



OFFICE *of*  
**INSPECTOR GENERAL**  
★ ★ ★ ★  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

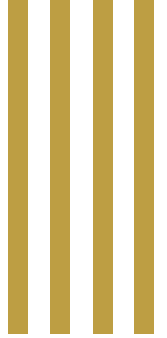
# Promoting Health and Safety in HUD-Assisted Housing

Office of Inspector General

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



# About Us



- HUD OIG conducts independent audits, evaluations, investigations, and other reviews to safeguard HUD's programs from fraud, waste, and abuse and to identify opportunities for HUD programs to progress and succeed.
- Its oversight responsibilities include making timely recommendations to improve the economy and efficiency of HUD programs and operations.
- The Inspector General reports directly to both the Department Secretary and Congress about the efficiency and effectiveness of HUD's programs and operations.



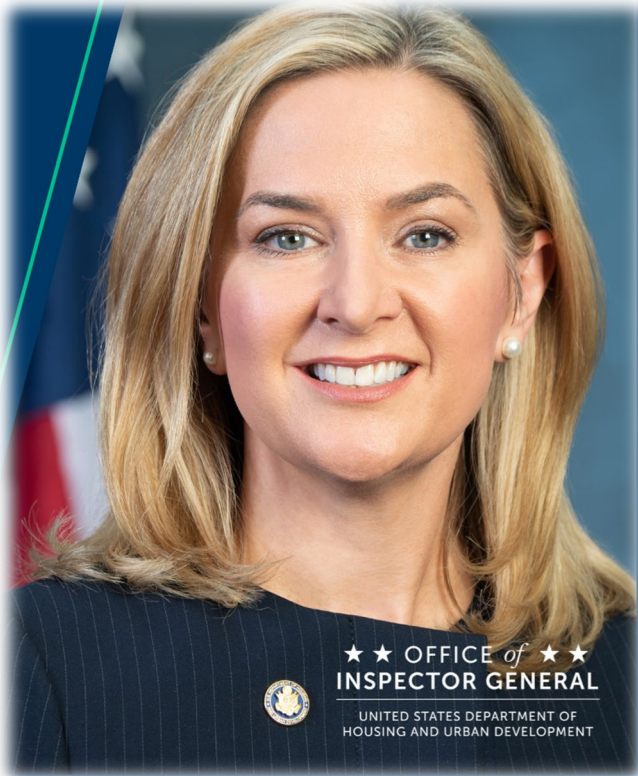
HUD OIG is expanding its efforts to conduct oversight work that directly impacts the health and safety of low-income communities who rely on HUD assisted housing.

- **Environmental Justice**
- **Sexual Misconduct in Housing**

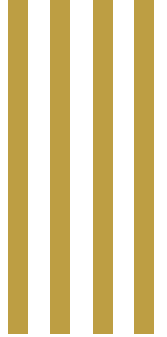


# Environmental Justice

In March 2023, HUD OIG expanded its efforts to prioritize oversight work that promotes safe, affordable housing by reducing environmental and public health hazards in HUD housing.



*“We are committed to holding housing providers accountable for complying with environmental laws and regulations to protect the health of low-income households and vulnerable populations and we will use every tool available to combat environmental crime and injustice in housing.” ~Inspector General Rae Oliver Davis*



Unfortunately, there are still many communities in America where housing contains lead-based paint, and lead hazards disproportionately harm low-income communities.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xk4uExYYph0>



HUD OIG is conducting oversight work to:

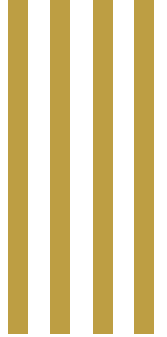
- ensure public housing agencies (PHAs), landlords, contractors, and inspectors properly identify lead hazards and use safe work practices to reduce and prevent lead exposure and poisoning in HUD housing, and
- ensure landlords are fulfilling their obligations to provide housing units that are decent, safe, and sanitary, and make necessary repairs to units in a timely and safe manner.

HUD OIG has dedicated resources to investigating allegations that landlords receiving HUD assistance are not fulfilling their responsibilities to ensure their properties are safe for tenants to live in, and to address critical repair needs.



# Sexual Misconduct in Housing





In March 2023, HUD OIG expanded its efforts to ensure tenants who receive rental assistance from HUD are protected from sexual misconduct in housing by pursuing and investigating predatory landlords and other housing providers with authority and control over HUD assisted housing.

Sexual misconduct in housing includes sexual assault, sexual harassment, and other unwelcomed sexual advances or behaviors, such as sexually suggestive comments or questions that make it hard to live and feel safe in your home.



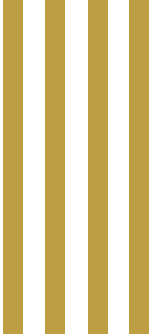
*Every person deserves to find and stay in housing without facing the threat of being sexually harassed by a landlord. ~Inspector General Rae Oliver Davis*



Sexual Harassment in Housing is ILLEGAL. Fair Housing is your RIGHT: <https://youtu.be/fqXSMjUZIZU>



HUD OIG investigations have helped stop bad actors by pursuing criminal and civil prosecutions against them and eliminating their ability to be a landlord or building manager and secured monetary settlements for victims and jail time for offenders.



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

JOSEPH CENTANNI,

Defendant.

Civil Action No. 2:20-cv-10053- JXN-AME

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STATE WATCH · 13M 53S AGO

STATE WATCH

Landlord accused of sexually harassing tenants to pay \$4.5M to settle federal lawsuit

BY MONIQUE BEALS · 12/14/21 4:00 PM ET

SHARE TWEET

HUD OIG is working with its law enforcement partners to vigorously pursue, investigate, and seek justice for survivors and to hold housing providers accountable for sexually assaulting or harassing HUD tenants.

- **No one** should have to choose between having a roof over their head and the threat of being sexually harassed or sexually assaulted by their housing provider.
- **No one** should be turned away or evicted from HUD assisted housing for choosing not to submit to sexual demands, advances, or inappropriate behavior.

# HUD OIG Hotline

The Hotline is the primary means to submit allegations of fraud, waste, abuse, mismanagement or whistleblower related matters within HUD and HUD-funded programs to HUD OIG.

Anyone with information about environmental hazards and unsafe unit conditions in HUD housing or bad actors who victimize HUD tenants through sexual misconduct is encouraged to contact the HUD OIG Hotline at [1-800-347-3735](tel:1-800-347-3735) or report online by visiting, <https://www.hudoig.gov/hotline>.



# Contact Us

For additional information contact [oigmediarelations@hudoig.gov](mailto:oigmediarelations@hudoig.gov).

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