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GENERAL NEWS

HUD Posts Webinar on New Unique Entity Identifier

Recently on its [Funding Opportunities](#) webpage, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) posted a [webinar recording](#) and accompanying [slide deck](#) on the Unique Entity Identifier. As you know, effective **April 2022**, the federal government will stop using the Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number to uniquely identify entities and will begin using a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number created on the System of Award Management ([SAM](#)) website. The UEI number is mandatory for all financial submissions beginning with fiscal year end 3/31/2022.

Current SAM.gov registrants have already been assigned their UEI and can view it at the [SAM website](#). For more information on how to view your UEI, click [here](#). For new users, SAM.gov registration can be completed at the [SAM website](#). PHAs that need more information on obtaining the new UEI can refer to this [guide](#). Additional information about this transition and frequently asked questions can be found [here](#) at gsa.gov.

HUD Charges WI Landlords with Sexual Harassment and Disability Discrimination

In a [press release](#) late yesterday, HUD announced that it has charged the owners and managers of a 19-unit rooming house in Wisconsin with harassment and discrimination against a former male tenant because of his sexual orientation and disability.

The [Fair Housing Act](#) prohibits harassment of tenants and other forms of housing discrimination because of race, sex, color, national origin, disability, religion, and familial status.

HUD's [charge](#) alleges that the property manager's harassing conduct included making unwelcome, sexually aggressive verbal comments, demanding sexual favors, sending unwanted, threatening, and degrading text messages, and using slurs and other demeaning language about the tenant's sexual orientation and disability. The charge also alleges that after the tenant reported the harassment to the local police, the property manager retaliated against him by threatening to terminate his tenancy and later punching him in the groin. Further, the tenant was allegedly forced to vacate his unit as a result of these actions.

HUD's charge will be heard by a United States administrative law judge unless any party elects to have the case heard in federal district court. If the administrative law judge finds after a hearing that discrimination has occurred, the judge may award damages to the complainant for harm caused by the discrimination. The judge may also order injunctive relief and other equitable relief, as well as payment of attorney fees. In addition, the judge may impose civil penalties to vindicate the public interest. If the case is heard in federal court, the judge may also award punitive damages.

PD&R Publishes Housing Market Summary for Fourth Quarter 2021

HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research ([PD&R](#)) has posted its [national housing market summary](#) for the fourth quarter of 2021. Topics addressed in the summary include:

- Housing supply
- Housing demand
- Housing finance and investment
- Homeownership and housing vacancy

According to the introduction:

Overall housing market activity improved in the third quarter of 2021. New construction increased for both single-family and multifamily homes. Housing purchases rose for both new and existing homes, and the inventory of homes for sale rose for new housing but fell to a record low for existing housing. The seasonally adjusted Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) and CoreLogic Case-Shiller repeat-sales house price indices showed annual house price increases decelerated in the fourth quarter.



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