

section do not apply to any mortgage that is current under the terms of the mortgage at the time HUD offers it for sale, if the mortgage secures an unsubsidized project that does not receive any of the forms of project-based assistance enumerated in paragraphs (4)(i) to (4)(iv) of the “subsidized project” definition in §290.3.

(c) *Applicability to mortgages securing unsubsidized projects receiving project-based assistance (partially-assisted projects) or securing subsidized projects.* (1) The nondiscrimination requirement in paragraph (a) of this section applies to the project owner upon the sale of a mortgage without FHA mortgage insurance if, at the time HUD offers it for sale, the mortgage secures:

(i) An unsubsidized project that receives any of the forms of assistance enumerated in paragraphs (4)(i) to (4)(iv) of the “subsidized project” definition in §290.5; or

(ii) A subsidized project, as defined in §290.3.

(2) This requirement shall continue in effect until the mortgage debt is satisfied.

(d) *Covenant requirement for all delinquent mortgages sold without FHA mortgage insurance.* This paragraph (d) applies to the sale of any mortgage that is delinquent at the time HUD offers it for sale without FHA mortgage insurance, without regard to the subsidy status of the project. The mortgage purchaser and its successors and assigns shall require the mortgagor to record a covenant running with the land as part of any loan restructuring or final compromise of the mortgage debt and shall include a covenant in any foreclosure deed executed in connection with the mortgage. The covenant shall set forth the non-discrimination requirement in paragraph (a) of this section. The covenant shall continue in effect until a date that is the same as the maturity date of the mortgage sold by HUD.

[61 FR 11685, Mar. 21, 1996; 61 FR 19188, May 1, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 32265, June 21, 1996]

## PART 291—DISPOSITION OF HUD-ACQUIRED AND -OWNED SINGLE FAMILY PROPERTY

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AUTHORITY: 12 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*; 42 U.S.C. 1441, 1441a, 1551a, and 3535(d).

SOURCE: 56 FR 46956, Sept. 16, 1991, unless otherwise noted.

### Subpart A—General Provisions

SOURCE: 64 FR 6479, Feb. 9, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 291.1 Purpose and general requirements.

(a) *Purpose.* (1) This part governs the acquisition, possession, and disposition of one-to-four family properties acquired by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) through foreclosure of an insured or Secretary-held mortgage or loan under the National Housing Act, or acquired by HUD under section 204(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1710(g)). HUD will issue detailed policies and procedures that must be followed in specific areas.

(2) The purpose of the property disposition program is to dispose of properties in a manner that expands homeownership opportunities, strengthens neighborhoods and communities, and ensures a maximum return to the mortgage insurance funds.

(b) *Nondiscrimination policy.* The requirements set forth in 24 CFR parts 5 and 110 apply to the administration of any activity under this part. In addition, in accordance with 24 CFR 9.155(a), HUD must ensure that its policies and practices in conducting the single family property disposition program do not discriminate on the basis of disability.

[64 FR 6479, Feb. 9, 1999, as amended at 81 FR 53002, Aug. 11, 2016]

#### § 291.5 Definitions.

Terms used in this part are defined as follows:

*Competitive sale of individual property* means a sale of an individual property to an individual bidder through a sealed bid process (or other bid process specifically authorized by the Sec-

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retary) in competition with other bidders in which properties have been publicly advertised to all prospective purchasers for bids.

*Direct sale* means a sale to a selected purchaser to the exclusion of all others without resorting to advertising for bids. Such a sale is available only to approved applicants.

*Eligible properties* means HUD-acquired properties designated by HUD for property disposition or other housing programs.

*HUD* means the Department of Housing and Urban Development or its contractor, as appropriate.

*Insured mortgage* means a mortgage insured under the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*).

*Investor purchaser* means a purchaser who does not intend to use the property as his or her principal residence.

*Owner-occupant purchaser* means a purchaser who intends to use the property as his or her principal residence; a State, governmental entity, tribe, or agency thereof; or a private nonprofit organization as defined in this section. Governmental entities include those with general governmental powers (e.g., a city or county), as well as those with limited or special powers (e.g., public housing agencies).

*Private nonprofit organization* means a secular or religious organization, no part of the net earnings of which may inure to the benefit of any member, founder, contributor, or individual. The organization must:

- (1) Have a voluntary board;
- (2)(i) Have a functioning accounting system that is operated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles; or
- (ii) Designate an entity that will maintain a functioning accounting system for the organization in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
- (3) Practice nondiscrimination in the provision of assistance in accordance with the authorities described in § 291.435(a); and
- (4) Have nonprofit status as demonstrated by approval under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3)), or demonstrate that an application for such status is currently pending approval.

*Secretary* is defined in 24 CFR 5.100.

*State* means any of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and any other territory or possession of the United States.

*Tribe* has the meaning provided for the term “Indian tribe” in section 102 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5302).

[64 FR 6479, Feb. 9, 1999, as amended at 81 FR 53002, Aug. 11, 2016]

#### **§ 291.10 General policy regarding rental of acquired property.**

HUD will lease acquired property to comply with other designated HUD programs, or when the Secretary determines that it is in the interest of HUD. Leases may include an option to purchase in appropriate circumstances.

### **Subpart B—Disposition by Sale**

SOURCE: 64 FR 6480, Feb. 9, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

#### **§ 291.90 Sales methods.**

In accordance with section 204(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1710(g)), HUD will prescribe the terms and conditions for all methods of sale. HUD may dispose of assets using any method that the Secretary deems appropriate, including, but not limited to the following:

(a) *Future REO acquisition method.* The Future Real Estate-Owned (REO) acquisition method consists of a property acquisition agreement (or agreements) between HUD and a transferor (or transferors), which shall provide for the right and obligation of the transferor(s) to acquire a future quantity of properties designated by HUD as they become available. HUD will select such transferor(s) through a competitive process, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, including the requirements in § 291.200. The transferor(s) shall have the right and obligation to manage and dispose of the properties upon such terms and conditions as are approved by the Secretary;

(b) *Competitive sales of individual properties.* This method consists of competitive sales of individual properties to individual buyers, the procedures for which are described in § 291.205;

(c) *Direct sales methods.* There are three types of direct sales methods:

(1) Direct sales of properties without insured mortgages to governmental entities and private nonprofit organizations, the procedures for which are described in § 291.210(a);

(2) Direct sales to displaced persons, sales of razed lots, or auctions, the procedures for which are described in § 291.210(b);

(3) Direct sales to other individuals or entities that do not meet any of the categories specified in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this section, under the circumstances and procedures described in § 291.210(c);

(d) *Bulk sales,* the procedures for which are described in § 291.210(d); or

(e) *Other sales methods.* HUD may select any other methods of sale, as determined by the Secretary.

[64 FR 6480, Feb. 9, 1999, as amended at 81 FR 53002, Aug. 11, 2016]

#### **§ 291.100 General policy on HUD acquisition, ownership, and disposition of real estate assets.**

For all sales, except as otherwise specifically indicated, those sales conducted in accordance with §§ 291.90(a) and 291.200 or with subpart D of this part, the following general policies apply:

(a) *Qualified purchaser.* (1) Anyone, including a purchaser from a transferor of a property pursuant to §§ 291.90(a) and 291.200, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, age, or disability may offer to buy a HUD-owned property, except that:

(i) No member of or delegate to Congress is eligible to buy or benefit from a purchase of a HUD-owned property; and

(ii) No nonoccupant mortgagor (whether an original mortgagor, assumptor, or a person who purchased “subject to”) of an insured mortgage who has defaulted, thereby causing HUD to pay an insurance claim on the mortgage, is eligible to repurchase the same property.

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(2) Neither HUD nor any transferor pursuant to §§ 291.90(a) or 291.200 will offer former mortgagors in occupancy who have defaulted on the mortgage the right of first refusal to repurchase the same property.

(3) HUD will offer tenants accepted under the occupied conveyance procedures outlined in 24 CFR 203.670 through 203.685 the right of first refusal to purchase the property only if:

(i) The tenant has a recognized ability to acquire financing and a good rent-paying history, and has made a request to HUD to be offered the right of first refusal; or

(ii) State or local law requires that tenants be offered the right of first refusal.

(b) *List price.* The list price, or “asking price,” assigned to the property is based upon one or more evaluation tools (e.g., appraisal, Broker Price Opinion, Automated Valuation Model). An appraisal, when used, must be conducted by an independent real estate appraiser who meets all of the requirements of 24 CFR part 200, subpart G, and is in good standing on the appraiser roster established under that section. The appraiser must provide an opinion of the “as-is” market value using a valuation method that is commonly employed in the industry and that is consistent with FHA appraisal requirements.

(c) *Insurance.* When listing properties, HUD may elect to include information to indicate whether the property is eligible for FHA-insured financing under section 203(B) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(b)).

(d) *Financing.* (1) Subject to underwriting requirements, REO properties that have not been identified as uninsurable in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section can be purchased and financed with a mortgage insured under section 203(b) or 203(k) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(b), 1709(k)), if supported by an FHA appraisal, in one of the following ways:

(i) *Insured.* A property that meets the Minimum Property Standards (MPS), as defined in HUD Handbook 4905.1 or any successor handbook, as determined by the Secretary, for existing dwellings will be offered for sale in “as-is” condition with FHA mortgage insurance

available as provided in part 203 of this chapter.

(ii) *Insured with repair escrow.* (A) A property that requires no more than \$10,000 for repairs to meet the MPS, as defined in HUD Handbook 4905.1 or any successor handbook, as determined by the Secretary, will be offered for sale in “as-is” condition with FHA mortgage insurance available, as provided in part 203 of this chapter, provided the mortgagor establishes a cash escrow to ensure the completion of the required repairs.

(B) *Changes in repair escrow.* HUD may adjust the escrow balance required under this paragraph based on changes to the Consumer Price Index by publishing a FEDERAL REGISTER notice that provides for a public comment period of 30 calendar days for the purpose of accepting comments on the amount of the change. After comments have been considered, HUD will publish a final notice announcing the revised escrow amounts.

(iii) *Insured with rehabilitation loan* in accordance with section 203(k) of the National Housing Act and pursuant to § 203.50 of this chapter.

(2) REO properties that have been identified as uninsurable in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section can be purchased and financed with a mortgage insured under section 203(k) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(k)), subject to underwriting requirements supported by an FHA-specified appraisal and in accordance with 24 CFR 203.50.

(3) HUD, in its sole discretion and subject to appropriations, may take back Purchase Money Mortgages (PMMs) on property purchased by governmental entities or private nonprofit organizations who buy property for ultimate resale to owner-occupant purchasers with incomes at or below 115 percent of the area median income. When offered by HUD, a PMM will be available in an amount determined by the Secretary to be appropriate, at market rate interest, for a period not to exceed 5 years. Mortgagors must meet FHA mortgage credit standards.

(i) For purposes of this section, the term “purchase money mortgage,” or PMM means a note secured by a mortgage or trust deed given by a buyer, as

mortgagor, to the seller, as mortgagee, as part of the purchase price of the real estate.

(ii) Except as provided in paragraph (d)(3) of this section, the purchaser is entirely responsible for obtaining financing for purchasing a property.

(e) *Environmental requirements and standards.* Sales under this part are subject to the environmental requirements and standards described in 24 CFR part 50, as applicable.

(f) [Reserved]

(g) *Lead-based paint poisoning prevention.* Properties constructed before 1978 are subject to the requirements of the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. 4821-4846), the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 4851-4856), and implementing regulations at part 35, subparts A, B, F, and R, of this title.

(h) Any real estate broker who has agreed to comply with HUD requirements may be eligible to participate in the sales program. Purchasers participating in the competitive sales program, except government entities and nonprofit organizations, must submit bids through a participating broker. In accordance with section 204(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1710(g)), HUD will prescribe the terms and conditions for all methods of listing properties. HUD may dispose of properties using any method that the Secretary deems appropriate, including, but not limited to the following:

(1) *Open listings.* Properties may be sold on an open listing basis with participating real estate brokers.

(2) *Asset management and listing contracts.* (i) HUD may invite firms experienced in property management to compete for contracts that provide for an exclusive right to manage and list specified properties in a given area.

(ii) In areas where a broker has an exclusive right to list properties, a purchaser may use a broker of his or her choice. The purchaser's broker must submit the bid through HUD's designated electronic bid system.

(i) *Disciplinary actions against HUD-qualified real estate brokers—(1) In general.* Real estate brokers that are involved in Real Estate Owned (REO) sales will be removed from HUD's

qualified selling broker list and will be prohibited from using HUD systems to participate in the sale of HUD-owned single family properties for good cause in accordance with the procedures of this paragraph. Nothing in this section prohibits HUD from taking such other action against a broker as provided in 24 CFR part 24 or from seeking any other available remedy.

(2) *Good cause.* Good cause includes, but is not limited to:

(i) Conviction under 18 U.S.C. 371 or 1010 of a broker or an agent supervised by that broker and acting within the scope of the agent's duties;

(ii) Any of the following actions by a broker or an agent supervised by that broker and acting within the scope of the agent's duties:

(A) Falsifying loan documents or aiding or abetting persons in the use of false or misleading information including, but not limited to, forged or fraudulent gift letters and owner occupant certifications;

(B) Acting in concert with an appraiser to arrive at an artificial appraised value;

(C) Engaging in fraudulent activities (with or without the assistance of an appraiser) that have led to default and payment of an insurance claim;

(D) Failing to comply with earnest money collection, management, and disbursement procedures as set forth in this part;

(E) Failing to maintain a current state license;

(F) Violating the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA) (12 U.S.C. 2601 *et seq.*);

(G) Non-compliance with civil rights requirements regarding the sale of HUD-owned single family properties;

(H) Involvement in, or knowledge of, any fraudulent activity by any person involved in the REO sales transaction; and

(I) Any other actions or omissions that evidence a lack of business integrity or non-compliance with the laws, regulations, and rules applicable to housing, lending, or real estate sales.

(3) *Written notice.* Once HUD makes an initial finding that there is good cause to remove a broker, HUD will provide the broker with written notice

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of proposed removal from HUD's qualified selling broker list and deactivation of the broker's access to HUD systems to participate in the sale of HUD-owned properties. The notice will:

(i) State the reasons that HUD is taking the action;

(ii) Identify the violations or deficiencies involved;

(iii) Provide a citation to the relevant regulation, statute, or policy; and

(iv) State the effective date and duration of the removal and deactivation.

(4) *Effective date and duration of removal.* (i) The effective date of the broker's removal will be the 30th day after the date of the notice, unless the broker submits a written response or requests a conference in accordance with paragraph (i)(5) of this section;

(ii) HUD's determination of the duration of removal and deactivation will be based upon HUD's consideration of the number and seriousness of the broker's violations and deficiencies.

(5) *Response and conference.* Real estate brokers will be given 20 days after the date of the notice (or longer, if provided in the notice) to submit a written response to HUD opposing the proposed removal and to request a conference. A request for a conference must be in writing and must be submitted along with the written response. If a conference is requested, it will occur within 15 days after the date of receipt of the request. HUD may extend the 15-day period by providing written notice to the broker. HUD may request additional information at or following a conference and provide additional time to submit such information. If the information is not submitted by the time set by HUD, the conference is completed. If the information is timely submitted, the conference is not completed until HUD has considered the additional information.

(6) *Disposition—(i) No response from real estate broker.* If the real estate broker does not submit a written response within the time provided, the removal and deactivation take effect in accordance with the notice.

(ii) *Response from real estate broker.* If the real estate broker submits a written response within the time provided, the removal and deactivation are de-

layed until HUD considers the response and makes a final determination. HUD will consider the sufficiency of any corrective actions taken by a broker with respect to its procedures and, if relevant, its agents, in reaching its decision. Within 20 days after the date of receipt of the written response, or if a conference is requested, within 20 days after the date of completion of the conference, HUD will advise the real estate broker in writing of the decision to rescind, modify, or affirm the removal from HUD's qualified selling broker list and the deactivation of the broker's access to HUD systems to participate in the sale of HUD-owned properties. The written decision by HUD shall constitute final agency action.

(7) *Effect of removal proceeding on bids.* All bids submitted and commissions earned by the real estate broker prior to removal will be honored, unless HUD determines they were made under fraudulent circumstances.

[64 FR 6480, Feb. 9, 1999, as amended at 64 FR 50225, Sept. 15, 1999; 71 FR 65325, Nov. 7, 2006; 81 FR 53002, Aug. 11, 2016]

### Subpart C—Sales Procedures

SOURCE: 64 FR 6481, Feb. 9, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 291.200 Future REO acquisition method.

(a) Under this method of property disposition, HUD will enter into a property acquisition agreement (or agreements) with a transferor (or transferors), which shall provide for the right and obligation of the transferor(s) to acquire a future quantity of properties designated by HUD as they become available. The transferor(s) will be selected through a competitive process, conducted in accordance with applicable laws. HUD will negotiate the specific terms of the property acquisition agreement(s) with the selected transferor(s). The properties will be available on an "as-is" basis only, without repairs or warranties.

(b) *Eligible entities.* An individual, partnership, corporation, or other legal entity will not be eligible to participate in this process if at the time of the sale, that individual or entity is

debarred, suspended, or otherwise precluded from doing business with HUD under 2 CFR part 2424.

[64 FR 6481, Feb. 9, 1999, as amended at 72 FR 73495, Dec. 27, 2007]

**§ 291.205 Competitive sales of individual properties.**

When HUD conducts competitive sales of individual properties to individual buyers, it will generally sell the properties on an “as-is” basis, without repairs or warranties, and it will follow the sales procedures provided in this section.

(a) *General.* (1) Properties that are sold on an individual competitive bid basis are sold through local real estate brokers, except as provided in § 291.100(h).

(2) For properties being offered with insured mortgages, priority will be given to owner-occupant purchasers, as defined in § 291.5, for a period of up to 30 days, as determined by HUD. For properties offered without insured mortgages, priority will be given to governmental entities and nonprofit organizations prior to other owner-occupant purchasers.

(b) *Net offer.* (1) The net offer is calculated by subtracting from the bid price the dollar amounts for the financing and loan closing costs and the broker’s sales commission, as described in paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

(2) If an owner-occupant purchaser of the property requests in the bid, HUD may pay all or a portion of the financing and loan closing costs, not to exceed the percentage of the purchase price determined appropriate by the Secretary for the area. In no event will the total amount for broker’s sales commission exceed 6 percent of the purchase price, except for cash bonuses offered to brokers by HUD for the sale of hard-to-sell properties. No assistance for financing and loan closing costs or for the broker’s sales commission will be provided to investor purchasers.

(c) *Acceptable bid.* HUD will accept the bid producing the greatest net return to HUD and otherwise meeting the terms of HUD’s offering of the property, with priority given to owner-occupant purchasers as described in paragraph (a)(2) of this section. The great-

est net return is calculated based on the net offer, as described in paragraph (b) of this section.

(d) *Bid period.* (1) HUD will establish a bid period for properties available for sale. Generally, the bid period will be 10 days, but may be lengthened or shortened by HUD. After properties are initially advertised, bids may be submitted by all potential purchasers. However, in the case of properties offered with insured mortgages, HUD may give priority to owner-occupant purchasers for a period of up to 30-days, as described in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

(2) HUD may treat all bids received during a specified period of time during the bid period to have been received simultaneously. HUD may also choose to review bids on a daily basis, with all bids submitted during each day considered to have been received simultaneously. HUD may use either (or both) of these methods during the bid period, as described in the bid materials accompanying a particular sale.

(3) Offers received on a property before the bid period begins will be returned. Offers received after the bid period will not be considered at the bid opening, but will be considered during the extended listing period if no acceptable bid was received during the bid period (see paragraph (f) of this section).

(e) *Full price offers.* HUD local offices that operate under a “full price offer” program open offers at specified times during the bid period. If an offer for the full list price and otherwise meeting the terms of the offering is received, it will be accepted at the time of the opening and the bid period cancelled.

(f) *Extended listing period.* Properties not sold during the bid period will remain available for an extended listing period. All bids received on each day of the extended listing period will be considered as being received simultaneously, and will be opened together at the next scheduled daily bid opening. Properties that fail to sell within 45 days after being offered for competitive bidding will be reanalyzed and made available for sale. If a property’s price or terms are changed, it may be subject to another competitive bid period as

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described in paragraph (d) of this section.

(g) *Bid requirements.* (1) All successful bids submitted, whether during the bid period or the extended listing period, must be in a form prescribed by HUD, and must be submitted in accordance with procedures established by HUD. If the purchase is to be an insured sale, a local HUD office may also require that supporting exhibits for mortgage credit analysis accompany the initial submission of the bid. All bids not indicating that the purchaser will occupy the property will be considered as offers from investor purchasers.

(2) Noncomplying bids will be returned to the broker with an explanation for the noncompliance decision and information about whether the property is still available.

(h) *Earnest money deposits.* (1) The amount of earnest money deposit required for a property with a sales price of \$50,000 or less is \$500, except that for vacant lots the amount is 50 percent of the list price. For a property with a sales price greater than \$50,000, the amount of earnest money deposit required in the area is set by the local HUD office, in an amount not less than \$500 or more than \$2,000. Information on the amount of the required earnest money deposit is available from the local HUD office or participating real estate brokers.

(2) All bids must be accompanied by earnest money deposits in the form of a cash equivalent as prescribed by the Secretary, or a certification from the real estate broker that the earnest money has been deposited in the broker's escrow account. If a bid is accepted by HUD, the earnest money deposit will be credited to the purchaser at closing; if the bid is rejected, the earnest money deposit will be returned. Earnest money deposits are subject to total or partial forfeiture for failure to close a sale.

(i) *Multiple bids.* Real estate brokers may submit unlimited numbers of bids on an individual property provided each bid is from a different prospective purchaser. If a purchaser submits multiple bids on the same property, only the bid producing the highest net return to HUD will be considered. If a prospective owner-occupant purchaser

submits a bid on more than one property, the bid that produces the greatest net return to HUD will be accepted and all other bids from that purchaser will be eliminated from consideration. However, if the prospective owner-occupant purchaser has submitted the only acceptable bid on another property, then that bid must be accepted and all other bids from that purchaser on any other properties will be eliminated from consideration.

(j) *Identical bids.* In the case of identical bids submitted by an owner-occupant purchaser and an investor purchaser, HUD will select the bid submitted by the owner-occupant purchaser. If identical bids are submitted by two or more owner-occupant purchasers, or by two or more investor purchasers, award will be determined by drawing lots.

(k) *Opening the bids.* Unless the Secretary specifically authorizes another bid process:

(1) The Secretary will make all winning bids available publicly.

(2) Successful bidders will be notified through their real estate brokers by electronic mail, mail, telephone, or other means. Acceptance of a bid is final and effective only upon HUD's execution of the sales contract, signed by both the submitting real estate broker and the prospective purchaser, and sending a copy of the executed contract by electronic mail to the successful bidder or the bidder's agent.

(l) *Counteroffers.* HUD may present counteroffers during competitive bid periods, as it deems appropriate to minimize losses to its insurance fund. "Best and Final" offers requested by HUD are considered counteroffers.

[64 FR 6481, Feb. 9, 1999, as amended at 81 FR 53003, Aug. 11, 2016]

### § 291.210 Direct sales procedures.

When HUD conducts the sales listed in § 291.90(c), it will sell the properties on an "as-is" basis, without repairs or warranties, and it will follow the applicable sales procedures provided in this section.

(a) *Direct sales of properties without insured mortgages to governmental entities and private nonprofit organizations.* (1) State and local governments, public



agencies, and qualified private non-profit organizations that have been preapproved to participate by HUD, according to standards determined by the Secretary, may purchase properties directly from HUD at a discount off the list price determined by the Secretary to be appropriate, but not less than 10 percent, for use in HUD and local housing or homeless programs.

(2)(i) Purchasers under paragraph (a)(1) of this section must designate geographical areas of interest by ZIP code. Upon request, before those properties without insured mortgages are publicly listed, HUD will assure that governmental entities and nonprofit organizations are notified in writing when eligible properties become available in the areas designated by them. HUD will coordinate the dissemination of the information to ensure that if more than one purchaser designates a specific area, those purchasers receive the list of properties at the same time, based on intervals agreed upon between HUD and the purchasers. A property in this section will be sold to the first eligible purchaser submitting an acceptable contract. All bids received on the same business day will be considered to have been received simultaneously. In the case of identical bids submitted on the same business day, award will be determined by drawing lots.

(ii) Purchasers under paragraph (a)(1) of this section must notify HUD of preliminary interest in specific properties within 5 days of the notification of available properties (if notification is by mail, the 5 days will begin to run 5 days after mailing). HUD will provide a consideration and inspection period for these purchasers. The consideration and inspection period will usually be for ten days from the date of notification of interest, but may be lengthened or shortened by HUD, as appropriate. Those properties in which purchasers express an interest will be held off the market for the duration of the consideration and inspection period. Other properties on the list will continue to be processed for public sale. HUD may limit the number of properties held off the market for a purchaser at any one time, based upon the purchaser's financial capacity as determined by HUD and upon past performance in HUD pro-

grams. At the end of the consideration and inspection period, properties in which no governmental entity or non-profit organization has expressed a specific intent to purchase will be offered for sale under the competitive bid process. Properties in which a governmental entity or nonprofit organization expressed an intent to purchase, during the consideration and inspection period, will continue to be held off the market pending receipt of the sales contract. If a sales contract is not received within a time period of up to 10 days, as determined by HUD, following expiration of the consideration and inspection period, and no other governmental entity or nonprofit organization has expressed an interest, then the property will be offered for sale under the competitive bid process.

(3) In order to ensure that properties purchased at a discount are being utilized for expanding affordable housing opportunities, HUD may require, as appropriate, periodic, limited information regarding the purchase and resale of such properties, and certain restrictions on the resale of such properties.

(b) *Direct sales to displaced persons; razed lots; auctions.* HUD may seek to dispose of individual properties to individual buyers through methods such as direct sales to displaced persons, sales of razed lots, or auctions. These sales will be upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe.

(c) *Direct sales to individuals or entities.* HUD may also seek to dispose of properties through direct sales to other individuals or entities that do not meet any of the categories specified in this section, if the Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner (or his or her designee) finds in writing that such sales would further the goals of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) and would be in the best interests of the Secretary. These sales will be upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe.

(d) *Bulk sales.* HUD may seek to dispose of properties through bulk sales. Such sales will be upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe.

## Subpart D—Sale of HUD-Held Single Family Mortgage Loans

SOURCE: 62 FR 3769, Jan. 24, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

### § 291.301 Definitions.

For purposes of this subpart, the following definitions apply:

*Bid package* means the documents prepared for bidders in a mortgage loan sale, and includes the following: An Executive Summary containing information on FHA single family mortgage loan sales and background on HUD programs; a description of post-sale servicing requirements; due diligence information and reports; mortgage loan information; a copy of the Loan Sale Agreement and its exhibits; bidding and closing information; and such other information and requirements as the Secretary may determine necessary.

*Payment plan agreement*, for purposes of § 291.307(c)(2), means an agreement between the purchaser and the mortgagor for payments after the 36-month period of statutorily authorized forbearance relief has expired.

*Single family mortgage loan* means a mortgage loan on a single family property assigned to HUD under section 230(b) of the National Housing Act (as that subsection existed prior to January 26, 1996) (12 U.S.C. 1715u), a mortgage loan on a single family property insured by HUD under section 221 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715l), a mortgage loan on a single family property issued in connection with the settlement of the *Ferrell* litigation, a purchase money mortgage loan issued by HUD on a single family property sold from HUD's inventory that was not connected with the settlement of the *Ferrell* litigation, or any other single family mortgage loan owned by HUD and representing an asset to HUD's Title II mortgage insurance funds.

*Single family property* means a residence with one to four dwelling units.

### § 291.302 Purpose and general policy.

This subpart sets forth HUD's policy and procedures for the sale of HUD-held single family mortgage loans. In general, HUD will sell both performing

and nonperforming HUD-held single family mortgage loans. HUD will sell all mortgage loans without recourse and without FHA insurance. HUD will package pools of single family mortgage loans for sale to the general public on a competitive basis; however, HUD may sell mortgage loans to government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs) on a negotiated basis. Nothing in this subpart shall be construed to prevent HUD from packaging single family mortgage loans with other types of HUD assets for sale. The Secretary retains full discretion to offer any qualifying pool of mortgage loans for sale and to withhold or withdraw any offered pool of mortgage loans from sale. However, when HUD offers a qualifying mortgage loan for sale, the procedures set out in this subpart and in the bid package will govern the sale of HUD-held single family mortgage loans.

### § 291.303 Eligible bidders.

HUD will provide information on the eligibility of bidders in the bid package, a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER, or other means, at the Secretary's full discretion. However, an individual, partnership, corporation, or other legal entity will not be eligible to bid for any loan pool, either as an individual or a participant, if, at the time of the sale, that individual or entity is debarred or suspended from doing business with HUD under 2 CFR part 2424.

[72 FR 73495, Dec. 27, 2007]

### § 291.304 Bidding process.

(a) *Submission of bids.* All bids must be submitted to HUD in accordance with instructions in the bid package for a particular sale.

(b) *Effect of bid.* By submitting a bid, the bidder is making an offer to purchase single family mortgage loans as presented in the bid package. Submission of a bid constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions set forth in the bid package. Along with the bid, the bidder must submit an executed copy of the Loan Sale Agreement, which is included in the bid package.

(c) *Earnest money deposits.* The bidder must submit to HUD, along with its bid, an earnest money deposit in an amount to be determined by HUD. The earnest money deposit is nonrefundable

to the winning bidder and will be credited toward the purchase price.

(d) *Termination of offering.* HUD reserves the right to terminate an offering in whole or in part at any time before the bid date.

(e) *Withdrawal of loans.* HUD reserves the right, in its sole discretion and for any reason whatsoever, to withdraw loan assets from a pool prior to the bid date. Any earnest money deposits relating to withdrawn loan assets will be retained by HUD and credited toward the total purchase price of the remaining loan assets in the pool, in accordance with the Loan Sale Agreement. After the bid date, HUD can withdraw mortgage loans in accordance with the Loan Sale Agreement.

(f) *Rejection of bids.* (1) HUD may, in its sole discretion, reject any bid under the following circumstances:

(i) If the bid does not conform with the instructions in the bid package; or

(ii) If, in HUD's sole discretion, it determines that such action would be in the best interests of the U.S. Government.

(2) HUD can also issue a conditional rejection that will become an acceptance upon fulfillment of HUD's requests.

(g) *Withdrawal of bids.* A bidder may withdraw a previously submitted bid in accordance with the instructions in the bid package for a particular sale.

(h) *Bids by brokers or agents.* Any bid by a broker or agent for a principal must be in the name of the principal and signed by the broker/agent as the attorney-in-fact for the principal. All such bid documents must be executed so as to bind the principal by the broker/agent as the attorney-in-fact. A power of attorney satisfactory to HUD as to form and content must be submitted with each bid.

#### § 291.305 Selection of bids and execution of Loan Sale Agreement.

HUD will evaluate bids, select successful bids, and notify the successful bidder in a manner set forth in the bid package. HUD will complete the execution of the Loan Sale Agreement when it accepts the successful bid.

#### § 291.306 Closing requirements.

(a) *Closing date payment.* On the closing date, the purchaser must pay to HUD the closing date payment, consisting of the balance of the amount due on the bid price, as adjusted in accordance with the Loan Sale Agreement.

(b) *Closing documents.* HUD will execute and deliver to the purchaser a bill of sale transferring title to the mortgage loans sold in the sale. The purchaser must deliver to HUD the documents required at closing, in addition to the closing date payment.

#### § 291.307 Servicing requirements.

(a) *Use of HUD-approved servicing mortgagees.* All mortgage loans must be serviced by HUD-approved servicing mortgagees for the remaining life of the mortgage loans. A purchaser that is not a HUD-approved servicing mortgagee must retain a HUD-approved servicing mortgagee to service the mortgage loans.

(b) *Continuation of mortgagor rights.* The purchaser may take all lawful steps to collect the amounts due under the mortgage loans. These steps may include foreclosure, but only after the servicer has provided all required forms of relief for the mortgagor in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section. The purchaser and its servicer, and any subsequent transferee of or servicer for the mortgage loan, will be fully bound by the terms of the Loan Sale Agreement, including those terms that provide the mortgagor with any rights regarding forbearance, assistance, or reinstatement of the mortgage loan.

(c) *Purchaser's protection of mortgagor's rights—*(1) *Assigned mortgage loans during forbearance period.* This paragraph (c)(1) explains how a purchaser (or a servicer of a purchased mortgage loan) must service a mortgage loan that was assigned to HUD under section 230(b) of the National Housing Act (as that subsection existed prior to January 26, 1996), for which not more than 36 months has expired since the mortgage loan assignment was accepted by the Secretary. Such a purchaser must service these mortgage loans in essentially the same manner as HUD was required to service the loans while

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HUD held them. Specific servicing requirements will be set forth in the Loan Sale Agreement for each sale.

(2) *Assigned mortgage loans after the initial 36-month forbearance period.* This paragraph (c)(2) explains how a purchaser (or a servicer of a purchased mortgage loan) must service a mortgage loan that was assigned to HUD under section 230(b) of the National Housing Act (as that subsection existed prior to January 26, 1996), for which more than 36 months has expired since the mortgage loan assignment was accepted by the Secretary.

(i) Such purchaser may require the mortgagor to pay at least the full monthly payment due under the mortgage loan. A purchaser may also require a mortgagor to pay increased monthly mortgage loan payments under a renewed payment plan agreement to reduce the amount in arrears if the mortgagor's available income (as calculated according to the Loan Sale Agreement) can support the increased payments. A purchaser must renew payment plan agreements at least through and including the expiration of the original term of the mortgage loan, so long as the mortgagor complies with the prior payment plan agreement.

(ii) If the mortgagor defaults under a payment plan agreement established by the purchaser, the mortgagor shall have the right to reinstate the most recent payment plan agreement if the mortgagor makes a lump sum payment in an amount necessary to cure the default. If the mortgagor defaults under the most recent payment plan agreement and does not reinstate, the purchaser may terminate the payment plan agreement and take such action as may be permitted under the terms of the mortgage.

(iii) The purchaser's right to demand payment of a reinstatement amount from the mortgagor may be limited by the terms of the Loan Sale Agreement.

(3) *Section 221 Mortgages.* This paragraph (c)(3) explains how a purchaser (or a servicer of a purchased mortgage) must service a mortgage assigned to HUD under section 221(g)(4) of the National Housing Act.

(i) *Current section 221(g)(4) mortgage loans.* Section 221(g)(4) mortgage loans that are current as of the closing date

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are not subject to the servicing requirements set forth in paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section.

(ii) *Defaulted section 221(g)(4) mortgage loans.* With respect to any section 221(g)(4) mortgage loan as to which a payment default has occurred, and as to which HUD, as of the closing date, was providing or had agreed to provide forbearance relief, the purchaser must continue to provide forbearance relief and must service such mortgage loans as set forth in paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section.

(d) *Section 235 mortgage loans—(1) Assistance payments contract.* If, prior to the mortgage loan sale, the assistance payments contract has not been previously terminated under 24 CFR 235.375(a), the contract will terminate as to each mortgage loan upon the sale of the mortgage loan. The purchasing mortgagee will therefore not receive any assistance payments on behalf of the mortgagor for any Section 235 mortgage loan sold.

(2) *Reduction in interest rates.* For a Section 235 mortgage loan that was accompanied by an assistance payments contract that was still in effect on the date of the sale, the Secretary will reduce the interest rate on the mortgage loan to a rate to be determined by the Secretary.

## Subpart E—Lease and Sale of HUD-Acquired Single Family Properties for the Homeless

### § 291.400 Purpose and scope.

(a) *Purpose.* HUD seeks to assist individuals and families who are homeless by providing them with transitional housing and appropriate supportive services with the goal of helping them move to independent living. Therefore, HUD will make available, to applicants approved by HUD, certain HUD-acquired single family properties for use by the homeless.

(b) *Applicant preapproval.* Before a field office may notify an applicant of eligible properties, the applicant must be preapproved by HUD, according to procedures available from the field office.

(c) *Property available for lease with option to purchase.* HUD will make available up to 10 percent of its total inventory of properties, before or after they are listed for sale to the public.

(d) *Property available under a McKinney Act Supportive Housing program lease-option agreement.* Eligible properties will be available under a lease-option to purchase agreement to Supportive Housing program applicants for acquisition grants under 24 CFR part 583.

(e) *Properties available for sale.* Eligible properties will be available for competitive sale or direct sale for fair market value, less a discount determined appropriate by the Secretary but not less than 10 percent.

(f) *Concentration of properties.* To the extent practicable and possible, HUD will avoid excessive concentration in a single neighborhood of properties leased or sold under this subpart.

(g) *Failure to comply with requirements.* Failure to comply with this subpart, or a lease issued under this subpart, may result in termination from the program.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under OMB control number 2502-0412)

[61 FR 55714, Oct. 28, 1996]

#### § 291.405 Definitions.

For purposes of this subpart E:

*Applicant* means a State, metropolitan city, urban county, governmental entity, tribe, or private nonprofit organization that submits a written expression of interest in eligible properties under this subpart E. Governmental entities include those that have general governmental powers (e.g., a city or county), as well as those with limited or special powers (e.g., public housing agencies or State housing finance agencies). In the case of applicants leasing properties while their applications for Supportive Housing assistance are pending, "applicant" is defined in 24 CFR part 583.

*Homeless* means:

(1) Individuals or families who lack the resources to obtain housing, whose annual income is not in excess of 50 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD, and who:

(i) Have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;

(ii) Have a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing, but excluding prisons or other detention facilities); or

(iii) Are at imminent risk of homelessness because they face immediate eviction and have been unable to identify a subsequent residence, which would result in emergency shelter placement (except that persons facing eviction on the basis of criminal conduct such as drug trafficking and violations of handgun prohibitions shall not be considered homeless for purposes of this definition); or

(2) Persons with disabilities who are about to be released from an institution and are at risk of imminent homelessness because no subsequent residences have been identified and because they lack the resources and support networks necessary to obtain access to housing.

*Lessee* means the applicant, approved by HUD as financially responsible, that executes a lease agreement with HUD for an eligible property.

[64 FR 6482, Feb. 9, 1999]

#### § 291.415 Lease with option to purchase properties for use by the homeless.

(a) *Certification.* Eligible properties are available for lease to applicants, approved by HUD, that certify that the property will be utilized only for the purpose of providing transitional housing for the homeless during the lease term, and that the intended use of the property will be consistent with all local laws and regulations. The lease agreement will be in a form prescribed by the Secretary. Lessees must execute a sublease with occupants in a form prescribed by the Secretary limiting an occupant's tenancy to no longer than two years.

(b) *Term of lease.* (1) A lease of an eligible property may be negotiated for such time as the lessee requires, not to

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exceed one year. Leases are renewable, at the option of the lessee and with the approval of HUD, at the end of the first lease term for up to four additional one-year terms, on a year-to-year basis, provided the lessee has met the requirements under this program.

(2) Approvals for lease renewals will be denied if HUD determines that the lessee has not complied with the requirements of this part of the lease.

(3) A property will not be leased to a lessee for a period longer than five years. At the end of the five-year period, if the lessee has not exercised the option to purchase, HUD will notify the lessee to vacate the property and, if necessary, will take appropriate action under the eviction laws of the jurisdiction in which the property is located. All property returned to HUD must be vacant, and will be placed on the market for sale to the general public.

(4) Within 30 days of leasing a property from HUD or within 30 days after a property is vacated, a lessee must sublease the property to the homeless, unless a longer period is approved by HUD.

(c) *Rent.* (1) The lessee must pay HUD a nominal rent of \$1 for each one-year lease period.

(2) A lessee may charge rent, including utilities, to an occupant at a rate appropriate to the financial means of the occupant. Unless HUD approves after consideration of such factors as the cost of operating housing in the area and the amount of the lessee's contributions to the program, such rent may not exceed the highest of:

(i) Thirty percent of the family's monthly adjusted income (adjustment factors include the number of people in the family, age of family members, medical expenses, and child care expenses);

(ii) Ten percent of the family's monthly income; or

(iii) If the family is receiving payments for welfare assistance from a public agency and a part of the payments, adjusted in accordance with the family's actual housing costs, is specifically designated by the agency to meet the family's housing costs, the portion of the payments that is designated.

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(3) In no event may the rent charged an occupant exceed the occupant's pro rata share of the lessee's costs of operating the property.

(d) *Damage to leased properties.* Any damage to leased property caused by the intentional or negligent acts of the lessee or occupants must be repaired by the lessee at its own expense. If the lessee does not make the necessary repairs within a reasonable time after the damage occurs, HUD may, at its option, make the repairs and charge the cost to the lessee. Failure by the lessee to make the necessary repairs or to reimburse HUD for the cost of repairs will constitute grounds for termination of the lease and may result in termination from the program.

(e) *Purchase of leased properties.* (1) Lessees that desire to purchase leased properties during the lease term will be offered the properties at the lower of the fair market value established at the time of the initiation of the lease or at the time of the sale, less a discount determined appropriate by the Secretary but not less than 10 percent, provided lessees agree to use the properties either to house low-income tenants for a period of not less than 10 years or to resell the properties to low-income buyers. If the lessee does not agree to such conditions, the lessee must purchase the properties at the higher of the fair market value at the time of the initiation of the lease or at the time of the sale, less 10 percent. Any repairs to or rehabilitation of a property done by a lessee during the lease term will not be reflected in the purchase price.

(2) Sales of leased properties will be on as-is, all-cash basis. HUD will not pay a fee for a selling broker. HUD will pay the closing agent's fee. The purchaser must pay all other closing costs.

[61 FR 55715, Oct. 28, 1996]

## § 291.430 Elimination of lead-based paint hazards.

The Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. 4821-4846), the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 4851-4856), and implementing regulations at part 35, subparts A, B, F, and R of this

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title, apply to activities covered by this subpart.

[64 FR 50225, Sept. 15, 1999, as amended at 69 FR 34275, June 21, 2004]

**§ 291.435 Applicability of other Federal requirements.**

In addition to the requirements set forth in 24 CFR part 5, the following Federal requirements apply to lessees and purchasers under this subpart:

(a) *Nondiscrimination and equal opportunity.* (1) The nondiscrimination and equal opportunity requirements set forth in 24 CFR part 5 are modified as follows:

(i) As applicable, lessees and purchasers must also comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12131) and implementing regulations in 28 CFR parts 35 and 36.

(ii) The requirements of section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u), and Executive Order 11246 (30 FR 12319, 12935, 3 CFR, 1946-1965 Comp., p. 339; Executive Order 11625 (36 FR 19967, 3 CFR, 1971-1975 Comp., p. 616); Executive Order 12432 (48 FR 32551, 3 CFR, 1983 Comp., p. 198; and Executive Order 12138 (44 FR 29637, 3 CFR, 1979 Comp., p. 393) do not apply to this subpart.

(2) Lessees or purchasers that intend to serve designated populations of the homeless must comply, within the designated population, with the requirements for nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, familial status, and disability.

(3) If the procedures that the lessee or purchaser intends to use to make known the availability of housing are unlikely to reach persons of any particular race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, familial status, or disability who may qualify for admission to the housing, the recipient must establish additional procedures that will ensure that interested persons can obtain information concerning the availability of the housing.

(4) The lessee or purchaser must adopt procedures to make available information on the existence and locations of facilities and services that are accessible to persons with a handicap and maintain evidence of implementation of the procedures.

(b) *Conflicts of interest.* No person who is an employee, agent, consultant, officer, or elected or appointed official of the lessee or purchaser of property under this subpart, or who is in a position to participate in a decisionmaking process or gain inside information with regard to the lease or purchase of the property, may obtain a personal or financial interest or benefit from the lease or purchase of the property, or have an interest in any contract, subcontract, or agreement with respect thereto, or the proceeds thereunder, either for himself or herself or for those with whom he or she has family or business ties, during his or her tenure or for one year thereafter.

[61 FR 55715, Oct. 28, 1996]

**§ 291.440 Recordkeeping requirements.**

Each lessee must establish and maintain sufficient records to enable the Secretary to determine whether the requirements of this subpart have been met. This includes, where available, racial, ethnic, gender, and disability status data on the applicants for, and beneficiaries of, this homeless initiative.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under OMB control number 2502-0412)

[61 FR 55716, Oct. 28, 1996]

**Subpart F—Good Neighbor Next Door Sales Program**

SOURCE: 71 FR 64426, Nov. 1, 2006, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 291.500 Purpose.**

This subpart describes the policies and procedures governing the Good Neighbor Next Door (GNND) Sales Program. The purpose of the GNND Sales Program is to improve the quality of life in distressed urban communities. This is to be accomplished by encouraging law enforcement officers, teachers, and firefighters/emergency medical technicians to purchase and live in homes that are located in the same communities where they perform their daily responsibilities and duties.

[81 FR 53003, Aug. 11, 2016]

**§ 291.505 Definitions.**

For purposes of this subpart:

*Locality* means the community, neighborhood, or jurisdiction of the unit of general local government, or Indian tribal government;

*Unit of general local government* means a county or parish, city, town, township, or other political subdivision of a State.

[81 FR 53003, Aug. 11, 2016]

**§ 291.510 Overview of the GNND Sales Program.**

(a) *General.* The GNND Sales Program enables a full-time law enforcement officer, teacher, or firefighter/emergency medical technician to purchase a specifically designated HUD-acquired home located in a HUD-designated revitalization area:

(1) At a 50 percent discount from the list price; and

(2) With a downpayment of \$100, but only if the law enforcement officer, teacher, or firefighter/emergency medical technician finances the home through a Federal Housing Administration (FHA) insured mortgage.

(b) *Eligible properties.* Under the GNND Sales Program, single-unit properties acquired by HUD located in HUD-designated revitalization areas (except occupied properties, those located in Asset Control Areas, or those that HUD has determined will be sold through an alternative sales method) will be made available to interested law enforcement officers, teachers, and firefighters/emergency medical technicians prior to listing the properties for sale to other purchasers.

(c) *Multiple bids.* In the event that several bids are received on a single property, HUD will randomly select a winning offer by lottery and will also randomly select two backup bids, to be utilized in the order selected, in the event the winning purchaser is unable to close on the property. If both of the backup purchasers are also unable to close on the property, the property will then be made available for sale to purchasers through other sales methods.

(d) *Real estate brokers.* Law enforcement officers, teachers, and firefighters/emergency medical technicians must submit bids through a par-

ticipating real estate broker. Any real estate broker who has agreed to comply with HUD requirements may participate in the GNND Sales Program. Real estate brokers may submit unlimited numbers of bids on an individual property provided each bid is from a different prospective purchaser.

(e) *Cap on sales.* The number of HUD-acquired homes sold under the GNND Sales Program in a fiscal year shall not exceed 5 percent of the number of “Part A” mortgage insurance conveyance claims paid by HUD in the prior fiscal year. The cap shall apply on a national basis, but HUD reserves the right to geographically apportion the cap to address regional or local differences in the number of homes sold through the GNND Sales Program. Additionally, HUD may adjust the percentage of the cap for any fiscal year. Any HUD determination to geographically distribute the cap, change a current geographic distribution, or adjust the percentage of the cap will be announced by HUD through publication of a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER at least 30 days before the revision takes effect.

[71 FR 64426, Nov. 1, 2006, as amended at 73 FR 1974, Jan. 11, 2008]

**§ 291.515 Purchaser qualifications.**

To qualify to purchase a home through the GNND Sales Program:

(a) The person must be employed as a law enforcement officer (as described in § 291.520), teacher (as described in § 291.525), or firefighter/emergency medical technician (as described in § 291.530) at the time he/she submits a bid to purchase a home through the program and at the time of closing on the purchase of the home;

(b) The person must certify to his/her good faith intention to continue employment as a law enforcement officer (as described in § 291.520), teacher (as described in § 291.525), or firefighter/emergency medical technician (as described in § 291.530) for at least one year following the date of closing;

(c) The person must make an earnest money deposit at the time of signing the contract for purchase of the home, as described in § 291.535;

(d) The person must agree to own, and live in as his/her sole residence, the



home for the entire duration of the owner-occupancy term, as described in § 291.540, and to certify to that occupancy, as described in § 291.565;

(e) The person must agree to execute a second mortgage and note on the home, as described in § 291.550, for the difference between the list price and the discounted selling price;

(f) Neither the person (nor his/her spouse) may have owned any residential real property during the year prior to the date of submitting a bid on the home being acquired through the GNND Sales Program;

(g) Neither the person (nor his/her spouse) must ever have purchased another home under the GNND Sales Program or under the predecessor Officer Next Door Sales and Teacher Next Door Sales Programs; and

(h) Although both spouses, if otherwise eligible, may submit a bid on a single home made available for sale under the GNND Sales Program, HUD will approve a bid from only one spouse.

#### **§ 291.520 Eligible law enforcement officers.**

A person qualifies as a law enforcement officer for the purposes of the GNND Sales Program if the person is:

(a) Employed full-time by a law enforcement agency of the federal government, a state, a unit of general local government, or an Indian tribal government;

(b) In carrying out such full-time employment, the person is sworn to uphold, and make arrests for violations of, federal, state, tribal, county, township, or municipal laws and

(c) The full-time employment in paragraph (a) of this section must, in the normal course of business, directly serve the locality in which the home is located.

[71 FR 64426, Nov. 1, 2006, as amended at 81 FR 53003, Aug. 11, 2016]

#### **§ 291.525 Eligible teachers.**

A person qualifies as a teacher for the purposes of the GNND Sales Program if the person is:

(a) Employed as a full-time teacher by a state-accredited public school or private school that provides direct

services to students in grades pre-kindergarten through 12; and

(b) The full-time employment in paragraph (a) of this section must, in the normal course of business, serve students from the locality where the home is located.

[71 FR 64426, Nov. 1, 2006, as amended at 81 FR 53003, Aug. 11, 2016]

#### **§ 291.530 Eligible firefighter/emergency medical technicians.**

A person qualifies as a firefighter/emergency medical technician for the purposes of the GNND Sales Program if the person is:

(a) Employed full-time as a firefighter or emergency medical technician by a fire department or emergency medical services responder unit of the Federal Government, a State, unit of general local government, or an Indian tribal government; and

(b) The full-time employment in paragraph (a) of this section must, in the normal course of business, directly serve the locality where the home is located.

[81 FR 53003, Aug. 11, 2016]

#### **§ 291.535 Earnest money deposit.**

(a) *General.* The earnest money deposit is the sum of money that must be paid by the law enforcement officer, teacher, or firefighter/emergency medical technician at the time of submitting a bid to purchase a property under the GNND Sales Program. Each bid must be accompanied by a certification from the real estate broker that the earnest money deposit has been deposited in the broker's escrow account.

(b) *Amount of earnest money deposit.* The amount of the earnest money deposit required is an amount equal to one percent of the list price, but no less than \$500 and no more than \$2,000.

(c) *Acceptance or rejection of offer.* If an offer is accepted, the earnest money deposit will be credited to the purchaser at closing. If the offer is rejected, the earnest money deposit will be returned. Earnest money deposits are subject to total forfeiture for failure of the participant to close a sale.

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### § 291.540 Owner-occupancy term.

(a) *General.* The owner-occupancy term is the number of months a participant in the GNND Sales Program must agree to own, and live in as his/her sole residence, a home purchased through the GNND Sales Program.

(b) *Start of owner-occupancy term.* The owner-occupancy term is 36 months, commencing either:

(1) Thirty days following closing if HUD determines that the home requires no more than \$10,000 in repairs prior to occupancy;

(2) Ninety days following closing if HUD determines that the home requires more than \$10,000, but not more than \$20,000 in repairs prior to occupancy; or

(3) One hundred and eighty days following closing if HUD determines that the home requires more than \$20,000 in repairs prior to occupancy.

(c) *Interruptions to owner-occupancy term—*(1) *General.* HUD may, at its sole discretion, allow interruptions to the 36-month owner-occupancy term if it determines that the interruption is necessary to prevent hardship, but only if the law enforcement officer, teacher, or firefighter/emergency medical technician submits a written and signed request to HUD containing the following information:

(i) The reason(s) why the interruption is necessary;

(ii) The dates of the intended interruption; and

(iii) A certification from the law enforcement officer, teacher, or firefighter/emergency medical technician that:

(A) The law enforcement officer, teacher, or firefighter/emergency medical technician is not abandoning the home as his/her permanent residence; and

(B) The law enforcement officer, teacher, or firefighter/emergency medical technician will resume occupancy of the home upon the conclusion of the interruption and complete the remainder of the 36-month owner-occupancy term.

(2) *Timing of written request to HUD.* The written request for approval of an interruption to the owner-occupancy term must be submitted to HUD at least 30 calendar days before the anticipated

interruption. Military service members protected by the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act need not submit their written request to HUD 30 days in advance of an anticipated interruption, but should submit their written request as soon as practicable upon learning of a potential interruption, in order to ensure timely processing and approval of the request.

### § 291.545 Financing purchase of the home.

(a) *Purchase using conventional financing.* If the law enforcement officer, teacher, or firefighter/emergency medical technician uses conventional financing to purchase a home under the GNND Sales Program, the amount of the mortgage may not exceed the discounted sales price of the home.

(b) *Purchase with FHA-insured mortgage.* (1) A law enforcement officer, teacher, or firefighter/emergency medical technician using an FHA-insured mortgage to finance purchase of the home may finance reasonable and customary closing costs with the FHA-insured mortgage.

(2) The amount of the FHA-insured mortgage may not exceed the discounted sales price of the home plus:

(i) The closing costs; and

(ii) The costs of rehabilitating and/or improving the home, where purchase of the home is being financed with an FHA-insured 203(k) rehabilitation loan (see 24 CFR part 203).

(c) *Closing costs and selling broker's commissions.* In no event will HUD pay a buyer's closing costs on the purchase of a property or a selling broker's commission through the GNND Sales Program.

### § 291.550 Second mortgage.

(a) *General.* The second mortgage is a mortgage and note, payable to HUD, on the home purchased through the GNND Sales Program in the amount of the difference between the list price of the home and the discounted selling price.

(b) *Second mortgage term.* The term of the second mortgage is equal to the owner-occupancy term (36 months) plus 30, 90, or 180 days, as provided in § 291.540(b). The amount of the second mortgage will be reduced by 1/36th on

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the last day of each month of occupancy following the occupancy start date. At the end of the 36th month of occupancy, the amount of the second mortgage will be zero.

(c) *Sale or vacancy of home.* If the law enforcement officer, teacher, or firefighter/emergency medical technician sells his/her home or stops living in the home as his/her sole residence prior to the expiration of the owner-occupancy term, he/she will owe HUD the amount due on the second mortgage as of the date the property is either sold or vacated.

**§ 291.555 Refinancing.**

(a) *General.* A law enforcement officer, teacher, or firefighter/emergency medical technician may refinance the mortgage and note used to purchase the home. However, the total of the refinanced mortgage and the remaining principal balance of the second mortgage may not exceed 95 percent of the value of the property, as appraised at the time of the refinancing. Unless HUD permits subordination pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section, the second mortgage described in § 291.550 must hold a superior lien position to the refinanced mortgage.

(b) *Subordination of second mortgage.* HUD may permit subordination of the second mortgage to the refinanced mortgage, but only if HUD, at its sole discretion, determines that the refinancing will satisfy one of the following:

(1) Will result in a lower annual percentage rate (APR) on the first mortgage;

(2) Will be undertaken pursuant to HUD's Section 203(k) Rehabilitation Loan Insurance Program in order to rehabilitate or repair the home; or

(3) Is necessary to prevent the law enforcement officer, teacher, or firefighter/emergency medical technician from defaulting on the first mortgage.

**§ 291.560 Ineligibility of multiple-unit properties.**

Only single-unit properties are eligible for the GNND Sales Program.

**§ 291.565 Continuing obligations after purchase.**

To remain in compliance with the GNND Sales Program, the law enforcement officer, teacher, or firefighter/emergency medical technician must, for the entire duration of the owner-occupancy term:

(a) Continue to own, and live in as his/her sole residence, the home purchased through the GNND Sales Program; and

(b) Certify initially and once annually thereafter during and at the conclusion of the owner-occupancy term that he/she was at all times fully in compliance with paragraph (a) of this section.

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