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Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority Acknowledges HUD Correspondence and Reaffirms Commitment to Compliance

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS — The Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority (VIHFA) acknowledges receipt of correspondence from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regarding the reported suspension of certain federal funds administered by the Authority. VIHFA is actively reviewing the correspondence and is committed to working collaboratively with HUD to address any outstanding concerns through the appropriate process.

The Authority recognizes the importance of accountability, transparency, and responsible stewardship of federal resources. While the correspondence references findings from prior years, many of the issues identified have already been the focus of significant corrective actions taken by the Authority in recent years to strengthen internal controls, improve operational procedures, and enhance compliance with federal requirements.

"VIHFA takes its responsibility as a steward of federal housing and community development funds very seriously," said Interim Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer Valdez Shelford. "Over the past recent years, we have implemented substantial corrective measures, strengthened our compliance framework, and remained committed to continuous improvement. We welcome the opportunity to provide HUD with additional documentation of the progress that has been made and to address any remaining concerns."

The Authority has maintained ongoing communication with HUD throughout the corrective action process and will continue to cooperate fully by providing any additional information requested. VIHFA remains confident that its recent efforts and demonstrated progress will be given full consideration as HUD completes its review.

VIHFA also emphasizes that the programs supported through HUD funding provide essential housing, disaster recovery, community development, and economic development assistance to residents throughout the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Authority is committed to minimizing any potential impact on staff, subrecipients, partners, and ongoing projects while the matter is being addressed.

"We understand the concerns this news has generated within our community," Shelford added. "Our priority remains serving the people of the Virgin Islands while ensuring that all programs are administered with integrity, accountability, and in accordance with federal requirements."



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The Authority will continue to engage with local and federal partners, and provide accurate, timely updates to the public as additional information becomes available.

For media inquiries, please contact our Communications Department at 340-777-4432 or email media@vihfa.gov.

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