

Distribution Date: December 27, 2012

FHA Connection System Changes

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## **FHA CONNECTION SYSTEM CHANGES**

### **REMINDER - FHA Connection (FHAC) System Changes: Collection of NMLS Unique Identifier Numbers for Loan Originators (Loan Officers) and Sponsored Originators.**

The Helping Families Save Their Home (HFSH) Act of 2009 required all mortgage loan originators and lenders that do business with FHA to be in compliance with the Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 (SAFE Act) by registering with the National Mortgage Licensing System (NMLS). FHA implementation of these requirements was announced in Mortgagee Letter 2010-33 and Mortgagee Letter 2011-04.

The purpose of this announcement is to alert all lenders to changes in FHA Connection (FHAC) for providing the required NMLS data. **Effective January 28, 2013**, lenders will be prohibited from receiving a case number if the loan officer name and NMLS ID number are not correctly entered at case number assignment. In addition, lenders registering a new third party originator (TPO) in the FHAC Sponsored Originator Registry must include the TPO's NMLS ID number, as well as the TPO's full corporate address and EIN number, in order for registration to be successful.

All FHA-approved lenders are reminded of their responsibility to provide FHA with accurate information regarding their NMLS unique identifier (NMLS ID) numbers as required, which includes individual NMLS ID numbers for all loan officers that originate FHA loans. Lenders are also responsible for providing accurate NMLS ID numbers for any TPO that they register in the FHAC Sponsored Originator Registry. Please note, the Sponsored Originator Registry will recognize if the geographic location of the TPO is currently one of five states which are exempt from registering their companies with NMLS. Individual loan officers should not be registered as TPOs unless they are set up as a sole proprietorship or have otherwise incorporated themselves as a legal entity. All lenders are strongly encouraged to review and update TPO information in the Sponsored Originator Registry for TPOs that they have already registered in FHAC.

For more information on your State's NMLS requirements, please visit: <http://bit.ly/NMLSInfo>

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## **Administrative Contact Information for FHA-Approved Mortgagees**

As of January 1, 2013, new fields have been designated in FHA Connection for Administrative Contact information for FHA-approved mortgagees. These fields are found on the Lender Approval – Home Office Details page and have been added to the existing Administrative Address section. New fields include: Name (First/MI/Last), Phone, Fax, and E-mail. These fields have been added to ensure that official notices sent to the Administrative Address, as described in Mortgagee Letter 2010-38, are received by the appropriate party. These notices may pertain to post-endorsement file reviews, lender monitoring activities, requests for indemnification, or additional administrative activities. As HUD transitions to electronic notices for some of these activities in the future, it will use the Administrative E-mail Address for this purpose. Mortgagees may choose to enter a shared e-mail address in this field.

Going forward, all mortgagees will be required to input Administrative Contact information in order to complete the electronic Annual Certification as a part of the Annual Renewal process.