



**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**

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Drc.*

JAN 31 2007

Roy Struble  
1100 New York Avenue, Apt. D-102  
Marysville, MI 48040

Dear Mr. Struble:

Secretary Alphonso Jackson has requested that we reply to your letter dated January 6, 2007, since this office is responsible for overseeing HUD programs in Michigan. This office also received a direct copy of the identical letter. You are raising an issue about HUD policy with regard to establishing requirements for smoke-free subsidized housing.

At this point in time, HUD has no policies or requirements that specifically restrict smoking in HUD-assisted housing. These developments are not owned by the federal government, but are owned by private entities, nonprofit agencies, or local governmental units. If there are local or State ordinances restricting smoking, generally voted on by community residents, then of course these apartments would be subject to those same rules as appropriate.

Furthermore, in Michigan, several housing authorities and private landlords and management agencies have voluntarily adopted smoke-free policies for their HUD-assisted developments. Presumably they did so as a result of concerted educational efforts by residents such as you. We appreciate the efforts and concern about improving the quality of life in HUD-assisted housing, but must direct you to local strategies for achieving a smoke-free policy in your particular apartment complex.

Again, thank you for your comments and information provided regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

*Lana J. Vacha*  
Lana J. Vacha,  
Field Office Director