

## **FIREARMS AND WEAPONS POLICY**

**Effective January 1, 2025**

### **OVERVIEW**

County Housing has established a Firearms and Weapons policy to promote the overall safety and well-being of everyone in the County Housing community. This policy clearly defines firearms and weapons and sets forth definitive guidelines for handling weapons and firearms in the County Housing community consistent with applicable laws.

Residents have the right to keep and bear arms, but also the responsibility to protect the health and safety of themselves, other residents, guests, and County Housing employees. To that end, residents, household members, guests, and visitors shall:

- Comply with all federal, state, and local requirements regarding the lawful ownership, possession, transportation, and use of firearms and weapons.
- Exercise reasonable care in the storage and security of firearms and weapons, including ammunition.
- Exercise reasonable care when handling firearms and weapons, ensuring the safety of household members and others.
- Store or otherwise secure all firearms and weapons during unit inspections, maintenance visits, housekeeping visits, or any occasion where County Housing personnel or authorized third parties enter resident units.
- Not discharge or use any firearm or weapon on County Housing property or within the unit in violation of any applicable federal, state, or local law.
- Not threaten or otherwise take any action with firearms or weapons on County Housing property that endangers the health or safety of others.

### **DEFINITIONS**

The term “firearm” shall include but is not limited to the following:

- Pistols, revolvers, semiautomatic handguns, other handguns, rifles, shotguns, and any other instrument capable of being held and fired by a single person, that propels a projectile by means of explosive charge of firearm powder or other explosive propellant, mechanical (spring) action, gas or compressed air, capable of killing or injuring another person or an animal.
- Firearm parts kits that are designed to or may readily be completed, assembled, restored, or otherwise converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive (e.g., pistol, revolver, rifle, or shotgun).

No person may lawfully possess on County Housing property or within a unit any fully automatic firearm, machine firearm, sawed-off shotgun, assault weapon (as defined by specific state or federal statute), large capacity magazines unless allowed under state law, large capacity ammunition feeding devices, grenade launcher, rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) launcher, or other firearm or ammunition prohibited by applicable state or federal law.

The term “weapon” shall include but is not limited to the following:

- An instrument that is specifically designed, made, and/or adapted for the purpose of inflicting physical damage, serious bodily injury, or death by striking a person with the instrument, e.g. knife, dagger, club, nightstick, mace, slingshot, metal knuckles, crossbow.

## **VIOLATIONS OF FIREARMS AND WEAPONS POLICY**

Material violations of the Firearms and Weapons Policy, as determined by County Housing, shall be deemed a serious violation of the lease at County Housing's sole discretion. County Housing will terminate the family's tenancy in accordance with the policies in Chapter 13 of this ACOP.

Residents are responsible for the action and conduct of their guests and others under their control with regard to such person's possession of firearms and weapons.

The following are grounds for enforcement action against residents, including lease termination and eviction:

- Unlawful ownership, possession, transportation, or use of a firearm or weapon.
- Unlawful shooting, firing, exploding, throwing, discharging, or use of a firearm or weapon.
- Infliction of any injury upon another person through the intentional, reckless, careless, or negligent use of a firearm or weapon.
- Damaging any property through the reckless, careless, or negligent use of a firearm or weapon.
- Brandishing, displaying, or otherwise taking any action with a firearm or weapon in connection with a verbal or non-verbal threat of bodily harm or endangerment of health and safety.