**PARTICIPANT AND APPLICANT RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS**

**REGARDING THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA)**

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) provides protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking who are residents of or applicants to Public Housing, Housing Choice Voucher, or Special Programs at FWHS. VAWA protection is extended to all household members who may have been a victim.

**APPLICANTS**

FWHS cannot deny housing based on having been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking.

**RESIDENTS**

FWHS cannot terminate housing assistance or tenancy based on incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking. However, you should be aware that if the owner, manager, or housing authority can demonstrate an “actual and imminent threat" to other tenants or persons employed by or providing services to the property, your tenancy or assistance may be terminated. You may also be required to provide certification within 14 days of why you believe you should be protected under VAWA.

**CERTIFICATION**

The law allows you to fill out a HUD form, to provide a police report or court record, or have a professional whom you consulted about the domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking to provide documentation as certification of your status as a victim. Incidents being certified must be current and related to your denial or termination of assistance or eviction.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

Information you provide regarding domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking will be held in confidence and not shared without your consent.

**INFORMATION**

One Safe Place Family Justice Center: (817) 916-4323 or www.onesafeplace.org

Safe Haven of Tarrant County: 24-hour Hotline (877) 701-7233 or www.safehaventc.org

The Women's Center: 24-hour Rape Crisis Hotline (817) 927-2737 or www.womenscenter.info

Tarrant County District Attorney Family Violence Unit: (817) 844-3535

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**Signature Date**