



For Immediate Release

Date: November 8, 2019

Contact: RRHA General Counsel: cory.wolfe@rrha.com

RRHA to Freeze Evictions for Remainder of 2019

Effective immediately, the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RRHA) has implemented an agency-wide freeze on lease enforcement for nonpayment of rent. This freeze impacts each of the public housing developments under RRHA's purview, including Creighton Court, Fairfield Court, Gilpin Court, Hillside Court, Mosby Court and Whitcomb Court. This freeze means that for the remainder of calendar year 2019, no public housing family will be removed from their home for debt owed to RRHA. During this time, residents who are in arrears will not receive late notices and no unlawful detainers will be filed. Pending court cases will be dismissed or postponed, and scheduled evictions will be canceled.

During this time, RRHA will undertake an agency-wide evaluation of our public housing families' rental accounts and give tenants that are in arrears the opportunity to come current. By utilizing a combination of repayment agreements, debt forgiveness, philanthropic contributions, and other eviction diversion methods, RRHA will endeavor to bring every RRHA family with a delinquent rental account as close to good standing as possible.

RRHA strives for the most equitable approach to future lease enforcement. In that spirit, we will also re-evaluate each RRHA policy which affects rent collection during this time. This review will include existing policies for late penalties and excess utility surcharges, as well as other processes and procedures.

RRHA will do our part as an agency to eliminate tenant debt as an obstacle to success during the revitalization of RRHA's public housing communities. This is our commitment to our residents. We would call on those who share our concern for our residents to assist in this effort.

During this period rent and any other lawful charges will continue to accrue where merited. Such amounts, if not addressed, may be subject to legal action when normal lease enforcement resumes. Residents who are in need of assistance and other supportive services should contact the following agency: Housing Opportunities Made Equal, 804-354-0641.

RRHA resident services coordinators are on standby to support in this effort. Please contact Ralph Stuckey at 804-780-4291 and he will direct you to your property's resident services coordinator.

###

The Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RRHA) is the largest housing authority in the Commonwealth of Virginia serving over 10,000 residents and managing nearly 4,000 units through the public housing program. RRHA provides subsidized housing assistance to more than 3,000 families. For more information about RRHA programs and objectives, visit our website at rrha.com. We're Social! Visit us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).