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GENERAL NEWS

PIH-REAC Announces Annual FDS Reporting Training

HUD’s Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH)–Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) announced that it will be hosting a two-day FASS-PH financial data schedule (FDS) reporting training. The event, which will be held in person in four locations across the country, is designed for PHA financial analysts, fee accountants, accountants, auditors, and other individuals involved with the FASS-PH FDS submission process. The training will cover the following topics:

- The annual financial reporting requirements, submission process, and related filing timeframes.
- An overview of the different FASS reporting models based on a PHA’s organizational structure.
- Guidance on how to report activities associated with the two major public housing programs (Operating Fund and Capital Fund).
- Guidance on how to report activities associated with the Housing Choice Voucher program on the FDS.
- An overview of the unaudited and audited submission process, including the IPA review process.

For information about dates, time, location, and registration, click [here](#). You’ll find a link to the announcement on the [FASS-PH website](#).

DOJ Files Sexual Harassment Suit against MI Rental Property Owner

In a [press release](#) yesterday, the Department of Justice (DOJ) announced that it has filed a lawsuit against the owner and manager of rental properties in Michigan alleging that he violated the [Fair Housing Act](#) by subjecting actual and prospective female tenants to sexual harassment on multiple occasions since at least 2017.

DOJ’s [complaint](#), filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, alleges that the owner made unwelcome sexual comments and advances and offered actual and prospective female tenants housing-related benefits in exchange for engaging in sex acts with him or sending him sexually explicit images. The complaint also alleges that the owner sent sexually explicit images of himself to prospective female tenants. 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 complaint contains allegations of unlawful conduct, which must be proven in federal court.

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 29 lawsuits alleging sexual harassment in housing and recovered over \$9.8 million for victims of such harassment.



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