



October 3, 2023

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Posts NSPIRE Inspection Checklist

On the [NSPIRE webpage](#), the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) has posted a checklist to conduct HCV/PBV NSPIRE inspections. The checklist, posted as an Excel and PDF format, is an optional tool to help inspectors that use a paper-based checklist in areas without electronic tools or internet connectivity. Click the links below to access each format:

- [NSPIRE Checklist PDF](#) (for printing and manual completion)
- [NSPIRE Checklist PDF](#) (fillable form)
- [NSPIRE Checklist MS Excel tool](#)

According to the website, the Real Estate Assessment Center ([REAC](#)) will issue an NSPIRE software application for voucher programs in the coming months. Agencies that participated in the NSPIRE demonstration may continue using the app they were already using to conduct NSPIRE inspections.

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Publishes 2023 SHOP NOFO

Yesterday on [Grants.gov](#), the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) [published](#) the fiscal year 2023 notice of funding opportunity ([NOFO](#)) for the Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program ([SHOP](#)). The NOFO makes available \$13,500,000 “to facilitate and encourage innovative homeownership opportunities on a national, geographically diverse basis through the provision of self-help homeownership housing programs.” Only national and regional nonprofit organizations and consortia with experience providing self-help homeownership housing programs are eligible to apply. Applicants must propose to use a significant amount of SHOP grant funds in at least two states. The application deadline date is **December 4, 2023**.

DOJ Settles Sexual Harassment Suit against CA Housing Providers

In a [press release](#) last Friday, the Department of Justice ([DOJ](#)) announced that it has secured a \$130,000 agreement resolving allegations that a property manager in Los Angeles, California, violated the [Fair Housing Act](#) by sexually harassing multiple female tenants. The settlement also resolves claims against the owner of the property.

The lawsuit alleged that the property manager sexually harassed female tenants at the rental property he managed since at least 2012. According to the complaint, he offered housing-related benefits in exchange for sexual acts, made unwelcome sexual comments and advances to female tenants, entered the homes of female tenants without their permission and subjected female tenants to unwelcome sexual acts. The lawsuit also names the owner as a defendant.

Under the [consent order](#), subject to approval by the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, the owner will pay \$120,000 to compensate individuals harmed by the harassment and a \$10,000 civil penalty to the United States. In addition, the consent order prohibits the property manager from managing rental housing and requires the owner to retain an independent property manager and to implement nondiscrimination policies and complaint procedures to prevent sexual harassment at the property in the future. The order also requires both defendants to take fair housing training.



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