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 | INFORMATIONAL LETTER |
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TRANSMITTAL: 93 INF-34

TO: Commissioners of
 Social Services

DIVISION: Economic
 Security

DATE: September 1, 1993

SUBJECT: Department of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR)
 Regulation on Security Agreements in Public Housing

SUGGESTED
 DISTRIBUTION: Directors of Income Maintenance
 Staff Development Coordinators

CONTACT PERSON: Call 1-800-342-3715 and ask for Pat O'Shea at
 extension 4-9349

ATTACHMENTS: None

FILING REFERENCES

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
92 ADM-26		18NYCRR	SSL 143-c	PASB	
93 ADM-10		352.6(b)(1)		XIII-D-2.4	
93 INF-11		(ii) and (3); 397.5(i) 9NYCRR 1627-4.4(a)		and 9.1	

The purpose of this letter is to inform Social Services District's (SSD's) of recent amendments to DHCR regulations which affect public assistance recipients and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients in public housing.

Section 143-c of the Social Services Law, as amended by Chapter 41 of the Laws of 1992, and resulting amendments to Department regulation 352.6 prohibit the payment, under any public assistance program, of cash security deposits, or escrow accounts for security which are not under a landlord's control, to secure public housing. Thus, the only way public housing can be secured by an SSD against non-payment of rent or damages is through a security agreement. Although this was acceptable to most public housing authorities, there were a few authorities who, at least initially, refused to accept the agreements.

In order to comply with the changes in Social Services Law and regulations, an amendment was filed on May 9, 1993, effective June 9, 1993, to DHCR regulations. This amendment requires public housing authorities to accept security agreements against non-payment of rent or damages for recipients of public assistance and SSI if such agreements are offered by the SSD.

Oscar R. Best, Jr.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Economic Security