

LAFAYETTE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S VAWA POLICY

PURPOSE: It is the policy of the Lafayette Housing Authority to comply with all aspects of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, as outlined in PIH-2017-08, effective May 19, 2017.

POLICY: As outlined in PIH 2017-8 VAWA protections cover tenants and assisted families as defined under applicable program regulations. VAWA protections cover applicants when they are applying for admission to the Lafayette Housing Authority. These protections are not limited to women.

The Lafayette Housing Authority will not prohibit or deny admission, terminate assistance or evict from housing on the basis or as a direct result of an applicant or tenant being a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, if the applicant or tenant otherwise qualifies for admission, assistance, participation or occupancy.

To trigger the direct result analysis, it is the responsibility of the tenant or applicant to:

1. Inform the LHA that they are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and;
2. Provide enough information for the LHA to make a determination regarding the adverse factor they are claiming was a direct result of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

ACCEPTABLE PROOF: The LHA will require an individual to document their claim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking. The individual may satisfy this request by providing any one of the following documents as described under 24 CFR 5.2007 (B)(1):

- A. Form HUD-5382; or
- B. A document: (1) signed by an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, or medical professional or a mental health professional from whom the victim has sought assistance relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking or the effects of abuse or (2) Signed by the applicant or tenant: and (3) That specifies, under penalty of perjury, that the

professional believes in the occurrence of the incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that is the ground for protection and remedies under the VAWA Final Rules, and that the incident meets the applicable definition of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking or:

- C. A record of a Federal, state, tribal, territorial or local law enforcement agency (may include a police report), court or administrative agency; or
- D. At the discretion of the LHA a statement or other evidence provided by the applicant or tenant.

OTHER: The Lafayette Housing Authority will follow all other rules as outlined in PIH 2017-8 including but not limited to (1) Time to Submit Documentation; (2) ACOP; (3) Lease Requirements; (4) Notice of Occupancy Rights (5) Victim Confidentiality; (6) Emergency Transfers; (7) Family Break-up; (8) Record Keeping and Reporting Requirements; (9) Developing Relationships with Victim Service Providers; and (10) Lease Bifurcation.

A copy of the entire rule, transfer plan, and other documents is available for inspection in the office of the housing authority.