

EVERETT HOUSING AUTHORITY

393 FERRY STREET, EVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS 02149 PHONE (617) 387-6389 FAX (617) 389-4936 TDD (800) 545-1833 Ext. 111 **Board of Commissioners**

Dominic Puleo Chairperson

John Barrett Phillip Colameta Frederick Foresteire Robert Norton

Stephen Kergo Executive Director

Section 8 Administrative Plan Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005

The Everett Housing Authority (EHA) Violence Against Women Act Policy follows:

No applicant for the Section 8 program who is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking shall be denied admission into a program if they are otherwise qualified.

An incident or incidents of actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking will not be construed as a serious or repeated violation of the lease by the victim or threatened victim of that violence, and shall not be good cause for terminating the assistance, tenancy, or occupancy rights of the victim of such violence.

The EHA may terminate the assistance to remove a lawful occupant or tenant who engages in criminal or threatened acts of violence or stalking of family members or others without terminating the assistance to or evicting victimized, lawful occupants.

The EHA shall honor court orders regarding the rights and access or control of the property, and other court orders issued to protect the victim and address the distribution of possession of property among household members where the family "breaks up".

This policy in no way limits the EHA ability to terminate program participation for other good cause not related to the incident or incidents of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking other than the victim may not be subject to a "more demanding standard" than non-victims.

There is no prohibition of the EHA terminating program participation if it "can demonstrate an actual and imminent threat to other tenants or those employed at or providing service to the property if that participant's (victim's) program participation is not terminated."

Any protections provided by law, which give greater protection to the victim, are not superseded by this policy.

The EHA shall require certification by the applicant or participant of their status on such form(s) as the EHA, HUD or DHCD shall prescribe or approve.

Adopted 3/25/2008



