U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
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HUD-5383 EMERGENCY TRANSFER REQUEST FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING CONCORD HOUSING AUTHORITY

34 Everett Street, Concord, MA 01742 • Main: 978-369-8435 • www.concordha.org

Housing Programs Administered by CHA: Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV) – 24 CFR Part 982, and Section 8 Project-Based Voucher Program (PBV) – 24 CFR Part 983

CHA VAWA Contact / Coordinator: Jennifer Polito, Executive Director • 978-369-8435 • jpolito@concordha.org

Confidentiality Note: Any personal information you share in this form will be maintained by your covered housing provider according to the confidentiality provisions below.

Purpose of Form: If you are a tenant of housing assisted under a covered housing program, or if you are receiving transitional housing or rental assistance under a covered housing program, you may use this form to request an emergency transfer and certify that you qualify for an emergency transfer under the Violence Against Women Act ("VAWA"). This form refers to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking as "VAWA violence/abuse."

VAWA protects individuals and families regardless of a victim's age, sex, or marital status.

You may request an emergency transfer when:

1. You (or a household member) are a victim of VAWA violence/abuse;
2. You expressly request the emergency transfer; **AND**
3. **EITHER**
   a. you reasonably believe that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence, including trauma, if you (or a household member) stay in the same dwelling unit; **or**
   b. if you (or a household member) are a victim of sexual assault, either you reasonably believe there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence, including trauma, if you (or a household member) stay in the unit, or the sexual assault occurred on the premises and you request an emergency transfer within 90 days (including holidays and weekend days) of when that assault occurred.

A covered housing provider, in response to an emergency transfer request, should not evaluate whether you are in good standing as part of the assessment or provision of an emergency transfer. Whether or not you are in good standing does not impact your ability to request an emergency transfer under VAWA.

However, submitting this form does not necessarily mean that you will receive an emergency transfer. See your covered housing provider's VAWA Emergency Transfer Plan for more information about VAWA emergency transfers and see "Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act," Form HUD-5380, for additional housing rights you may be entitled to.

Am I required to submit any documentation to my covered housing provider? Your covered housing provider may request documentation proving that you, or a household member, are a victim of VAWA violence/abuse, in addition to completing this emergency transfer request form. The request can be met by completing and submitting the VAWA Self-certification Form (Form HUD-5382), unless the covered housing provider receives conflicting information about the VAWA violence/abuse. If you have third-party documentation that demonstrates why you are eligible for an emergency transfer, you may, instead, choose to submit that documentation to your covered housing provider. See "Notice of Occupancy Rights Under the Violence Against Women Act," Form HUD-5380, for more information.

Will my information be kept confidential? Whenever you ask for or about VAWA protections, your covered housing provider must keep any information you provide about the VAWA violence/abuse or the fact you (or a

household member) are a victim, including the information on this form, strictly confidential. This information should be securely and separately kept from your other tenant files. This information can only be accessed by an employee/agent of your covered housing provider if (1) access is required for a specific reason, (2) your covered housing provider explicitly authorizes that person's access for that reason, **and** (3) the authorization complies with applicable law. This information will not be given to anyone else or put in a database shared with anyone else, unless your covered housing provider (1) gets your written permission to do so for a limited time, (2) is required to do so as part of an eviction or termination hearing, **or** (3) is required to do so by law.

In addition, your covered housing provider must keep your address strictly confidential to ensure that it is not disclosed to a person who committed or threatened to commit VAWA violence/abuse against you (or a household member).

What if I need this information in a language other than English? To read this in Spanish or another language, please contact **the Concord Housing Authority, 34 Everett Street, Concord, MA 01742, Main: 978-369-8435, or Jennifer Polito, Executive Director, at 978-369-8435 (jpolito@concordha.org)** or go to **www.concordha.org**. You can read translated VAWA forms at https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/administration/hudclips/forms/hud5a#4. If you speak or read in a language other than English, your covered housing provider must give you language assistance regarding your VAWA protections (for example, oral interpretation and/or written translation).

Can I request a reasonable accommodation? If you have a disability, your covered housing provider must provide reasonable accommodations to rules, policies, practices, or services that may be necessary to allow you to equally benefit from VAWA protections (for example, giving you more time to submit documents or assistance with filling out forms). You may request a reasonable accommodation at any time, even for the first time during an eviction. If a provider is denying a specific reasonable accommodation because it is not reasonable, your covered housing provider must first engage in the interactive process with you to identify possible alternative accommodations. Your covered housing provider must also ensure effective communication with individuals with disabilities.

Need further help? For additional information on VAWA and to find help in your area, visit https://www.hud.gov/vawa. To speak with a housing advocate, you may contact **Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS) at 617-371-1234 (www.gbls.org), MetroWest Legal Services at 508-620-1830 (www.mwlegal.org), or the Harvard Legal Services Center Housing Law Clinic at 617-390-2500. For 24/7 survivor advocacy, call REACH Beyond Domestic Violence at 1-800-899-4000. See the local VAWA Resources list at the end of this form for additional hotlines and survivor services serving Concord, MA and the surrounding Middlesex County area.**

TO BE COMPLETED BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE TENANT REQUESTING AN EMERGENCY TRANSFER

1. **Name(s) of victim(s):**_____
2. **Your name** (*if different from victim's*): _____
3. **Name(s) of other household member(s):**_____

   _____
4. **Name(s) of other household member(s) who would transfer with the victim:** _____

   _____
5. **Name of the perpetrator** (*if known and can be safely disclosed*): _____
6. **Address of location from which the victim seeks to transfer:**_____

   _____
7. **Current Unit Size (# of bedrooms):**_____
8. **What is the safest and most secure way to contact you? (You may choose more than one.)**
   If any contact information changes or is no longer a safe contact method, notify your covered housing provider.

   ☐ Phone Phone Number: _____
   Safe to receive a voicemail: ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ E-mail E-mail Address: _____
Safe to receive an email: ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Mail Mailing Address: _____
Safe to receive mail from your housing provider: ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Other Please List: _____

9. Anything else your housing provider should know to safely communicate with you?

_____
_____
_____

10. What features are requested for a safe unit? You may list here any information that would facilitate a suitable transfer, such as accessibility needs, and a description of where it is safe or unsafe for you to live.

(*Please note that the ability to provide an emergency transfer is based on unit availability*.)

☐ New Neighborhood ☐ New Building
☐ First Floor unit ☐ Second Floor unit (and above)
☐ Near an Exit ☐ Well-lit hallways/walkways
☐ 24-hour Security ☐ Accessible unit
☐ Other: _____

_____

11. To approve your request for an emergency transfer, your covered housing provider may require that you provide written documentation that you (or a household member) are a victim of VAWA violence/abuse. Your covered housing provider must make this request for documentation in writing. You can choose to submit **any one** of the following types of documentation:

- Form HUD-5382 *Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternate Documentation*, which asks your name and the perpetrator's name (if known and safe to provide);
- A document signed by a victim service provider, attorney, mental health professional, or medical professional who has helped you address the VAWA violence/abuse. The professional must state "under penalty of perjury" that he/she/they believe in the occurrence of the incident of VAWA violence/abuse and that it is covered by VAWA. Both you and the professional must sign the statement;
- A police, administrative, or court record (such as a protective order) that shows you (or a household member) are a victim of VAWA violence/abuse; OR
- If permitted by your covered housing provider, a statement or other evidence provided by you.

Certification of Tenant: By signing below, I am certifying that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection, and that I meet the conditions described on this form to qualify for an emergency transfer.

Signature_____ **Date** _____

LOCAL VAWA RESOURCES – CONCORD, MA AND SURROUNDING AREA (CENTRAL MIDDLESEX COUNTY)

If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

Crisis Hotlines (24/7):

- **Domestic Violence Services Network, Inc. (DVSN)** (Concord-based; serves Concord, Carlisle, Lincoln, Sudbury, and surrounding central Middlesex communities) – 24/7 Toll-Free Help Line: 1-888-399-6111 • Office: 978-318-3421 • www.dvsn.org
- **SafeLink – Massachusetts Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline** – 1-877-785-2020 (TTY 1-877-521-2601)
- **Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC)** – Sexual Assault 24/7 Hotline: 1-800-841-8371 • www.barcc.org
- **National Domestic Violence Hotline** – 1-800-799-7233 (SAFE) • Text "START" to 88788 • www.thehotline.org
- **National Sexual Assault Hotline (RAINN)** – 1-800-656-4673 (HOPE) • www.rainn.org

Shelter, Counseling & Survivor Services:

- **REACH Beyond Domestic Violence** (Waltham) – Emergency shelter, safety planning, counseling, and legal advocacy; serves Concord and the broader Middlesex County area • 781-891-0724 (business) • 1-800-899-4000 (24/7 hotline) • www.reachma.org
- **RESPOND, Inc.** (Somerville) – Shelter and survivor advocacy • 617-623-5900 (24-hour hotline) • www.respondinc.org
- **Casa Myrna** (Boston) – Shelter and bilingual advocacy • 1-800-992-2600 (SafeLink) • www.casamyrna.org
- **Transition House** (Cambridge) – Shelter, counseling, youth programs • 617-661-7203 (hotline) • www.transitionhouse.org

Legal Aid (free/low-cost civil legal help for survivors):

- **Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS)** – Housing and family law for survivors • 617-371-1234 • www.gbls.org
- **Harvard Legal Services Center Housing Law Clinic** – Jamaica Plain • 617-390-2500 • www.legalservicescenter.org
- **MetroWest Legal Services** (Framingham) – 508-620-1830 • www.mwlegal.org

Law Enforcement & District Attorney:

- **Concord Police Department** – 219 Walden Street, Concord, MA 01742 • Emergency: 911 • Business: 978-318-3400 • Anonymous Tip Line: 978-318-3407 • www.concordma.gov/250/Police (Concord PD partners with DVSN on domestic violence response)
- **Middlesex County District Attorney – Victim Witness Services** – 781-897-8300 • www.middlesexda.com/victim-services

HUD Fair Housing & VAWA Rights Violation Complaints:

• **HUD FHEO Region 1 – Boston Regional Office** – Federal Building, 10 Causeway St., Room 553, Boston, MA 02222 • 617-994-8300 • 1-800-827-5005 • TTY 1-800-877-8339 • www.hud.gov/VAWA

Massachusetts Protections (In Addition to VAWA):

Under Massachusetts law (M.G.L. c. 186, §§ 24–29), tenants who are victims of domestic violence, rape, sexual assault, or stalking have additional rights, including the right to terminate a lease early with written notice and the right to request a change of locks at their own expense. Ask Jennifer Polito, CHA Executive Director (978-369-8435 or jpolito@concordha.org), for more information.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 20 minutes per response. This includes the time for collecting, reviewing, and reporting. Comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing this burden can be sent to the Reports Management Officer, QDAM, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20410. Covered housing providers in programs covered by VAWA may ask for a written request for an emergency transfer for a tenant who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Housing providers may distribute this form to tenants and tenants may use it to request an emergency transfer. The information is subject to the confidentiality requirements of VAWA. A Federal agency may not collect this information, and you are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget control number.