IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

NORTHERN MUTHICL OF LEXAS FILED COURT APR 2 6 2001 CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT Deputy

DEBRA WALKER, ET AL.,

CIVIL ACTION

v.

3:85-CV-1210-R

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, ET AL.,

CLASS ACTION



ORDER APPROVING PLAN FOR DHA'S IMPLEMENTATION OF HUD SETTLEMENT AS DHA'S SECTION 8 SUBSTITUTION PLAN

The Fifth Circuit has endorsed a program "directed towards placing public housing participants in neighborhoods of their choice through a vigorous Section 8 program, non-black neighborhoods, census tracts in which no public housing currently exists, or non-poor neighborhoods. The Section 8 program must be one "that serves the needs and concerns of black families, reaches out to white landlords, affords adequate fair market rent exceptions, and combats illegal private discrimination." Walker v. City of Mesquite, 169 F.2d 973, 987-988 (5th Cir. 1999) cert. denied, 528 U.S. 1131 (2000). The HUD Settlement Stipulation and Order provides the resources for such a program. The purpose of this order is to provide the DHA program that can implement the HUD settlement and an adequate DHA Section 8 substitution plan under ¶A.7. of the Remedial Order Affecting DHA. The remedy is

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narrowly tailored to remedy the defendants' past racial segregation. Id.

It is, accordingly, ORDERED, that

- (1) DHA shall administer the HUD Settlement Vouchers and the funding provided under the Settlement Stipulation and Order in compliance with the terms of that Order.
- (2) DHA shall award HUD Settlement Vouchers only to class members who receive an offer of a unit in a "predominantly white area." For the purposes of this Order, the term "predominantly white area" means either (a) a census tract that, according to the most recent decennial census, (i) has a black population at or below the average black population of the City of Dallas, (ii) has no public housing other than scattered site single family homes, and (iii) has a poverty rate at or below the average for the City of Dallas; or (b) a census tract that the Plaintiffs and DHA agree should be treated as a "predominantly white area." The U.S. Census data to be released by the U.S. Census Bureau on or before April 1, 2001 shall be used to determine the black population of the census tracts and the average black population of the City of Dallas. The census tract level poverty level data from the 2000 U.S. Census shall be applied to determine eligible areas for purposes of this section within 60 days of its release by the

U.S. Census Bureau.

- (3) DHA shall use the \$4.5 million in funding described in ¶

 I.7 of the HUD Settlement Stipulation and Order for mobility

 counseling services to class members.
- (4) DHA shall use the \$1.9 million remaining in DHA's Regional Opportunity Counseling ("ROC") grant for mobility counseling services to class members. ¶I.8 of the HUD Settlement Stipulation and Order.
- (5) DHA shall use the additional administrative fees described in ¶ 1.9 of the HUD Settlement Stipulation and Order to
 (1) pay per-unit bonuses to landlords of units in predominantly
 white areas which are to be leased for the first time to Section
 8 participants; (2) assist class members in the payment of
 apartment lease application fees; and (3) pay for mobility
 counseling services to class members.
- (6) DHA may use its Section 8 administrative fee reserves, if any, to assist class members with security deposits, moving expenses, and utility deposits to the extent the use is necessary for the Section 8 vouchers to be in used in compliance with the Settlement Stipulation and Order.
- (7) The Section 8 vouchers and mobility counseling services provided pursuant to the Settlement Stipulation and Order and

this Order shall only be offered to and used by households containing class members as defined in the Agreed Order Certifying Rule 23(b)(2) Class, entered January 19, 2001. DHA shall offer the opportunity to participate in the housing opportunity program made possible by these Section 8 vouchers and the mobility counseling services to class members on DHA's Section 8 waiting list. The offers shall be made in the sequence that the class members have been placed on the Section 8 waiting list.

In order to protect the class members' freedom of choice and since the housing opportunity program vouchers can be used only in the areas defined by this Order and the Settlement Stipulation and Order, the implementation plan shall include a method that allows a class member the opportunity to participate in the regular Section 8 program.

(8) The Settlement Voucher program set out in this Order shall be implemented by DHA in two phases. In the first phase, the household agrees to participate in the program and DHA determines whether or not the household will be eligible for a Section 8 voucher in the second stage of the program. The second stage of The Settlement Voucher program begins once a unit that meets the criteria under this Order has been offered to the household. At this time, DHA shall select the household for

participation in the Section 8 voucher program, issue the voucher, and complete the steps necessary to obtain the unit for the household.

- (9) The mobility counseling services to be provided to the participating households shall include:
- a) the initial identification of potential credit, rental history, or other impediments to successful use of the program, and counseling to help overcome or mitigate the effects of any such impediments,
- b) information about the services available including the various forms of financial assistance for deposits, etc,
- c) landlord recruitment efforts in eligible areas. These efforts shall include actions that, within the statutory and regulatory framework of the Section 8 program, encourage landlord participation in the Section 8 program by expediting the Section 8 inspection and administrative process for units in areas that meet the eligibility standards in ¶ 1 of this Order and ¶ 5 of the Settlement Stipulation and Order. This provision does not prohibit DHA from encouraging landlord participation in the Section 8 program by expediting the Section 8 inspection and administrative process for units in all areas.
 - d) referrals to landlords with vacant units that are avail-

able under the terms of this program,

- e) the provision of relevant neighborhood information for any areas of interest to class members in the program,
- f) transportation and child care services to assist class members in the housing search and in the actual lease negotiation and signing process if necessary to obtain the desired unit,
- g) the information necessary to enable the class members to recognize possible housing discrimination they might encounter in their search for housing such as a refusal to rent to families with children, a reluctance or refusal to rent to families with older children, unreasonable credit or rental history requirements, high income requirements, unreasonable security deposit requirements, and the refusal to accept Section 8,
- h) cooperation with public and private fair housing organizations in combating illegal discrimination against class members participating in the housing opportunity program,
- i) post move counseling including at a minimum the social work to help the household resolve complaints or problems involving the landlord, schools, community and neighbors, the Section 8 program, or other areas, and counseling on employment and educational opportunities available and the means to take advantage of those opportunities, and

- j) an annual survey of housing opportunity program participants to determine:
- i) the effects of participation in the program on the participant households,
- ii) the participants' satisfaction with the services provided and the housing received, and
- iii) possible improvements to the Settlement Voucher program.

DHA and plaintiffs shall attempt to agree on the contractor for the survey and the content and procedure of the survey. In the event such agreement cannot be reached, the Court will decide any issues upon which there is no agreement.

- (10) The following additional mobility counseling services may be offered prior to expiration of 60 days from selection for the Settlement Voucher program but must be provided to households who have gone 60 days since their entry into the Settlement Voucher program and who have not received an acceptable offer of a unit:
- a) negotiating with landlords for a specific, appropriate unit on behalf of the family in an area that is both acceptable to the family and complies with ¶5 of the Settlement Stipulation and Order,

- b) credit counseling including assisting the family in efforts to resolve credit and rental history problems with creditors, credit agencies, and prior landlords. This includes assisting the family in filing notices of incorrect information and other protests of adverse credit or rental history information, and
- c) provision of bonuses to landlords, assistance with lease application fees, security deposits, moving expenses, and utility deposits as necessary to assist the households to obtain an acceptable unit.
- (11) DHA shall base the voucher payment standard for the vouchers issued under this Order on the highest Percentile Fair Markets approved by HUD for the Dallas area and up to the 125% of the Fair Market Rent as approved by HUD under the Settlement Stipulation and Order as needed to obtain units for the participating households.
- (12) No dwelling units may be made available to class members under the Settlement Voucher program in violation of HUD's Section 8 Housing Quality Standards for units, sites, and neighborhoods.
- (13) DHA shall include a provision in the Housing Assistance

 Payment contract for each unit assisted pursuant to the Settle-

ment Voucher program set out in this Order that DHA will pay late fees if DHA's portion of the contract rent is not timely paid.

- (14) DHA shall submit an annual budget for the expenditure of the funds provided by the Settlement Stipulation and Order to the Court for approval. The first budget shall be submitted within 60 days of the date of this order. The first budget may be for less than a year if DHA wants to establish a different date for the regular submission of its budget for approval. DHA shall spend the Settlement Stipulation and Order provided funds in compliance with the approved budget or any court approved modifications of the budget.
- (15) DHA shall submit, along with the proposed budget, an annual plan for the implementation of this Order and the Settlement Stipulation and Order to the Court for approval. DHA shall follow the plan as approved by the Court or as modified by the Court. The plan shall include DHA's procedures for providing the mobility counseling services and other assistance provided for under this Order and the Settlement Stipulation and Order.
- (16) DHA shall not spend any of the funds provided by the Settlement Stipulation and Order on the activities covered by the Section 8 preliminary fee, the Section 8 hard to house fee, and the Section 8 ongoing administrative fee unless there is express

approval for such spending by the Court. The activities funded by the Section 8 preliminary fee, the Section 8 hard to house fee, and the Section 8 ongoing administrative fee are currently described at 24 CFR § 982.152 and HUD Handbook 7420.7, § 8-3.

- expenditure of the funds provided by the Settlement Stipulation and Order. The audit shall meet the same standards required for the Independent Public Accountant Audit of HUD funds. The audit shall include examination of DHA's compliance with the court approved budgets and this Order. The funds provided by the Settlement Stipulation and Order may be used to pay for this audit.
- (18) DHA shall submit the following monthly reports to plaintiffs' counsel showing:
- (a) the receipt and expenditure of funds under the court approved budget,
 - (b) the implementation of the court approved plan,
- (c) the name, address, and telephone number of each class member in the program for more than 60 days who has not been housed,
- (d) the identity of any landlords in eligible areas refusing to participate in the Section 8 program and the reason for the

refusal,

- (e) a computer readable spreadsheet in an Excel, Lotus 1-2-3, or other readily available spreadsheet program stating the monthly total and cumulative total of units participating in the housing opportunity program by census tract and race of household, and
- (f) any barriers or impediments to implementation of this Order or the requirements of the Settlement Stipulation and Order including the recapture, disallowance, or refusal to make available any of the funds from the Settlement Stipulation and Order.

DHA shall make the information upon which the reports are based available to plaintiffs' counsel upon request. The purpose for the reports is to provide the information necessary to monitor the class members' receipt of the relief in the Settlement Stipulation and Order without unduly burdening DHA. If plaintiffs' counsel want additional information in the reports or if DHA wants to change the reporting period or content of the reports, the parties should attempt to agree on the changes. If no agreement is possible, the parties may apply to the Court for relief.

(19) DHA shall include the following information in an annual report filed with its proposed annual budget and implemen-

tation plan:

- (a) receipt and expenditure of funds under the court approved budget,
 - (b) implementation of the court approved plan,
- (c) the number of class members in the program for more than 60 days who has not been housed,
- (d) the identity of any landlords in eligible areas refusing to participate in the Section 8 program during the year,
- (e) the annual total and cumulative total of units participating in the housing opportunity program by census tract and race of household, and
- (f) any barriers or impediments to implementation of this Order or the requirements of the Settlement Stipulation and Order including the recapture, disallowance, or refusal to make available any of the funds from the Settlement Stipulation and Order.
- (20) DHA shall maintain the following information and make it available for inspection and copying by plaintiffs' counsel:
- (a) all correspondence between HUD and DHA on issues affecting these units, all documents and reports submitted by DHA to HUD containing information about these units, all responses by HUD to DHA documents and reports.
 - (b) The following information in a computer readable spread-

sheet in an Excel, Lotus 1-2-3, or other readily available spreadsheet program for each tenant obtaining a unit through in the housing opportunity program: name, race, address, move-in date, landlord name, contract rent, utility allowance, Total Tenant Payment, census tract location of the unit.

- (c) The following information in a computer readable spreadsheet in an Excel, Lotus 1-2-3, or other readily available
 spreadsheet program on each person exceeding 60 days in the
 program: Name, race, unit size needed, initial date on the
 housing opportunity program, number of days on the program, and
 current status.
- (d) The following information in a computer readable spreadsheet in an Excel, Lotus 1-2-3, or other readily available
 spreadsheet program on each landlord refusing to participate in
 Section 8. Name, address, phone number, of landlord and specific
 person communicating refusal, and reason for refusal; name,
 address, phone number, census tract location of units; and name
 of DHA employee to whom the refusal was communicated,
- (e) The name, address, telephone number, address of the potentially available units, and contact person for each landlord contacted for the purpose of recruiting participation in DHA's Section 8 program and the results of the contact,

- (f) The following information in a computer readable spreadsheet in an Excel, Lotus 1-2-3, or other readily available spreadsheet program for each household participating in the program: name, race, unit size needed, initial date on the housing opportunity program, number of days on the program, the date and type of each form of mobility service, including financial assistance provided by DHA to the household and post-move mobility counseling services, the name, address, and census tract location of each unit the household attempts to rent and the result of each attempt, whether or not the household withdraws from the program and the reason for the withdrawal, and
 - (g) the reports of the audits required by this Order.

The goal of this provision is to provide the information necessary for effective monitoring of the relief provided to class members while not causing undue administrative burdens to DHA. If plaintiffs decide that other information is needed or if DHA decides that the information is no longer necessary or has become too burdensome to provide, the parties shall attempt to agree on information to be provided. If no agreement can be reached, the parties may apply to court for relief. So Ordered this 25 day of April , 2001.

JERRY BUCHMEYER
CHIEF JUDGE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

AGREED TO:

Date: 4/23/01

Michael M. Daniel State Bar No. 05360500 Laura B. Beshara State Bar No. 02261750

MICHAEL M. DANIEL, P.C. 3301 Elm Street Dallas, Texas 75226-1637 Telephone No. 214/939-9230 Fax No. 214/939-9229

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS

AGREED TO:

Date:

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ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT THE HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF DALLAS

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXASUS DISTRICT OF TOTAL NORTHERN DISTRICTORY

DALLAS DIVISION

FILED

CLERK, U.S

DEBRA WALKER, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

ν.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, et al.,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. CA-3-85-1210-R



SETTLEMENT STIPULATION AND ORDER

WHEREAS, this action has been pending for more than fifteen years, and

WHEREAS, the parties hereto have agreed upon the means set forth herein fully and finally to resolve this action without the burdens of further litigation, and

WHEREAS, the parties hereto acknowledge that the provision of the funding of Section 8 vouchers, and the funding of extraordinary fees in connection with such vouchers, by HUD pursuant hereto subsequent to Federal Fiscal Year 2001 are subject to the availability of appropriations and other contingencies as set forth herein, and

WHEREAS, the parties have entered into this Settlement Stipulation and Order ("Order") to supplant the Modified Remedial Order Affecting HUD entered on December 5, 1997 (the "Modified

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Remedial Order"), and all other remedial orders and agreements in this action, NOW, THEREFORE,

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and between Plaintiffs and Defendant United States Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"), by their undersigned counsel, as follows:

Part I: RELIEF TO THE PLAINTIFF CLASS

Section 8 Vouchers

- 1. HUD shall provide a total of 3,205 Section 8 vouchers (the "Vouchers") to the Dallas Housing Authority ("DHA"), in its capacity as a Section 8 Administrator, pursuant to the terms and procedures set forth in this Order. As an administrative matter, this process will be implemented as follows: subject to the provisions of ¶ 4, below, HUD will increase DHA's adjusted baseline number of Section 8 voucher units (the "Vouchers") by a total of 3,205 in accordance applicable law and regulations for renewal of expiring consolidated Annual Contribution Contract (ACC) funding increments, pursuant to 24 C.F.R. § 982.102. The Vouchers will be administered by DHA in its capacity as a Section 8 Administrator pursuant to its Section 8 voucher ACC with HUD in accordance with the terms in this Order.
- 2. HUD shall provide DHA with funding for not fewer than 2,100 of the 3,205 Vouchers within 90 days of the effective date

- of this Order, pursuant to the administrative process set forth in ¶ 1, above. HUD may provide this funding from moneys already reserved in connection with this action.
- 3. HUD shall provide the funding for the remainder of the Vouchers on or before December 5, 2007. HUD may provide the funding for the remainder of the Vouchers at such rate as HUD, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate.
- As an administrative matter, all reservations of units 4. pursuant to this order will be in addition to the 11,526 units that constitute DHA's adjusted baseline number of units as of December 31, 2000, apart from the 1,605 units previously reserved for DHA pursuant to the Modified Remedial Order in this case (for a total baseline of 13,131 units). Reservation of 3,205 units pursuant to this order will not reduce the reservation of additional Section 8 units that otherwise would be made to DHA. Funding for the Vouchers shall be renewed in accordance applicable law and regulations for renewal of expiring consolidated ACC funding increments, pursuant to 24 C.F.R. § 982.102. Pursuant to HUD's current regulations, the Vouchers funded pursuant to this Order shall be included in the baseline number of vouchers used for calculation of voucher renewal funding. HUD may, in its sole discretion, reduce DHA's baseline by one voucher for each Voucher that is not used in compliance

with of the terms of this Order. Once a class member who has received a Voucher ceases to participate in the Section 8 program, the Voucher shall no longer be subject to the requirements of this Order but shall be subject only to the requirements of the ACC and the statutes and regulations that govern the Section 8 program.

- 5. The Vouchers are to be awarded by DHA solely to class members that receive an offer of a unit in a "predominantly white area." Such an offer is deemed by the plaintiff class to constitute a racially desegregative housing opportunity.

 As used in this Order, the term "predominantly white area" means either:
 - A. A census tract that, according to the most recent decennial census, (i) has a black population at or below the average black population of the City of Dallas, (ii) has no public housing, and (iii) has a poverty rate at or below the average for the City of Dallas; or
 - B. A census tract that the plaintiffs and DHA agree should be treated as a predominantly white area.

Fair Market Rent Exception

6. Within 90 days of the effective date of this Order, HUD will authorize DHA to establish Section 8 payment standard amounts of up to 125% of the Fair Market Rent ("FMR") for

each Voucher and for each bedroom size for class member families that move to, and occupy dwelling units in, predominantly white areas. HUD authorizes the applicable higher payment standard amount to remain in effect for any Voucher held by any class member as long as the Voucher is used in compliance with the terms of ¶ 5 of this Order.

Mobility Counseling Funding

7. HUD will provide an aggregate total of \$4.8 million to DHA for initial and follow-up mobility counseling to class members. HUD has previously provided \$300,000 to DHA for this purpose. Within 90 days of the effective date of this Order, HUD will make available \$4.5 million to DHA for mobility counseling to class members. If DHA has failed to spend any of this money by December 7, 2007, HUD may recapture the entire amount of any such unspent funds.

Regional Opportunity Counseling Funds

8. Within 90 days of the effective date of this Order, HUD will make available the \$1.9 million remaining in DHA's Regional Opportunity Counseling ("ROC") grant outstanding as of December 15, 2000. These funds shall be used for mobility counseling and no longer will be subject to the regulatory and other requirements of the ROC program, including the requirement that DHA retain a nonprofit organization to administer the funds. Such ROC funds shall be made

available to DHA subject to the requirement that the funds be used solely for mobility counseling for members of the class in this case and in accordance with the terms of this Order. This funding may be treated by DHA in the same way it treats the funds pursuant to ¶ 7, above. If DHA has failed to spend any of this money by December 7, 2007, HUD may recapture the entire amount of any such unspent funds.

Additional Administrative Fees

9. HUD will grant DHA a one-time payment of an additional \$1000 in administrative fees (extraordinary fees) for each of the 3,205 Vouchers provided for in this Order. This money shall be provided on a per-voucher basis in accordance with HUD rules, regulations, and procedures relating to the payment of Section 8 administrative fees after DHA, in its Section 8 program year-end statement, notifies HUD that a lease to which a voucher hereunder applies has been executed. extraordinary fees may be used for the following three purposes, or for such other purposes as HUD, in its sole discretion, permits. First, DHA may use the extraordinary fees to pay per-unit bonuses to landlords of units in a predominantly white area who agree to participate, for the first time, in the Section 8 voucher program. Second, DHA may use the extraordinary fees to assist class members in the payment of apartment lease application fees. Third, DHA

- may use the extraordinary fees to pay for mobility counseling for class members.
- 10. HUD hereby authorizes DHA to use its Section 8 administrative fee reserves, if any, to assist class members with security deposits, moving expenses, and utility deposits.
- 11. Until HUD determines that it has met its obligations under this Order, HUD shall send a report to all parties on or before November 15th of each year setting forth the total number of Vouchers allocated, and funds released to DHA hereunder.

Part II: Conditions and Release and Termination of the Litigation

- 12. HUD is not responsible for the performance of any other party in this action pursuant to this Order or to any other Consent Decree, order, or agreement in this action. It is expressly agreed among the parties to this Order that HUD is not, and shall not be, responsible for ensuring that class members are offered or are placed in housing consistent with the terms of § 5, above.
- 13. Nothing in this agreement shall be construed to require HUD to provide additional funding, other than that which is expressly agreed to herein. HUD's duty to discharge the obligations imposed upon it by the express terms of this Order is subject to the availability of funding from

Congress for any purpose for which funding is required, and to the existence of statutory authority authorizing the acts necessary for performance by HUD of its obligations under this Order. HUD shall not be found to be in violation of this Order on account of any failure to perform any obligation imposed upon HUD by the terms of this Order that results (i) from the unavailability of funding from Congress necessary for performance, or (ii) from the modification or revocation of statutory authority, that is necessary for such performance by HUD. If HUD does not commit funding for a total of 3,205 Vouchers by December 5, 2007, and the funding of extraordinary fees in connection with such Vouchers, then the exclusive remedy to which the plaintiffs shall be entitled is to seek a court order requiring HUD to commit the funding to DHA for the outstanding balance of such Vouchers and to provide the funding of extraordinary fees in connection with such Vouchers. If HUD does not comply with the requirements of ¶ 2, 6, 7 and 8 of this Order within 90 days after the effective date hereof, then the exclusive remedy to which the plaintiffs shall be entitled is to seek a court order requiring HUD to comply with the specific obligations of these paragraphs; provided, however, that plaintiffs must exercise the right to seek such a court order within 45 days after the deadline

- hereunder for performance of the specific obligations of these paragraphs by HUD, i.e., within 135 days after the effective date hereof.
- The plaintiffs and all of the class members, and each of 14. them, and their heirs, administrators, successors, or assigns (together, the "Releasors"), hereby release and forever discharge HUD and any component, division, agency, or establishment of HUD, and all HUD officials administrators, employees, agents, attorneys, or successors thereof (together the "Releasees"), from any and all claims and causes of action, known or unknown, which plaintiffs have, or could have been asserted, by reason of, or with respect to, or in connection with, or which arise out of, any of the matters alleged at any time in this action, including, without limitation, any claim of race-based discrimination in housing programs funded by HUD, and any of the matters alleged in the Complaint, the Amended Complaint, the Second Amended Complaint, the Notice served upon HUD by plaintiffs on August 3, 2000, or in any other pleading, motion, or other paper served or filed by plaintiffs, which the Releasors, or any of them have against the Releasees, or any of them.
- 15. The plaintiffs and all of the class members, and each of them, are hereby forever barred and enjoined from

prosecuting any claims or causes of action that are described in the preceding paragraph.

- 16. Nothing contained in this Order shall:
 - A. Impose on HUD any duty, obligation, or requirement to produce any particular result other than to perform the specific obligations that are imposed on HUD by the explicit terms of this Order; or
 - B. Impose on HUD any duty, obligation or requirement the performance of which would be inconsistent with law, rules, or regulations at the time of such performance;
 - C. Impose on HUD any duty, obligation or requirement to award, grant, or otherwise make available to the plaintiffs or any other party any benefits under any program administered by HUD except as specifically and explicitly set forth herein; or
 - D. Alter the parties' agreement that the funding provided by HUD pursuant to this Order is the sole and exclusive funding to be provided by HUD in this action, and such funding is not subject to modification without HUD's consent, notwithstanding any other provision hereof or of any other Consent Decree or agreement in this action.
- 17. This Order is not and shall not be construed as an admission by HUD of the truth of any allegation or the validity of any

claim asserted at any time in this action, or of HUD's liability in connection with any matter set forth in any document served or filed by the plaintiffs, nor is this Order a concession or an admission of any fault or omission or failure to act, or in any statement, written document, or report heretofore issued, filed or made by HUD, nor shall any of the terms hereof, or any statement made or document written by any party in the settlement negotiations pertaining hereto, be offered or received in evidence or in any way referred to in any civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, other than such proceedings as may be necessary to consummate or enforce this Order, nor shall they be construed by anyone for any purpose whatsoever as an admission or presumption of any wrongdoing on the part of HUD, nor an admission by HUD that the consideration to be given hereunder represents the relief which could be recovered after trial.

- 18. No default by any person or party in the performance of any of the covenants or obligations under this Order, or any judgment or order entered in connection herewith, shall affect the injunction against prosecution of actions against HUD or the discharge and release of HUD, or any other provision of this Part of this Order.
- 19. In the event of any alleged default by any party in the

performance of any of such party's obligations under this Order, or any judgment or order in connection therewith, the parties agree that the following procedure shall apply before relief is sought from the Court:

- A. The party seeking enforcement of a provision of this
 Order shall serve on all other parties a written notice
 that describes with particularity the term(s) of the
 Order that are alleged to have been violated, the
 specific errors or omissions upon which the alleged
 violation is based, and the corrective action sought.
 The party alleging the violation shall not inform the
 Court of his allegation at that time.
- B. The parties shall make their best efforts to resolve the matter in dispute without the Court's involvement. If requested to do so, the party seeking enforcement shall provide to an opposing party any information and materials available to the party seeking enforcement that support the allegation of a violation in the notice.
- C. The party who served the notice of violation pursuant to subparagraph (A), above, may not move for enforcement of this Order until at least forty-five days after the date on which it served the notice.
- 20. Contemporaneously with the execution hereof, the parties

- shall file a joint motion for the approval and entry of this Order pursuant to Rule 23(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 21. This Order, the entry of which is a condition precedent to any obligation of any party hereunder, shall be effective upon the approval, execution, and entry hereof by the Court pursuant to Rule 23(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The date of such entry shall be the "effective date" of this Order. If this Order is finally disapproved by any court, or in the event that it fails to become effective or is modified for any reason whatsoever without the consent of HUD, or if it is finally reversed or modified on appeal, this Order shall be null and void, shall have no further force and effect, and shall not be used in this action or in any other action or proceeding, and this Order and all court proceedings pursuant to Rule 23(e), Fed. R. Civ. P., and all negotiations, filings, and statements made in connection herewith shall be without prejudice to any person or party, shall not be deemed or construed to be an admission by any party of any fact, matter, or proposition, and shall not be used in any manner or for any purpose in any subsequent proceeding in this action or in any other action, whether judicial or administrative.
- 22. The terms of the numbered paragraphs of this Order

constitute the entire agreement of the parties, and no statement, remark, agreement, or understanding, oral or written, which is not contained herein, shall be recognized or enforced, nor does the Order reflect any agreed-upon purpose other than the desire of the parties to reach a full and final conclusion of this action as between the parties and to resolve this matter without the time and expense of further litigation. Each party has entered into this Order after consultation with its attorneys and after an independent investigation of any relevant facts, and no party has relied upon the representations of any other party except those set forth herein.

- 23. Upon the entry of this Order by the Court, all pending motions by the plaintiffs against HUD, if any, shall be deemed withdrawn with prejudice, and HUD's Motion to Substitute ¶ A.6 Plan, filed August 20, 1999, shall be deemed withdrawn. Plaintiffs agree not to file the Notice served upon HUD on August 3, 2000. All parties agree that the relief set forth in this Order constitutes a full and complete satisfaction of each and every one of the claims made in that Notice.
- 24. The provisions of this Order shall constitute the entirety of HUD's obligations in this action. This Order supersedes the Modified Remedial Order and any other prior order or

agreement in this action that imposed any obligation upon HUD (together, the "Remedial Orders"). The Remedial Orders are hereby vacated and their terms, in their entirety, are null and void. All obligations heretofore imposed upon HUD pursuant to this action are deemed fully and completely satisfied hereby, and such obligations are replaced in their entirety by the obligations contained in this Order.

- 25. The performance of the specific obligations undertaken by
 HUD pursuant to this Order shall constitute full and final
 performance of any and all of HUD's obligations in this
 action. If HUD performs the specific obligations undertaken
 pursuant hereto by providing (i) the funding authority to
 DHA for all of the Vouchers, and (ii) all of the other funds
 as set forth herein, on or before December 5, 2007, then:
 - A. HUD's obligations in this action shall be deemed fully and finally completed;
 - B. plaintiffs shall not be entitled to, and shall not seek, any additional relief against HUD;
 - C. plaintiffs shall not be entitled to, and shall not seek, any extension, continuation, or renewal of the jurisdiction of the Court over the above-captioned action.
- 26. The provisions of ¶¶ 24 and 25, above, shall not affect
 HUD's obligations under ¶¶ 10, 11, 12 and 13 of the Agreed

Order Concerning Revitalization of Roseland Homes, entered on March 10, 2000; provided, however, that, if HUD does not comply with the requirements of ¶ 10, 11, 12 and 13 of the Agreed Order Concerning Revitalization of Roseland Homes, then the exclusive remedy to which the plaintiffs shall be entitled is to seek a court order requiring HUD to comply with the specific obligations of these paragraphs.

- 27. In full and final settlement of any and all claims for attorneys' fees, expenses or costs by the plaintiffs against HUD in this action, and subject to the terms of ¶ 14, above, HUD shall pay \$72,000 to the undersigned counsel for the plaintiffs.
- 28. Class counsel who is signatory hereto hereby represents, warrants, and guarantees that he is duly authorized to execute this Order on behalf of the plaintiffs, the class members, and all of their counsel.
- 29. This action shall immediately be fully and finally dismissed with prejudice as against HUD. Accordingly, pursuant to Rule 41(a)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the above-captioned action, as against HUD, is hereby dismissed with prejudice and, except as specifically set forth herein, without attorneys' fees, expenses or costs. The Clerk is hereby directed immediately to enter Judgment in accordance with this paragraph.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: JAN. 18, 2801

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Dated: //18/0/____

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ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT APPROVED AND SO ORDERED:

Dated: 8 MARCH 2001

JERRY BUCHMEYER, CHIEF JUDGE UNITED SCATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410-3000

MAR 2 8 2001

ORFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOLEDIG

MEMORANDUM FOR: Eileen Rogers, Director, Texas State Office of Public Housing

FROM: Gloria Cousar Acting General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, P

SUBJECT: Waiver of 24 CFR 982.503(c) for Counties Subject to the Federal District Court's Decree in Walker v. HUD

As you know, HUD has been a party to the Walker case since 1985. The Housing Authority of the City of Dallas (DHA) is obligated, under the Modified Remedial Order Affecting DHA, to provide 3,205 Desegregated Housing Opportunities (DHOs) in predominantly white areas. The Department has, after lengthy negotiations, entered into a global settlement of the Walker case which provides, among other things, that HUD will give funding authority to DHA for 3,205 settlement vouchers to be used by class members in predominantly white areas. That agreement was formally approved by the Court and entered on the docket on March 8, 2001. One of the terms of that settlement requires the Department to increase the exception payment standards to 125% of published Fair Market Rents (FMR) for the settlement vouchers to be used in conformity with the settlement.

This litigation settlement term is justified by considerations of policy, as well as by the exigencies of the legal process. One of the possible impediments to increased success in placing class members in the designated areas with settlement vouchers is the anticipated unavailability of affordable rental housing in "predominantly white areas" as that term is defined by the settlement.

The Department has agreed to further increase voucher payment standard amounts in order to facilitate the placement of class members with settlement vouchers in the designated areas. This increase in the voucher payment standard amounts may better enable class members to gain access to the comparatively limited number of units that may be expected to become available in the tight existing rental market, and may therefore open up more housing opportunities in "predominantly white areas" to class members.

Increased payment standard amounts may expand the potential rental market available to class members beyond the FMR rent level, and may make class members more competitive in the tight rental market in Dallas. In addition, increased payment standard amounts may contribute to the development of the affordable rental stock in the designated areas by making rents high enough to support leveraged finance development of such stock. Finally, increased payment standard amounts are an important element in the final settlement of a lengthy and costly lawsuit.

Because the Department must increase payment standards in order to comply with its obligations under the <u>Walker</u> decree, and because the regulatory provisions of 24 CFR 982.503(c) do not give the Department the needed flexibility, I therefore find good cause to waive 24 CFR 982.503(c) to authorize the Dallas Housing Authority to establish

payment standard amounts of up to 125% of the FMR for each bedroom size for class member families that successfully move to a "predominantly white area" and occupy dwelling units there with the use of settlement vouchers. HUD authorizes the applicable higher payment standard amount to remain in effect for any settlement voucher held by any class member as long as the voucher is used a "predominantly white area." For the purposes of the this memorandum, "predominantly white area" will be defined, consistent with its definition in the Walker Settlement Stipulation and Order, to mean either:

A. A census tract that, according to the most recent decennial census data, (i) has a black population at or below the average black population of the City of Dallas, (ii) has no public housing, and (iii) has a poverty rate at or below the average for the City of Dallas; or_____

B. A census tract that the plaintiffs and DHA agree should be treated as a

"predominantly white area."

Please take the necessary steps to implement this waiver as soon as possible. This waiver must be implemented within 90 days of the entry of the order approving the settlement, Settlement Stipulation and Order, or June 7, 2001. On behalf of the Department, please (i) inform DHA in writing of the Department's waiver, (ii) encourage DHA to use the new flexibility afforded by this waiver in crafting its payment standard schedules, (iii) advise DHA that the waiver does not after the requirement that it enforce rent reasonableness, and (iv) encourage DHA and Community Builders to assist in the development of new affordable housing in non-impacted areas through leveraged financing.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for your continued diligence in carrying out the necessary tasks to implement the requirements of the Walker Settlement Stipulation and Order that apply to PIH.