



Dishonest Tenants can face eviction

The WHA's Public Safety Department's Fraud Division identified close to \$700,000 in fraud in 2017. As a result, violators were subject to repayment, termination of assistance and in some cases, they faced criminal charges.

DISHONEST TENANTS CAN FACE EVICTION



WHAT DOES THE WHA CONSIDER DISHONEST?

When you sign some WHA documents you are swearing that you are telling the truth. Some examples of *Dishonesty*:

- **EXAMPLE 1 – FALSE INCOME:** Signing a [No Income Statement](#) while you are actually receiving income. Also not fully reporting all of your income.
- **EXAMPLE 2 – UNAUTHORIZED OCCUPANT:** Having someone live in your apartment who is not on your lease.
- **EXAMPLE 3 –** Adding someone else's name to WHA forms without their permission to get bigger unit or other benefits.
- **EXAMPLE 4 –** *Knowingly* giving false information to WHA staff during meetings and/or home visits.
- **BE HONEST** – Every time you are dishonest with the WHA, either verbally or in writing, you risk losing your housing. Honesty is the best policy every time.

When you are asked by the WHA to provide information, your signature on the forms means that all the information that you've provided is honest and complete. Being dishonest on WHA forms can be a reason for lease enforcement, up to and including eviction.

Numerous WHA forms have a **Certification Statement** at the end. There is a place for the Head of Household to sign as well as other adults in the household. It says:

"I/We understand that giving false statement or information can be grounds for termination of housing."

When you sign these forms you are responsible for not only your own information being honest and complete but also for the members of your home.

The WHA Public Safety Department (PSD) has many resources to help



them confirm the truth such as security cameras, access to wage data. When residents provide inaccurate information, the PSD is required to look into the matter fully and report its findings to management for further action. Sometimes the action taken is the termination of housing benefits and eviction.

We all want the WHA to maintain safe and secure housing and we can do that with your help.

If you know a person who may be committing fraud please call the WHA Public Safety Department at 508-635-3210. Your call is kept confidential.

HOW TO AVOID FRAUD:

- Make sure all info you give is accurate and complete;
- Report all new household income within 10 days;
- Report any house guest(s) to management;
- Report to WHA if a household member vacates;
- Do the "Add to Lease" process before you allow someone to live in your apartment;



**If you have any
information about fraud,
please call:**

**WHA Public Safety Office
– Fraud Division
(508) 635-3210**