



Quick Reference for Partners: Environmental Justice

- The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducts independent audits, evaluations, investigations, and other reviews of HUD programs to protect against fraud, waste, abuse, mismanagement, and misconduct.
- HUD OIG's oversight responsibilities include making timely recommendations to improve the economy and efficiency of HUD programs and operations.
- 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.
- HUD OIG is committed to holding housing providers accountable for complying with environmental laws and regulations to protect the health of low-income households and vulnerable populations that rely heavily on HUD's housing assistance programs.
- 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.
- HUD OIG is conducting work to ensure landlords are fulfill 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.
- HUD OIG has assisted HUD in bringing enforcement actions that resulted in significant penalties for landlords who breach their duty to provide decent, safe, and sanitary conditions in HUD housing.
- Anyone with information about environmental hazards and unsafe unit conditions in HUD housing or bad actors who victimize HUD tenants through financial fraud schemes is encouraged to contact the HUD OIG Hotline at 1-800-347-3735 or report online at <https://www.hudoig.gov/hotline>.

