



HOUSING AUTHORITY of the County of Butte

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December 8, 2017

RE: **HUD'S Final Rule "New Smoke-Free Policy"**
24 CFR Parts 965 and 966
Docket No. FR 5597-F-03 RIN 2577-AC77
No Smoking Lease Addendum

Dear Residents:

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving!

As you are aware HUD has implemented a "smoke-free policy" at all Public Housing properties to go into effect by July 30, 2018.

During the month of October 2017 we sent out an FAQ – The "Smoke Free Policy" and a Resident Survey about smoking and secondhand smoke. Of the 345 Public Housing units we manage a total of 109 surveys were returned or there was a completed response rate of 32%. 73% indicated they prefer living in a non-smoking/non-vaping household or building. Only 12% indicated they actually smoke or vape on a regular basis. Respondents indicated that they are interested in group quit smoking classes provided on-site as well as information regarding nicotine replacement therapy option (e.g., the patch or gum).

The elimination of second hand smoke that can migrate between public housing units can be an important step towards improving the health of residents as well as reducing maintenance costs.

The HACB's plan is to have this "smoke free policy" effective as of **April 1, 2018**. The Housing Authority of the County of Butte will implement the No Smoking Policy and Revision to your Public Housing Lease via a Lease Addendum.

This revision will affect where residents may smoke. The No Smoking Policy and Lease Addendum *prohibits smoking and use of prohibited tobacco products throughout the entire apartment complex*, including but not limited to, all steps, elevators, entrance ways, roof tops, fire escapes, basements, storage areas, parking areas, driveways, walkways, lawns, gardens, adjoining grounds, and building facilities. This policy applies to all residents, guests, visitors, service personnel and employees.



The Housing Authority is an equal opportunity employer and housing provider.





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“Smoking” means inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, or pipe, or any other lighted or heated tobacco or plant product intended for inhalation, including hookahs and marijuana, whether natural or synthetic, in any manner or in any form. “Smoking” also includes the use of an electronic smoking device which creates an aerosol or vapor, in any manner or in any form.

“Electronic Smoking Device” means any product containing or delivering nicotine or any other substance intended for human consumption that can be used by a person in any manner for the purpose of inhaling vapor or aerosol from the product. The term includes any such device, whether manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as an e-cigarette, e-cigar, e-pipe, e-hookah, or vape pen, or under any other product name or descriptor.

We have attached the “HACB No Smoking Lease Addendum” document for your review and to provide you the required sixty (60) day notice prior to implementation which is scheduled for April 1, 2018.

The new policy is intended to promote a healthier, safer and cleaner environment for all residents and guests. Butte County Public Health Department has a specific program (Butte County Tobacco Control Program) which can offer workshops and educational group meetings as well as brochures and other resources.

Although residents are not required to quit smoking as a requirement of the addendum, smoking cessation classes will be offered in the future and the HACB will inform all residents when their cessation classes are available. Cessation resources listed on their website, nobutts.org; <https://www.nobutts.org/county-listing> or call **1-800-NO-BUTTS** (1-800-662-8887) for more information.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to call at (530) 895-4474 X226.

Respectfully,

Larry Guanzon
Deputy Executive Director



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