## **RESIDENT STATEMENT**

In order for the St. Joseph County Housing Authority (SJCHA) to provide Rent Assistance to as many eligible families as possible, all participants in this Housing and Urban Development sponsored program must properly utilize Government funds and follow SJCHA policy requirements. <u>Incidences of fraud, willful misrepresentation, or intent to deceive with regard to the Rent Assistance Program are criminal acts.</u> If you are suspected of committing any fraudulent actions, we are required to refer the matter to the proper authorities for appropriate action. This could lead to being terminated from participation in the program and an investigation of the allegation could result in your being accused of a Federal crime.

Some examples of fraud involving residents identified by the Inspector General's Office include:

- 1. Misreporting or failing to report your correct income, assets, deductions, or family sizes.
- 2. Moving an un-authorized person into the assisted unit.
- 3. Sub-leasing the assisted unit.
- 4. Payment of extra (side) payments to the owner/manager. Providing rooms for lodgers, or using property for business or illegal activity.
- 5. Moving out of an authorized unit without a 30-day written notification or approval of the SJCHA.
- 6. Abandonment of the assisted unit by the head of household for more than 30 days without prior SJCHA knowledge and approval.
- 7. Misrepresentation of ownership of assisted unit.
- 8. Collecting subsidy payments for a unit located outside of St. Joseph County, Indiana.
- 9. The resident (includes a principal or other interested party) certifies that the owner is not a parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, sister or brother of any member of the family.

You must report any violations of the Rent Assistance Program rules immediately. If you know of any rules, violations, or fraud committed by any persons, including SJCHA employees, owners, or other residents, please contact the SJCHA.

The SJCHA will take any legal action warranted to ensure that cases of fraud are prevented or prosecuted, and will work with Housing and Urban Development officials to accomplish this task.

I hereby certify that I have been informed by the SJCHA of my responsibilities as a resident concerning Rent Assistance fraud and abuse. FURTHERMORE, I UNDERSTAND THAT I MUST REPORT IN WRITING ALL CHANGES IN INCOME, DEDUCTIONS, MOVING UNITS, AND HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION (MEMBERS LEAVING OR JOINING THE HOUSEHOLD) IMMEDIATELY TO SET UP AN INTERVIEW.

**Resident Signature** 

Date