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## HOUSING MANAGEMENT BUREAU MEMORANDUM # 2011-B-07

**To:** All Federally Assisted Housing Companies  
Owners, Managing Agents and Site Managers

**From:** Robert Damico, Director  
Office of Housing Management

**Date:** September 20, 2011

**Subject:** Hurricane Irene Victim Priority

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HUD regulations require that Section 236 properties afford an admission preference to persons displaced by a presidentially declared disaster, such as Hurricane Irene (see HUD Occupancy Handbook 4350.3 REV-1, paragraph 4-6.B.2). This preference for disaster displaced applicants supersedes the preference afforded to veterans at Mitchell-Lama Article 2 properties (see Management Bureau Memoranda #2010-B-06) as well as any owner-adopted preferences.

Hurricane Irene victim priority must be documented with a FEMA application number verifying that the applicant resided in the geographically affected area at the time of the disaster or another acceptable verification method described in 4350.3 REV-1, paragraph 4-26.B.1. The listing of designated disaster counties can be found at [www.fema.gov/news/disasters.fema](http://www.fema.gov/news/disasters.fema).

In accordance with HCR procedures, applications of verified Hurricane Irene victims should be recorded in the Mitchell-Lama Automated Waiting List (AWL) with "Hurricane Irene" entered in the "priority" field and screened in the normal manner for program eligibility. Applicants who qualify for the preference and meet all eligibility requirements should be processed for the next available appropriately sized apartment.

Proposed apartment assignments and supporting documentation must be submitted to HCR for approval prior to admission unless the housing company has been exempted from this requirement.

If you have questions or concerns, please e-mail Linda Kedzierski at [LKedzierski@nyshcr.org](mailto:LKedzierski@nyshcr.org)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. Damico", written over a horizontal line.

Robert Damico