# MORs Preparing for a Comeback

North Tampa Housing Development Corporation

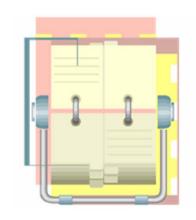
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#### Who Am I

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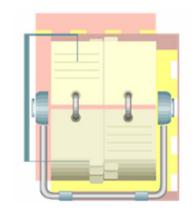
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#### Session Agenda



- MOR Process Overview
- What has Changed in the MOR Process Since the PBCA Last Performed an MOR
- What to do to Prepare for an MOR
- MOR Response Process Overview
- Top 10 Findings



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- The MOR Process Consists of:
  - Scheduling
  - Desk Audit
  - On-site Review
  - MOR Report
  - Owner Response
  - Response Review
  - Notification of Incomplete / Complete Response



## What is an MOR? MOR – Management and Occupancy Review

- The MOR is an on-site review and is one of the integral mechanisms of project monitoring used to ensure that owners/agents comply with Program and Regulatory requirements.
- The primary responsibility of reviewers is to assess management and oversight of multifamily housing projects.



- The MOR also includes:
  - An up-front civil rights monitoring for HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO).
  - Information gathering on State Lifetime Sex Offender Statistics.
- Reviewers conduct the MOR Using form HUD-9834.



- The Form HUD-9834 is formatted to review the following categories:
  - A. General Appearance & Security
  - B. Follow-up and Monitoring of Project Inspections
  - C. Maintenance and Standard Operating Procedures
  - D. Financial Management/Procurement\*
  - E. Leasing and Occupancy
  - F. Tenant/Management Relations
  - G. General Management Practices
    - \* Note: PBCA's do not review category D.



- The Form HUD -9834 also includes:
  - Addendum A used to review tenant files
  - Addendum B used for the up-front civil rights monitoring/review
  - Addendum C –provided to owners/agents prior to the MOR listing documents to have ready for review during the MOR
  - Addendum D used to gather State Lifetime Sex
     Offender Statistics



- MOR Score:
  - Each category and the Overall Score is assigned a rating of:
    - Superior
    - Above Average
    - Satisfactory
    - Below Average
    - Unsatisfactory
  - Each Category is provided with a numerical score based on the assigned rating:
    - Superior 90-100
    - Above Average 80-89
    - Satisfactory 70-79
    - Below Average 60-69
    - Unsatisfactory 0-59



- Each category is weighted when determining the Overall Score:
  - A. General Appearance and Security 10%
  - B. Follow up and Monitoring of Project Inspections 10%
  - C. Maintenance and Standard Operating Procedures 10%
  - D. Financial Management/Procurement 25%
  - E. Leasing and Occupancy 25%
  - F. Tenant/Management Relations 10%
  - G. General Management Practices 10%
- PBCA's <u>do not</u> review category D and <u>do not</u> include it when determining the overall score.



- There is a mathematical equation completed to determine the value of each category's score.
  - Example: General Appearance and Security receives an above average and is assigned a score of 80.
    80 is multiplied by 10% = value of 8
- The values of each individual category are added together and another equation is completed to determine the overall score.



- PBCA conducted MOR's are based off a total weighted percentage of 75% instead of 100% since category D is not reviewed by PBCA.
  - Total of category values is divided by 75%
    - Example
      - A. General Appearance and Security 8
      - B. Follow up and Monitoring of Project Inspections 8
      - C. Maintenance and Standard Operating Procedures 7
      - E. Leasing and Occupancy 20
      - F. Tenant/Management Relations 7
      - G. General Management Practices 7

Total value 57 divided by 75% = 76

Satisfactory Overall Score



# What has Changed in the MOR Process Since the PBCA Last Performed an MOR

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## What is different since the PBCA last conducted an MOR at your property?

- The Form HUD-9834
  - Revised HUD form was released for use on December 4, 2012 and impacts the On-Site Review portion of the MOR process.
    - Includes numerical scoring information.
    - Incorporates items the PBCA was reviewing, but was not included on the HUD-9834 such as EIV.
    - Includes new questions and a new section.



### How do the changes to the HUD-9834 impact the PBCA conducted On-Site Review?

- A. General Appearance and Security
  - No Changes/No Impact
- B. Follow-Up and Monitoring of Project Inspections
  - No Changes/No Impact
- C. Maintenance and Standard Operating Procedures
  - Minor Changes/No Impact
- D. Financial Management/Procurement
  - No Impact on PBCA conducted MOR as PBCA still does not review this section

#### E. Leasing and Occupancy

- Lots of Changes/Medium Impact
  - Incorporates questions and subsections for items reviewers were already required to review.
  - Includes some new questions or more detailed questions on some items already being reviewed.
  - Includes new questions for some items not previously reviewed.



- Added questions regarding Application:
  - Does application ask if any member is subject to a lifetime state sex offender registration program in any state?
  - Does the application ask for a listing of states where the applicant and members have resided?
  - Is the Supplement to Application form included?
- Added more detailed questions regarding Waiting List:
  - Specifically added questions or detail to questions regarding preferences, did selection recognize applicable preferences and when preferences were applied were they properly documented?

- Added instructions to specifically ask for copies of advertisements.
- Added language to lease questions asking if Lease Addendums not issued by HUD have been HUD approved.
- **NEW Question** added, Has owner/agent pursued eviction of termination of assistance for all individuals subject to a lifetime sex offender registration who were erroneously admitted after 6/25/2001?



- 2 New Sections added regarding EIV including EIV documents, EIV security, and EIV reports.
  - Most of the added questions in the EIV sections were already items being reviewed. However, there are some new questions and/or questions that ask for more detail than may have been reviewed in the past:
    - Does the owner/agent terminate access promptly (within 30 days) when user no longer has a valid need for EIV access?
    - Does the owner/agent keep in the tenant file the Tenant Consent for Disclosure of EIV information signed by tenant and 3<sup>rd</sup> party when 3<sup>rd</sup> party assists in recertification process?

- Does the owner/agent have a procedure to report any occurrence of unauthorized EIV access or security breach to the HUD National Help Desk?
- NEW Section and NEW Questions added for TRACS Security Requirements:
  - Is the Owner/Agent Rules of Behavior for TRACS current (within last 12 months) and on file?
  - Is the owner/agent completed annual TRACS Security Training Certificate current, on file and dated within 30 days from the date of the Rules of behavior?
- Added "as well as other files that contain EIV reports" to the files locked and secured in a confidential manner?

• New Question added, Is documentation relating to individual domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, kept in a separate file in a secure location from other tenant files?

File Review Summary Section in E. Leasing and Occupancy (filled in based on the file reviews)

- Multiple Changes/Little to No Impact
  - Incorporates questions for items reviewers were already required to review.
  - Includes some new questions or more detailed questions on some items already being reviewed.



- Added wording "as required in Handbook 4350.3, applicable Notices, and any changes to the CFR" to the question do files contain all required documentation.
- Added questions regarding EIV reports and EIV discrepancy follow up.
- Added questions about signed acknowledgements for specific documents including HUD 9887 Fact Sheet, LPB Disclosure, Resident Rights and Responsibilities Brochure, EIV and You Brochure, and HUD Fact Sheet How Your Rent Is Determined.



#### F. Tenant/Management Relations

No Changes/No Impact

#### G. General Management Practices

Minor Changes/No Impact



#### Addendum A - Tenant File Review Worksheet

- Multiple Changes/Little to No Impact
  - Mostly incorporates questions for items reviewers were already required to look for:
    - Supplement to Application form
    - Acknowledgement for required documents
    - EIV reports and the necessary discrepancy follow up documentation resulting from the various required reports
    - Sex offender screenings in each stated resided



<u>Addendum B</u> – Checklist of On-Site Limited Monitoring and Section 504 review

No Changes/No Impact

Addendum C – Documents to be made available by Owner/Agent

- Some Changes/Some Impact
  - Mostly incorporates documents the reviewer was already asking for such as EIV documents.
  - There may be some documents that were not asked for before, but are now because of the changes/additions to questions on the HUD-9834.

#### Addendum D – State Lifetime Sex Offender Statistics

- New Section/Some Impact
  - Requires the reviewer to gather information on State Lifetime Sex Offenders on the property regarding number of offenders living on-site, when they were admitted, when they became offenders, evictions initiated due to offender status, and number of evictions upheld in court.
  - Some of this information ties in with some of the new questions in Section E, and therefore, may or may not result in a finding.



#### What Else has Changed?

- Change 4 to HUD Handbook 4350.3 released
  - Reissued November 27, 2013 with some updates
    - Ensure you have the most recent version of Change 4
  - Most changes add new regulations into the Handbook that were already in place through the issuance of Notices (SSN, EIV, VAWA...)
  - Some changes are new with Change 4 and do affect items reviewed during MOR's.
    - Ensure changes are implemented and necessary documents are updated accordingly



# What to do to Prepare for an MOR

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#### What to do to Prepare for an MOR

#### Be Informed!



#### Be Proactive!





- What will the reviewer be reviewing?
  - MOR Form HUD-9834 is available on HUDclips at: <a href="http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/hudclips/forms/hud9a.cfm">http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/hudclips/forms/hud9a.cfm</a>
    - Download and Print a copy of the form.
    - Read through the form so you know what will be reviewed.
    - Use the form as a guide when you are doing a self-Audit of a property.
    - Make sure on-site staff review/learn the form so they know what will be reviewed.





#### What guidelines will the reviewer follow?

- Multifamily Asset Management and Project Servicing Handbook 4350.1 Chapter 6 is available on HUDclips at: <a href="http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/hudclips/handbooks/hsg">http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/hudclips/handbooks/hsg</a> h/4350.1/index.cfm
- The Rent and Income Determination Quality Control Monitoring Guide for Multifamily Housing Programs (Guide) is available at:

http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/mfh/rhiip/mfhrhiip.cfm

 Read through the guidance that reviewers are required to follow so you know how and why a reviewer does what they do.

- What new items/documents will the previewer be looking for?
  - HUD has implemented various email systems that you may register for including the <u>RHIIP Listserv</u>. Once registered you will receive emails on upcoming changes as well as current issues. You can sign up for the RHIIP Listserv at: <a href="http://www.hud.gov/subscribe/mailinglist.cfm">http://www.hud.gov/subscribe/mailinglist.cfm</a>
  - You can also sign up for <u>your local HUD field Office</u> emailing list at:

http://www.hud.gov/subscribe/localmailinglist.cfm#fl to receive information issued from your Multifamily HUD field office.

- Check HUDClips periodically available at:
- <a href="http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\_offices/administration/hudclips">http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\_offices/administration/hudclips</a>
  - There is a link to Notices where you can check for new Housing Notices that may affect your program.
  - There is also a See What's New link on the right side that you can click on and it will list all the changes/updates to HUDClips in the last 30 days.

#### **HUDCLIPS Related Links**

See what's New on HUDCLIPS



- Save/Print all listserv notifications that come through.
- Save/Print all relevant Housing Notices posted.
- Read them in a timely manner.
- Incorporate the changes immediately and be sure to follow any implementation guidance provided.
- Ensure site staff is aware of any changes that will need to be implemented at the site level.
- Provide training as needed.
- Follow up to ensure the required changes have been properly incorporated at each site.



- What is the Section 8 program type of the property and what regulations apply?
  - Section 8 NC
  - LMSA and Preservation
  - PDSA
  - 515/8
  - 202/8
  - Substantial Rehab
  - State Agency (HFDA)





- Know the program specific requirements for the property as they vary from program to program.
  - Lease and Lease Requirements
  - Security Deposit
  - Income Limits
  - Preferences
  - Clientele to be Served
  - Definitions
  - Late Fees
  - Pet Rules



- How do you know what program requirements are?
  - HUD Handbook 4350.3 available on HUDClips under Handbooks.
    - Make sure all on-site office staff have the HUD Handbook 4350.3 and know how to use it.
  - Program specific CFR's available on HUDClips under the Code of Federal Regulations link.
    - The HUD Handbook 4350.3 Chapter 1Figure 1-2 lists the applicable CFR for each program type.



- Where are the controlling documents and what do they say?
  - HAP Contract
    - Original and Current
  - Regulatory Agreements
  - Use Agreements

**NOTE:** PBCA's only conduct MOR's to ensure compliance with Section 8 requirements and HAP Contract. When PBCA's conduct an MOR other controlling documents will only be referenced if need be. However, HUD will always look for compliance with these controlling documents so you need to be aware of the requirements of all controlling documents.

# Now you are Informed! Time to be Proactive!



Preparation for an MOR should be ongoing, not just limited to the days and weeks prior to the scheduled date.

However, it is a best management practice to take the time once an MOR has been scheduled to review the property and all required documents to ensure everything is in order, new items have been implemented, and regulations are being complied with; and take any necessary corrective actions prior to the On-Site Review.

- MOR's are scheduled at least 30 days in advance.
  - Begin preparing for your MOR immediately upon scheduling.
    - Make sure you are **informed** of all program requirements and aware of new requirements.
  - A written confirmation will be sent out along with a portion of the Addendum B and the Addendum C at least 15 days prior the to the on-site review date.
    - Upon receipt take the necessary steps to obtain a completely filled out the Addendum B signed by the Owner with original signature.

- Gather all documents/items listed on Addendum C.
  - Ensure you have all documents listed and locate any missing items.
  - Review all documents for compliance with <u>current</u> and <u>NEW</u> regulations.
    - Update and/or implement any documents as needed.
  - Review all policies and procedures for compliance with <u>current and NEW</u> regulations and <u>current and</u> <u>NEW</u> site practices.
    - Update and or implement any documents as needed.

- Review staff practices for compliance with <u>current</u> and <u>NEW</u> regulations and procedures.
  - Provide all needed training/instruction to staff as necessary to correct deficiencies in staff practices.
- Review the physical condition of the site as well as the last REAC inspection.
  - Make all necessary repairs.
- Review last MOR to ensure all corrective actions have been completed/implemented.
  - Ensure all 100% file reviews required have been completed and necessary corrections made.
  - Correct any/all repeat/recurring deficiencies.

- Take the 9834 and do a pre-MOR self audit.
  - Correct any deficiencies found during your self audit.
- If tenant files are not regularly audited for compliance do a 100% file review, if time allows (use the Addendum A as guide). If files are regularly audited, or time will not allow a 100% review, then do a random sample. And follow up with other files as needed.
  - Ensure all required documents are in the files, calculations are correct, necessary documents are signed and dated etc... and make all necessary corrections.

#### On day of MOR be Present and Ready

- Be on-site during the MOR.
- Have all requested documents ready and available for review at the start of the review.
- Pull files and additional documents as requested including obtaining documents/information from the home/corporate office if needed.
- Be available to answer any questions.
- Participate in questionnaire interview and be prepared to discuss or explain any item as needed.
- Be present for and participate in the close out meeting.



The key for preparation for an MOR and continued success and compliance is to remain informed and proactive after the MOR concludes and through out the year/years between MORs. It is an ongoing process that requires periodic review and follow up that should not be limited just to the MOR process.



## MOR Response Process Overview

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#### Response Overview

#### Provide a complete and Timely Response

- Timeframe for responding:
  - 30 days from the date of the MOR report.
- Consequences for not responding on time:
  - HUD is required to flag Owner/Agents that do not provide a response within 30 days.
- Appeal process:
  - Owner/Agent has the right to appeal a below average or unsatisfactory overall score, and it must be received within 30 days from the date of the MOR report.



#### Response Overview

#### How do you provide a complete response?

- Your response needs to include all items asked for in the corrective action for each finding.
- Each finding needs to be addressed whether it has been completed or not. An explanation must be provided along with the progress on each finding that has not been completed.
- Your response needs to include a cover letter and all supporting documentation, summaries, and written certifications requested for each finding.



## Top 10 Findings

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#### Top 10



- 1. EIV reports (both master file reports and tenant file reports) not being printed/maintained as well as documented when required.
- 2. EIV policies and procedures do not include all required items.
- 3. Missing or insufficient verification of one or more factors.
- 4. File not documented when 3<sup>rd</sup> party verification is not used.
- 5. Calculation errors (annual amounts and asset value/income).
- 6. Missing screenings required in the Tenant Selection Plan and/or not screening for criminal or sex offender registration in all states the applicants have resided in.
- 7. Document/Form Errors (missing, not correctly/completely filled in, and/or not current version).
- 8. Waiting list errors (missing information & insufficient comments)
- 9. Not marketing in accordance with the AFHMP.
- 10. Excessive vacancy and/or vacancy lengths.



### Questions???



