTLINE 1.800.300.2181