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Policy Prohibiting Weapons In and On Falmouth Housing Authority Properties

Falmouth Housing Authority (“FHA”) takes very seriously the safety of all tenants and visitors to our property. FHA expects that tenants and visitors will not engage in unlawful behavior while on FHA property. This prohibition extends to unlawfully possessing, carrying, or keeping a weapon on FHA property. “Weapon” as used in this policy includes the items described in Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 269, § 10 (see attached description of “weapon” attached as part of this policy).

In the interest of safety and in recognition of the rights afforded individuals by the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the state of Massachusetts, FHA will not enter into a lease agreement with a prospective tenant, and will immediately terminate, without grievance hearing, a lease agreement with an existing tenant, who:

1. Unlawfully possesses or carries a weapon of any kind on or adjacent to FHA’s property; or
2. Unlawfully possesses or uses an explosive or incendiary device on or adjacent to FHA’s property; or
3. Fails to store or keep a firearm, rifle or shotgun in compliance with Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 140, § 131L; or
4. Carries or controls a loaded firearm, while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or marijuana, narcotic drugs, depressants or stimulant substances, or vapors of glue; or
5. Engages in any criminal activity that threatens the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents, property management staff, and individuals residing in the immediate vicinity of FHA.

For the purpose of this policy, “FHA property” includes: all FHA owned buildings and grounds, including parking areas.

The following acknowledgments must be made by all prospective and current adult occupants of a FHA unit:

- A. I, _____, understand, acknowledge, and agree that FHA will not enter into a lease and will immediately terminate a lease agreement for:
 - federally funded housing, and/or
 - state funded housing;for failure to comply with any of items listed above.
- B. I understand, acknowledge, and agree that FHA will place copies of unexpired permits for all weapons in my FHA file. _____
- C. I understand, acknowledge, and agree that FHA will provide a list of units that house weapons to the local police and fire departments. _____
- D. I understand, acknowledge, and agree to notify FHA of any changes of adult occupancy and that such changes may impact not only this policy but other policies and legal documents. _____

Failure of a prospective tenant to sign this acknowledgment will result in the denial of a lease application. Failure of a current tenant to abide by all terms and conditions of the policy will result in termination of the lease.

Everyone can help keep the FHA community safe. If you become aware of a violation of this policy, please report it immediately to the FHA Administrative Office – Executive Director at (508) 548-1977.

Adult Occupant

Adult Occupant

Unit

Date

Should you require additional assistance in understanding the terms and conditions addressed in this form, please contact legal services. The closest office is South Costal Counties Legal Services, Inc. located at 460 West Main Street Hyannis, MA. 02601. Their telephone number is 508-775-7020.