

## § 30.60

Each violation shall constitute a separate violation as to each sale or lease or offer to sell or lease.

[61 FR 50215, Sept. 24, 1996, as amended at 68 FR 12788, Mar. 17, 2003; 72 FR 5588, Feb. 6, 2007]

### § 30.60 Dealers or sponsored third-party originators.

(a) *General.* The Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner, or his or her designee, may initiate a civil money penalty action against any dealer or sponsored third-party originator that violates section 2(b)(7) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1703). Such violations include, but are not limited to:

(1) Falsifying information on an application for dealer approval or re-approval submitted to a lender;

(2) Falsifying statements on a HUD credit application, improvement contract, note, security instrument, completion certificate, or other loan document;

(3) Failing to sign a credit application if the dealer or sponsored third-party originator assisted the borrower in completing the application;

(4) Falsely certifying to a lender that the loan proceeds have been or will be spent on eligible improvements;

(5) Falsely certifying to a lender that the property improvements have been completed;

(6) Falsely certifying that a borrower has not been given or promised any cash payment, rebate, cash bonus, or anything of more than nominal value as an inducement to enter into a loan transaction;

(7) Making a false representation to a lender with respect to the credit-worthiness of a borrower or the eligibility of the improvements for which a loan is sought.

(b) *Continuing violation.* Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate violation.

(c) *Amount of penalty.* The maximum penalty is \$8,500 for each violation, up to a limit for any particular person of \$1,525,000 during any one-year period.

[61 FR 50215, Sept. 24, 1996, as amended at 68 FR 12788, Mar. 17, 2003; 72 FR 5588, Feb. 6, 2007; 77 FR 51467, Aug. 24, 2012; 78 FR 4059, Jan. 18, 2013]

## 24 CFR Subtitle A (4-1-14 Edition)

### § 30.65 Failure to disclose lead-based paint hazards.

(a) *General.* The Director of the Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control, or his or her designee, may initiate a civil money penalty action against any person who knowingly violates 42 U.S.C. 4852d.

(b) *Amount of penalty.* The maximum penalty is \$16,000 for each violation.

[65 FR 50593, Aug. 18, 2000, as amended at 76 FR 36851, June 22, 2011]

### § 30.68 Section 8 owners.

(a) *Definitions.* The following definitions apply to this section only:

*Agent employed to manage the property that has an identity of interest and identity of interest agent.* An entity:

(1) That has management responsibility for a project;

(2) In which the ownership entity, including its general partner or partners (if applicable), has an ownership interest; and

(3) Over which the ownership entity exerts effective control.

*Effective control.* The ability to direct, alter, supervise, or otherwise influence the actions, policies, decisions, duties, employment, or personnel of the management agent.

*Entity.* An individual corporation; company; association; partnership; authority; firm; society; trust; state, local government or agency thereof; or any other organization or group of people.

*Ownership interest.* Any direct or indirect interest in the stock, partnership interests, beneficial interests (for a trust) or other medium of equity participation. An indirect interest includes equity participation in any entity that holds a management interest (e.g. general partner, managing member of an LLC, majority stockholder, trustee) or minimum equity interest (e.g., a 25% or more limited partner, 10% or more stockholder) in the ownership entity of the management agent.

(b) *General.* The Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner, or his or her designee, or the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, or his or her designee, may initiate a civil money penalty against any owner, any general partner of a partnership owner, or any agent

employed to manage the property that has an identity of interest with the owner or the general partner of a partnership owner of a property receiving project-based assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) for a knowing and material breach of a housing assistance payments contract. Examples of covered violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Failure to provide decent, safe, and sanitary housing pursuant to section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 and 24 CFR 5.703; or

(2) Knowing or willful submission of false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or requests for housing assistance payments to the Secretary or to any department or agency of the United States.

(c) *Maximum penalty.* The maximum penalty for each violation under this section is \$27,500.

(d) *Payment of penalty.* No payment of a civil money penalty levied under this section shall be payable out of project income.

(e) *Exceptions.* The Secretary may not impose penalties under this section for a violation, if a material cause of the violation is the failure of the Secretary, an agent of the Secretary, or a public housing agency to comply with an existing agreement.

[66 FR 63442, Dec. 6, 2001, as amended at 74 FR 2751, Jan. 15, 2009; 78 FR 4059, Jan. 18, 2013]

#### § 30.69 SAFE Mortgage Licensing violations.

(a) *General.* HUD may impose a civil penalty on a loan originator operating in any state that is subject to a licensing system established by HUD under 12 U.S.C. 5107 and in accordance with subpart C of 24 CFR part 3400, if HUD finds that such loan originator has violated or failed to comply with any requirement of the SAFE Act, the provisions of 24 CFR part 3400, or an order issued under the authority of 12 U.S.C. 5113(c).

(b) *Maximum amount of penalty.* The maximum amount of penalty for each act or omission described in paragraph (a) of this section shall be \$25,000.

[76 FR 38492, June 30, 2011]

### Subpart C—Procedures

#### § 30.70 Prepenalty notice.

(a) Prior to determining whether to issue a complaint under § 30.85, the official designated in subpart B of this part, or his or her designee (or the chairperson of the Mortgagee Review Board, or his or her designee, in actions under § 30.35), shall issue a written notice to the respondent. This prepenalty notice shall include the following:

(1) That HUD is considering seeking a civil money penalty;

(2) The specific violations alleged;

(3) The maximum civil money penalty that may be imposed;

(4) The opportunity to reply in writing to the designated program official within 30 days after receipt of the notice;

(5) That failure to respond within the 30-day period may result in issuance of a complaint under § 30.85 without consideration of any information that the respondent may wish to provide; and

(6) That if a complaint is issued under § 30.85, the respondent may request a hearing before an administrative law judge in accordance with § 30.95.

(b) *Obligation to preserve documents.* Upon receipt of the prepenalty notice, the respondent is required to preserve and maintain all documents or data, including electronically stored data, within his or her possession or control that may relate to the violations alleged in the prepenalty notice. The Department shall also preserve such documents or data upon the issuance of the prepenalty notice.

[74 FR 2751, Jan. 15, 2009]

#### § 30.75 Response to prepenalty notice.

(a) The response shall be in a format prescribed in the prepenalty notice. The response shall address the factors set forth in § 30.80 and include any arguments opposing the imposition of a civil money penalty that the respondent may wish to present.

(b) In any case where respondent seeks to raise ability to pay as an affirmative defense or argument in mitigation, the respondent shall provide