September 3, 2015

Dear Tribal Leader:

I write to you today to announce that, after 13 years serving in the Office of Public & Indian Housing as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Native American Programs (ONAP), Rodger Boyd will retire from federal service on October 2, 2015.

Rodger Boyd and the ONAP team have led HUD’s efforts to expand quality, affordable housing, and to spur community and economic development in Indian Country. During Rodger’s tenure, tribes built, acquired, or rehabilitated approximately 92,000 homes through the Indian Housing Block Grant program, guaranteed home loans for approximately 28,000 families through the Section 184 program, and supported the construction of numerous community facilities and infrastructure projects. Rodger also served as HUD’s representative during the last three negotiated rulemaking sessions.

More recently, under Rodger’s leadership, the ONAP team has been working to: introduce the Tribal HUD-VASH supportive housing demonstration program to assist homeless native veterans; complete the comprehensive study on the housing needs of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians; issue the interagency report to Congress on ways to streamline the federal environmental review process; and provide focus to federal efforts that support Indian youth.

In my short time with HUD, I have seen first-hand his commitment, and the respect that he garners from tribal leaders, housing executives, congressional representatives, and those living and working in Indian Country.

On behalf of the Department, I extend my gratitude to Rodger, and ask that you join me in thanking him for his federal service with HUD.

I will soon announce a temporary appointment to the Deputy Assistant Secretary position to ensure that the momentum and progress continues in ONAP.

Best regards,

Lourdes Castro Ramírez
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Public and Indian Housing