

UNITED STATE OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
Washington, D.C.

In the Matter of:

JOY HARRIS,

Respondent.

25-JM-0310-DB-003

November 18, 2025

DEBARRING OFFICIAL'S DETERMINATION

Information and Background

By Notice of Proposed Debarment dated March 6, 2025 ("Notice"), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) notified JOY HARRIS ("Respondent") that HUD proposed to debar the Respondent from future participation in procurement and non-procurement transactions as a participant or principal with HUD and throughout the Executive Branch of the Federal Government for a period of four years from the suspension date of February 26, 2024. The Notice advised the Respondent that this action is in accordance with the procedures set forth at Title 2, Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), Parts 180 and 2424, and was based on a conviction in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, for violation of 18 U.S.C. § 666(a)(1)(B) (Solicitation and Receipt of a Bribe by Agent of Organization Receiving Federal Funds) and 18 U.S.C. § 1951 (Extortion Under Color of Official Right). The Respondent was convicted of extorting and receiving approximately \$28,000 in bribes while acting in their capacity as an assistant superintendent or superintendent employed by New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA). The bribes were extorted and received from contractors seeking no-bid contracts to perform work for NYCHA.

In a letter dated March 24, 2025, the Respondent submitted a Request for Hearing, which included a one-paragraph response to the allegations contained in the Notice. On April 1, 2025, the Debarring Official referred the proposed debarment to the Office of Hearings and Appeals to conduct a hearing and provide a recommendation for decision. The referral was docketed and the matter was scheduled for hearing in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 180.840.

On April 3, 2025, the Court issued a Notice of Hearing and Order, establishing deadlines for HUD to file the Administrative Record, for the Respondent to file an Answer, and for the parties to exchange exhibits and witness lists in this matter. On April 22, 2025, and May 2, 2025, HUD filed documents comprising the Administrative Record. After the Respondent did not file an Answer by the due date of May 4, 2025, HUD filed a Motion to Dismiss asking the Court to remand this matter to the Debarring Official for a final determination. The Court issued an Order to Show Cause, staying the hearing dates and remaining deadlines and ordering the Respondent to show cause by July 11, 2025, why HUD's Motion to Dismiss should not be granted. To date, the Respondent has not provided a response to any of the Court's orders.

DISCUSSION

This matter was before the Tribunal (Office of Hearings and Appeals) pursuant to a referral from the Debarring Official requesting a Recommended Decision regarding HUD's proposed debarment of JOY HARRIS, from procurement and non-procurement transactions. In a Recommended Decision and Order of Remand dated September 11, 2025, under 2 C.F.R. Parts 180 and 2424, among other things, the Administrative Judge found that HUD demonstrated that no genuine issues of material fact exist in this matter. The Respondent, who is Subject to federal Debarment Regulations, was convicted of one count of Bribery and one count of Extortion in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

I have carefully read through the Recommended Decision, especially the facts found by the Administrative Judge, and do not dispute his findings in that regard. The Respondent's response, as stated in the April 1, 2025, message, included that the Respondent's legal representation did not present their "full financials for the year 2015 through 2021 to the courts as evidence within the allotted time," and that she has appealed her criminal conviction.

Federal regulations provide that a conviction of an offense for fraud and theft constitute adequate evidence for purposes of debarment actions. See 2 C.F.R. § 180.800(a)(1) and 2 C.F.R. § 180.800(a)(3). Additionally, the Respondent is not entitled to fact-finding where the proposed debarment is based on a conviction or civil judgment. 2 C.F.R. § 180.830(a)(1). The Respondent here is subject to debarment as she was charged with and was found guilty of bribery and extortion, which alone warrant debarment. The Respondent's appeal of her criminal conviction neither diminishes the severity of the conviction nor overcomes HUD's rationale for excluding her from government transactions. The Respondent has not demonstrated a basis for challenging the established facts in the present proceeding, and the Respondent's conviction is adequate evidence for purposes of the debarment.

Conclusion

Accordingly, based on the administrative record, in particular, the Recommended Decision, I have determined, in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 180.800 and 2 C.F.R. § 180.865 to affirm your Proposed Debarment dated March 6, 2025, for a period of four years from the suspension date of February 26, 2024.

11/18/2025

X Mark G. Borum

Mark G. Borum

Signed by: MARK BORUM

Mark G. Borum, Debarring Official

cc: (via electronic mail)

Respondent:

Joy Harris
[REDACTED]

Government Counsel:

Michelle Jean-Baptiste, Esq.
[REDACTED]