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September 26, 2024

Official Termination of Crime Free Multi-Housing Program

Dear Crime Free Multi-Housing program participant,

The Fremont Police Department would like to express our gratitude for your past participation in our Crime Free Multi-Housing (CFMH) program, also known as the Crime Free program. Your dedication to crime prevention on your property and your collaboration with us to enhance the safety of your residents and the City of Fremont is highly appreciated. For many years, the Crime Free program has fostered strong relationships with our community and worked together to decrease crime in multi-housing properties. Your involvement has played a crucial role in connecting our Department with residents, property owners, and community managers, and we are sincerely thankful for your contribution.

The Fremont Police's Crime Free Multi-Housing Program was suspended on January 1, 2024, due to new legislation that prevent certain aspects of the program from continuing. Last week, the Fremont Police Department made the difficult, but necessary decision to officially terminate the program, effective immediately.

On August 15, 2024, the U.S. Department of Justice issued a letter which confirmed that elements of the Crime Free program may violate the Fair Housing Act (FHA), the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Violence Against Women Act. Additionally, AB 1418, went into law effective January 1, 2024, which also prohibits local governments from encouraging landlords to evict a tenant because of the tenant's alleged unlawful conduct or arrest, and/or encouraging landlords to perform a criminal background check of a tenant or a prospective tenant.

The Fremont Police Department remains committed to working to reduce crime. Despite the termination of the Crime Free Multi-Housing program, we are dedicated to maintaining a safe and secure environment for all residents. We encourage communities that are interested in maintaining an active crime prevention partnership with the Department to join the Neighborhood Crime Watch program. Information about this program can be found at https://fremontpolice.gov/NCW. FPD will also continue to provide Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) inspections to properties that are interested in participating.

Although the Crime Free Multi-Housing program is no longer active, the Department will explore alternative options to provide crime prevention resources and maintain a strong connection with residents, property owners, and community managers at multi-housing properties. For updates and information on crime prevention programs, safety tips, and other opportunities to engage with the Fremont Police Department, please visit https://fremontpolice.gov or call the Public Affairs Unit at 510-790-6740.

Once again, we extend our heartfelt thanks for your ongoing support and partnership. Your continued involvement is crucial to our mission of ensuring the safety and security of our community.

Sincerely,

Police Chief Sean Washington