



Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Housing Authority Responds to the Section 8 Fraud Arrests

Los Angeles, CA – The Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) today announced the arrest of eight (8) individuals in connection with a scheme to defraud the Section 8 program. The arrests are the result of a joint investigation with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD).

HACLA is committed to providing safe and affordable housing choices to the residents of Los Angeles and enforces zero tolerance policy when dealing with illegal acts. As a public agency, we have the responsibility to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars. HACLA will not spare any efforts to make sure that funds are spent in a responsible manner.

Any individual, participant or employee, will be responsible for their unethical actions. We are pleased that together, with LAPD, we were able to put an end to this illegal practice and stop these eight individuals from further actions.

“HACLA operates in an environment of transparency and ethical behavior. We enforce strong code of ethics and remind everyone that we are here to serve the most vulnerable population. Section 8 vouchers are for those in need and we will continue to be vigilant against any potential misuse of vouchers.” said HACLA President and CEO Doug Guthrie.

The Housing Authority will continue to maintain active communication with LAPD, employees, and ensure that all program participants are eligible and are provided equal housing opportunity under the terms of the program.

HACLA administers the second largest Section 8 Program in the country, with an allocation of 52,241 Housing Choice Vouchers. Recently the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development designated HACLA as a “High” Performer for the fourth consecutive year. This was the first time in the agency’s history that HACLA received a perfect score of “100.”



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, the Housing Authority has implemented a new anti-fraud policy. The policy aims to prevent, detect and prosecute waste, fraud and abuse with the assistance of anonymous tips and fraud referrals. Individuals can visit www.mysafeworkplace.com or call 1-800-461-9330.

The Section 8 program, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), provides housing assistance to extremely low and very low-income individuals, families, senior citizens, and persons with disabilities. Program participants typically pay about thirty percent of the cost of the fair market rent. HACLA, a state chartered public housing agency since 1938, now administers the second largest Section 8 Program in the country with an allocation of 44,462 Housing Choice Vouchers.

