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CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

May 29, 2009

Mark A. Studdert
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 Seventh Street, SW, Rm 10148
Washington, D.C. 20410-1000

Dear Mr. Studdert:

I am writing on behalf of my constituent, Ms. Erica Bledsoe, who I understand has been denied occupancy at 7721 N. Paulina Apt # 2, Chicago, 60626. My office was contacted by Mr. Matt Monahan, an attorney at Legal Assistance Foundation, who is representing Erica Bledsoe and her niece and nephews. Enclosed, please find pertinent documentation regarding this matter.

My office was told that the apartment was occupied by Erica's mother, Rosetta Bledson, and her three grandchildren. According to information provided to my office, the grandchildren started living with Rosetta in 2000 and their names were listed on the lease. Erica, a full-time student, then moved in with them in 2005, according to Mr. Monahan. He informed our office that the apartment is subsidized by a project-based subsidy, is managed by Northpoint, and does receive funds from HUD.

According to information provided to my office, Rosetta became very ill in August 2008. At that time, the kids began living part time with other relatives to help Rosetta during her illness. Unfortunately, Rosetta passed away on September 10, 2008 and my office was told that Erica then became their legal guardian. Mr. Monahan contacted my office because he said that Northpoint is currently in the process of evicting the three kids.

According to Mr. Monahan, the eviction notice, which was issued in October 2008, stated that the children were not living in the unit, but instead were living with other family members. Mr. Monahan argues that this was only because Rosetta could not take care of them at all times. My office was also told that Erica did submit evidence that she had legal custody of the children and that the children were living in the apartment at the time of their grandmother's death. My office was told that Erica was given the opportunity to apply for occupancy at the building and the normal screening criteria would be applied. According to Northpoint, Erica did not meet the screening criteria and was denied because of her poor credit.

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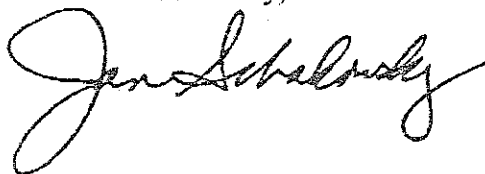
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This is an urgent matter because Mr. Monahan informed my office that a hearing on the eviction case is on June 3, 2009 and a trial is set for June 9, 2009. My office was told that Erica and the children run the danger of becoming homeless. I respectfully request that you please review the case and allow Erica Bledsoe and the children the right to live in the apartment. Please give this request every consideration consistent with all laws and regulations. Please direct your response or any questions to Ms. Taina I. Rodriguez, Constituent Advocate via phone at 773-506-7100, via fax at 773-506-9202 or via email at taina.rodriguez@mail.house.gov

Sincerely,



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CONGRESSIONAL
AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

JUN 18 2009

The Honorable Janice D. Schakowsky
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1309

Dear Representative Schakowsky:

Thank you for your letter of May 29, 2009, on behalf of your constituent, Ms. Erica Bledsoe who has been denied occupancy at Northpoint Apartments located in Chicago, Illinois. Ms. Bledsoe is requesting to remain in the apartment that was occupied by her mother, Ms. Roseita Bledsoe, and three grandchildren before her death in September 2008.

The Department of Housing and Urban and Development is currently conducting a review of this matter. Upon completion of the review, a response will be provided.

Thank you for your interest in the Department's programs.

Sincerely,

Peter A. Kovar
Assistant Secretary for Congressional
and Intergovernmental Relations