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GENERAL NEWS

HUD Releases FY 2023 Financial Report

The Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) has released its [fiscal year \(FY\) 2023 agency financial report \(AFR\)](#). The AFR is the first part of HUD’s FY 2023 performance and accountability report. HUD will release the other part, the agency performance report (APR), separately. The FY 2023 AFR features HUD’s financial and performance highlights for the federal fiscal year that ended September 30, 2023. It contains three sections:

- Management’s discussion and analysis
- Financial information
- Other information, including an Office of Inspector General ([OIG](#)) report on top management challenges facing HUD in FY 2024

DOJ Files Sexual Harassment Suit against Maine Landlord

In a [press release](#) last Thursday, the Department of Justice ([DOJ](#)) announced that it has filed a lawsuit against a landlord in Maine, as well as his company, for sexually harassing female tenants and housing applicants in violation of the [Fair Housing Act](#). The landlord has managed residential rental properties in Lewiston, Maine, and other central Maine municipalities since at least 2016.

The [lawsuit](#), filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Maine, alleges that since at least 2016, the landlord subjected female tenants to unwelcome sexual contact and comments about their physical appearances, entered rental units without consent, conditioned a tenant’s rental agreement on a romantic relationship, and offered to forgive unpaid rent in exchange for sex acts. The lawsuit seeks monetary damages to compensate persons harmed by the alleged harassment, civil penalties to vindicate the public interest, and a court order barring future discrimination.

The Fair Housing Act prohibits harassment of tenants and other forms of housing discrimination because of race, sex, color, national origin, disability, religion, and familial status. In October 2017, the DOJ’s Civil Rights Division [announced](#) the [Sexual Harassment in Housing Initiative](#). The initiative specifically seeks to increase the Department’s efforts to protect individuals from harassment by landlords, property managers, maintenance workers, security guards, and other employees and representatives of rental property owners. Since launching the Initiative, the Department has filed 37 lawsuits alleging sexual harassment in housing.



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