U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-8000



Dear Multifamily Housing stakeholders:

On January 29, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued an Order **extending the eviction moratorium to March 31, 2021**. The <u>Order</u> continues to ban evictions for certain renters under Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. § 264) and 42 CFR § 70.2.

As described in the Order, tenants qualifying as a "Covered Person" cannot be evicted for nonpayment of rent when a declaration under the penalty of perjury is provided to their landlord. Residents who previously submitted a declaration should not be asked to resubmit and should have continued protections until March 31, 2021.

Much of the content of the September 4, 2020 <u>original Order</u> has been incorporated into the updated Order. In addition to extending the effective period date, the updated Order also includes newly available modeling projections and observational data from COVID-19 incidence comparisons across states that have implemented and lifted eviction moratoria, which demonstrates the ongoing public health rationale for the extension. The Order now applies to American Samoa because cases of COVID-19 have now been reported there.

The Order does not relieve the tenants' obligation to pay rent, and tenants must continue to comply with terms under the lease. Nothing in the updated Order precludes the landlords from charging or collecting fees, penalties, or interest as a result of the tenants' inability to pay rent on a timely basis. Evictions unrelated to nonpayment of rent can still take place. Any State, local, Tribal, or territorial area with a moratorium on residential evictions that provides the same or greater level of public health protection can supersede the updated CDC Order. To the extent any provision of the Order conflicts with prior Orders, the updated Order is controlling.

Sincerely,

Toby Halliday

Director, Office of Asset Management and Portfolio Oversight Multifamily Housing Programs U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development