



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-2000

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

March 4, 2013

Dear Fair Housing Assistance Program Agency,

As you are likely aware, due to the inability of Congress to pass legislation for balanced deficit reduction to avoid sequestration, the President was required by law to issue a sequestration order on March 1 canceling approximately \$85 billion of budgetary resources across the Federal government for the remainder of the Federal fiscal year. You are an important partner with the Department of Housing and Urban Development and we want to provide you with timely and clear information about how these avoidable but now required budget cuts severely affect the Department, our programs, our partners and all the people we serve.

The Department is taking every step to mitigate the effects of these cuts in all cases. In the case of the Fair Housing Assistance Program, our initial analysis suggests that the parameters of the law will allow us to generally maintain the funding of this critical program, and in turn the funding of your agency through it. However, because sequestration will severely constrain other government programs where the law does not allow us to protect critical priorities, there may be a greater demand on the resources of your organization. We appreciate your efforts to meet the needs of these individuals in your community.

As we receive additional information on the Fiscal Year 2013 appropriations, we will keep you updated on the effect of these cuts to the Fair Housing Assistance Program.

I want to thank you for your continued partnership with HUD and your cooperation as we work together to manage these unfortunate circumstances and serve the American people.

Sincerely,


John Trasviña
Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing
and Equal Opportunity