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Tonya Nuelle – Board Chair Bill Tilly – Board member Donna Gay – Board Member Deb Cantrell – Board Member Ellan Johnson –Resident Board Member

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Code of Conduct for Residents and their Visitors/Guests and Barring Guidelines

The Philosophy of Public Housing from its beginning was to maintain the premises and neighborhoods in a decent, safe and sanitary condition. Access to the Blue Ridge Housing Authority (BRHA) is limited to only the BRHA residents, members of their household, their guests/visitors and other persons who have legitimate business on the premises. All persons not described above must check in with the BRHA management office located at 30 Ouida St. Bldg. G-1 Blue Ridge, GA 30513 prior to the access of the BRHA property. Persons failing to check in with the BRHA office will be trespassing and may face criminal actions. The purpose of this is for the safety and protection of all residents, their guests and visitors.

The Blue Ridge Housing Authority (BRHA) has prepared a guideline on the Code of Conduct for residents and their visitors and guests. Residents are made aware that guests/visitors are their responsibility and violations of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action including barring and/or arrest of the guest/visitor and/or eviction and/or arrest of the tenant.

Code of Conduct for Residents and their Visitors/Guests and Barring Guidelines

1. Visitors

Visitors to all public housing communities are warmly welcome; however, the lease signed by each adult resident makes the head of household responsible for the conduct of their guests.

Visitors are expected to act in an appropriate manner at all times and should limit their visit to the resident's apartment and yard. Loitering and disturbing the residents of the Public Housing complex will not be allowed. Visitors should obey the "No Loitering" signs posted throughout the Public Housing communities and refrain from creating a disturbance.

Visitors and residents are expected to abide by all the laws which govern the conduct of any other citizen of Blue Ridge, Georgia. A violation of any such law or ordinance will be a violation of this policy. Some of the more obvious examples would be: trespass and criminal damage to property. Other examples would include but not limited to:

A. **Drug/Alcohol Violation**

- 1. The sale, use, possession and distribution of illegal drugs or sale of alcoholic beverages on Housing Authority property.
- 2. Possession of alcoholic beverages in an open container outside the residence, in a





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parking lot, street, or other common area is prohibited. Conduct in violation of the City of Blue Ridge open container ordinance is also a violation of this policy.

 Methamphetamine: Non-residents who have been accused or arrested for manufacture, use or distributions of methamphetamine shall receive a lifetime ban from Blue Ridge Housing Authority.

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B. Interference and Intimidation

1. Interference with and intimidation of BRHA staff or any law enforcement officers.

C. Threats of Harm and Profanity

1. Threats of hard or use of profanity towards BRHA staff or law enforcement officers.

D. Loitering/Trespassing

1. Loitering or any conduct that constitutes loitering or prowling under the laws of this City and State. Entry into an area which is not open to the public at the time of entry.

E. Solicitation/Personal/Political

- Solicitation for Personal and Political gain (Political and Personal Conveyors are prohibited without prior approval by the BRHA). Solicitors MUST check in with the BRHA office prior to access to any and all premises owned by the BRHA. This is for the protection and safety for all of the residents and their guests of the BRHA. Political Intimidation, bribery or any conduct that constitutes loitering, prowling under the laws of this City and State is strictly prohibited and violators (Conveyors or Receivers) will be prosecuted.
- 2. The BRHA property is considered a non-public forum and can close the forum to all speech activities because the "BRHA is Public Property that is not a traditional or designated forum for public communication". The BRHA may prohibit or restrict speech in non-public forums so long as the restriction is reasonable and view point is neutral. Political Activists have unlimited access to city owned streets and sidewalks adjacent to the Housing Authority property that provide an alternative means for distributing information to residents.
- 3. Political solicitors are able to reach residents through alternative channels of communication like Social media, mailers, Internet, Cable/Satellite TV, news publications etc.
- 4. Resident acceptance of gifts, money and favors for Political gain is strictly prohibited and residents may be in violation of state or city law and it may be reported to the proper authorities.







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F. Gambling

1. Any activity which constitutes the offense of gambling under the laws of the State of Georgia.

G. Refusal to Identify Self

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1. Refusal to present sufficient identification to verify one's identity to BRHA staff or any law enforcement officer.

H. Loud Music

1. Playing loud music in an automobile, on BRHA property or activity that would constitute a violation of the City of Blue Ridge Noise Ordinance.

I. Fraud in Obtaining Public Housing Assistance

Violation of O.C.G.A.16-9-55 which prohibits fraudulently obtaining or attempting to obtain
public housing or a reduction in public housing rent and includes any person who assists another
in violation of this law. Any visitor who is determined to be "staying" with or an "unauthorized
guest" in public housing in violation of a tenant's lease or O.C.G.A. 16-9-55 will be barred and/or
prosecuted.

J. Other Illegal Activities

The above list of examples is for illustrative purposes only and is not all inclusive. Any conduct
that is offensive under the laws pertaining to the other residents of the City of Blue Ridge shall
also be a violation of this policy and subject the offender to disciplinary
action and/or arrest.

II. Barring

1. Non-residents who violate any of the prohibited acts or laws of the State of Georgia while on BRHA property are subject to being barred for 90-days, one year, two years, five years or ten years depending on the circumstances and severity of the infraction. If the offender has been sufficiently identified and an address is available, a written notice will be mailed. However, the efforts of the BRHA to provide written notice shall not invalidate an oral notice which shall have the same force and effects as a written notice, if properly served.







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III. Appeal Conferences

1. Non-residents who are barred from BRHA properties will be provided an opportunity for an appeal conference to discuss the measures taken against the individual. Any request for an appeal conferences must be filed in writing at the BRHA office located at 30 Ouida St. Bldg. G-1, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513 within ten (10) days of being barred.

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IV. Entry Conferences

1. Non-residents who have be barred from BRHA property must call 706-632-5742 or visit the H.A. office at 30 Ouida St. Bldg. G-1, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513 to schedule a conference with the Executive Director and, when necessary, a representative of the Blue Ridge Police Department before he/she will be allowed to visit the property from which he/she was barred.



