

Presbyterian Homes of Lehigh Acres, Inc.

**CERTIFICATION AS A VICTIM OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT OR STALKING**

Purpose of Form: The Violence Against Women Act (“VAWA”) protects qualified applicants, residents, and affiliated individuals from being evicted or denied housing based on acts of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against them. Despite the name of this law, VAWA protection is available to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

Use of This Optional Form: If you are seeking VAWA protections from your housing provider, your housing provider may give you a written request that asks you to submit documentation about the incident or incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. In response to this request, you or someone on your behalf has the option of either submitting this form or submitting third-party documentation, such as:

- (1) A Federal, State, tribal, territorial, or local law enforcement agency, court, or other official administrative agency record documenting status as a victim of a VAWA crime or a person affiliated with a victim of a VAWA crime; or
- (2) A document signed by the victim and a professional (employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, medical professional, or a mental health professional) from whom the individual seeking VAWA protections has sought assistance in addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and/or stalking or the effects of the abuse in which the professional attests under penalty of perjury that he/she believes that the incident(s) of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking are grounds for protection under the VAWA, and that the incident meets the applicable definition of “domestic violence”, “dating violence”, “sexual assault”, or “stalking” in HUD’s regulations at 24 CFR 5.2003; or
- (3) At the discretion of the housing provider, a statement or other evidence provided by the applicant or resident.

Submission of Documentation: The time period to submit documentation is 14 business days from the date that you receive a written request from your housing provider asking that you provide documentation of the occurrence of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Your housing provider may, but is not required to, extend the time period to submit the documentation, if you request an extension of the time period. If the requested information is not received within 14 business days of when you received the request for the documentation, or any extension of the date provided by your housing provider, your housing provider is not required to grant you any of the VAWA protections. Distribution or issuance of this form does not serve as a written request for certification.

Confidentiality: All information provided to your housing provider concerning the incident(s) of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking shall be kept confidential and such details shall not be entered into any shared database. Employees of your housing provider are not to have access to these details unless to grant or deny VAWA protections to you, and such employees may not disclose this information to any other entity or individual, except to the extent that disclosure is: (i) consented to by you in writing in a time-limited release; (ii) required for use in an eviction proceeding or hearing regarding termination of assistance; or (iii) otherwise required by applicable law.

If you are disabled or have difficulty understanding English, please request our assistance and we will ensure that you are provided with meaningful access based on your individual needs. (Estimado inquilino, si está usted discapacitado o necesita asistencia en su idioma, por favor déjenos saber sus necesidades. Con mucho gusto le daremos acceso a servicios individualizados basados en su pedido.)



This company does not discriminate on the basis of disabled status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its federally assisted programs and activities. Persons with disabilities have the right to request reasonable accommodations to participate in the informal hearing process.

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**TO BE COMPLETED BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING
VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING**

1. Date the written request is received by victim: _____

2. Name of victim: _____

3. Your name (if different from victim's): _____

4. Name(s) of other family member(s) listed on the lease: _____

5. Residence of victim: _____

6. Name of the accused perpetrator (if known and can be safely disclosed): _____

7. Relationship of the accused perpetrator to the victim: _____

8. Date(s) and times(s) of incident(s) (if known): _____

10. Location of incident(s): _____

In your own words, briefly describe the incident(s):

This is to certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection, and that the individual named above in Item 2 is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. I acknowledge that submission of false information could jeopardize program eligibility and could be the basis for denial of admission or eviction.

Signature _____ Signed on (Date) _____



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