**Request for Waiver of Housing Directive**

**Department of Housing and Urban Development**
Office of Housing
Federal Housing Commissioner

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1. **Field Office**
   - Office of Single Family Program Development
2. **Program and DAS (e.g., multifamily development)**
   - Office of Single Family Housing

3. **Waiver Requested by (person, entity, HUD employee)**
   - Kevin Stevens, Director, Home Mortgage Insurance Division

4. **Waiver Item (directive number, date, page, paragraph, etc.)**
   - Handbook 4000.1 II.A.7.c Relief Sought

   Waiver of the requirement that the inspection required for a property in a Presidentially Declared Major Disaster Area (PDMDA) not be completed until after the close date for the Incident Period as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which will permit Inspections of properties in counties of Butte, Nevada, Orange, and Yuba California, for the California Wildfires (DR-4344) PDMDA to be conducted beginning October 24, 2017.

5. **Yes (skip No. 6)**
   - If previously approved, give Counsel's name and date of approval.

6. **Counsel Determination.**
   - The Waiver Proposal does not conflict with statutory or regulatory provisions (cite rule or provision)

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**Counsel (signature)**

Amy Brown

**Date**

10/24/17

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7. **Employee Justification (attach additional pages if necessary)**

   FHA Single Family requires that all Properties with pending Mortgages or endorsements in Presidentially-Declared Major Disaster Areas (PDMDA) have a damage inspection report that identifies and quantifies any dwelling damage. The damage inspection report must be completed by an FHA Roster Appraiser even if the inspection shows no damage to the Property, and the report must be dated after the Incident Period (as defined by FEMA). At this time, FEMA has designated the incident period for California Wildfires (DR-4344) as ongoing. FEMA defines the Incident Period in 24 CFR 206.32 (f) as: "The time interval during which the disaster-causing incident occurs. No Federal assistance under the Act shall be approved unless the damage or hardship to be alleviated resulted from the disaster-causing incident which took place during the incident period or was in anticipation of that incident. The incident period will be established by FEMA in the FEMA-State Agreement and published in the Federal Register." While FHA insurance is not Federal Assistance under the Stafford Act, FHA's requirements adopt FEMA's definition to ensure properties are not endorsed during the time interval in which disaster causing incidents are ongoing. FHA believes that the situation in Butte, Nevada, Orange, and Yuba counties in CA has stabilized to the extent that further damage to properties appears unlikely despite FEMA not having closed its Incident Period for the PDMDA. As the risk of further property damage subsequent to the effective date of this waiver appears unlikely in Orange and the inability to begin Inspections may be causing harm to consumers seeking to complete FHA insured mortgage transactions in the PDMDA, FHA is waiving this requirement that the incident period be closed by FEMA in order to inspect.

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**Field Office Concurrence**

**Name**
Elissa Saunders

**Title**
Director, Office of Single Family Program Development

**Date**
10/24/2017

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**Comments**

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- Director, Organizational Policy, Planning and Analysis Division, Room 9116, HUD Headquarters, HRO
- Assistant General Counsel, Multifamily Mortgage Division, HUD Headquarters, Room 9230, CAHAA
- Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Single Family Housing, Room 9282, HUD Headquarters, HU
- Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multifamily Housing, Room 6106, HUD Headquarters, HT

Previous versions obsolete