

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**24 CFR Part 0**

[Docket No. FR-3331-F-02]

RIN 2501-AB55

Office of the Secretary; Supplemental Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Department of Housing and Urban Development

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, (HUD).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule issued by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (Department) removes the current text of 24 CFR part 0, and replaces it with a single section that provides a cross-reference to 5 CFR parts 2634 and 2635.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 6, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Aaron Santa Anna, Assistant General Counsel, Ethics Law Division, at (202) 708-3815, or Sam E. Hutchinson, Associate General Counsel, Office of Human Resources Law, (202) 708-0888; 451 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20410. Hearing or speech-impaired individuals may call HUD's TDD number (202) 708-3259. (Telephone numbers are not toll-free.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As proposed in a rule published on June 30, 1995 (60 FR 34420), the Department is here removing its superseded Standards of Conduct at 24 CFR part 0 and is replacing those provisions with a single section that provides a cross-reference to 5 CFR parts 2634 and 2635. The one comment received on the proposed rule will be addressed in a subsequent rule.

Other Matters

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Secretary in accordance with the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 605(b)), has reviewed and approved this rule, and in so doing certifies that this rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because it would affect only Federal employees.

Environmental Impact

In accordance with 40 CFR 1508.4 of the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality and 24 CFR 50.20(k) of the HUD regulations, the policies and procedures contained in this rule relate only to internal administrative procedures whose content does not constitute a development decision nor affect the physical condition of project areas or building sites, and therefore, are categorically excluded from the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Executive Order 12612, Federalism

The General Counsel, as the Designated Official under section 6(a) of Executive Order 12612, *Federalism*, has determined that the policies contained in this rule will not have substantial direct effects on States or their political subdivisions, or the relationship between the Federal Government and the states, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Specifically, this rule is only directed toward Federal employees and would not alter the established roles of HUD and the States and local governments. As a result, the rule is not subject to review under the order.

Executive Order 12606, The Family

The General Counsel, as the Designated Official under Executive Order 12606, *The Family*, has determined that this rule does not have potential for significant impact on family formation, maintenance, and general well-being, and, thus, is not subject to review under the order. No significant change in existing HUD policies or programs would result from promulgation of this rule, as those policies and programs relate to family concerns.

List of Subjects in 24 CFR Part 0

Administrative practice and procedure, Conflict of interests.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth in the preamble, part 0 of title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations is revised to read as follows:

PART 0—STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Sec.

0.1 Cross-reference to employees ethical conduct standards and financial disclosure regulations.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 7301; 42 U.S.C. 3535(d).

§ 0.1 Cross-reference to employees ethical conduct standards and financial disclosure regulations.

Employees of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (Department) are subject to the executive branch-wide standards of ethical conduct at 5 CFR part 2635 and the executive branch-wide financial disclosure regulation at 5 CFR part 2634.

Dated: March 29, 1996.

Henry G. Cisneros,

Secretary.

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