



Housing and Development Law Institute

HDLI MESSENGER

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**HDLI GOLD SPONSORS: Reno & Cavanaugh, PLLC; Douglas & Boykin, PLLC;
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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HDLI?

The newest edition of the *INDEX TO HUD REGULATIONS* cumulative through 12/31/05 is available for purchase. An order form is attached. Order now!

HDLI's 2006 Spring CLE Conference was a great success! If you were unable to attend in person, materials are available for purchase. An order form is attached.

HDLI HAS UNPRECEDENTED 2006 SPRING LEGAL CONFERENCE!

On May 4 and 5, 2006, HDLI held its annual Spring Legal Conference entitled "*Navigating the New World of Public and Affordable Housing: Legal Strategies For Conquering New Financing, Management, and Operational Rules*" at the Washington Marriott Hotel in Washington, D.C. The conference featured unprecedented participation from, and access to, the highest levels of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development: Two HUD Assistant Secretaries, the HUD Inspector General, HUD's General Counsel, lead General Counsel headquarters staff, all ten HUD Regional Counsel, and notable HUD experts who served on individual substantive, actively participated during the two-day conference. Indicating clear appreciation for the importance of HDLI's conference, HUD's General Counsel, his headquarters staff, and the Regional Counsel attended and participated in both days of the conference.

The conference began with opening addresses by HUD Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, Orlando Cabrera, and HUD Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Kim Kendrick. Assistant Secretaries Cabrera and

Kendrick shared their personal insight into the primary visions for their respective offices and responded to questions from the audience. Following the opening addresses HUD's General Counsel, Keith Gottfried, his headquarters Deputy and Associate General Counsels, and all ten HUD Regional Counsel from across the country participated in an informative two-hour session titled "*Who's Who in HUD's Office of General Counsel*," where headquarters staff and the Regional Counsels introduced themselves and discussed hot issues within their department/region. Most exciting, perhaps, was a 30-minute "meet and greet" period where conference participants, Regional Counsel, and headquarters Counsel discussed individual issues. Following the meet-and-greet, well respected and long-time HUD attorney, Robert "Bob" Kenison, responded on behalf of HUD to a list of questions on a wide variety of legal and operational issues previously submitted by HDLI members.

At the conference luncheon, HUD's General Counsel gave an inspirational key note address on his mission to increase

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“Regulatory Transparency” within the Office of General Counsel, where Mr. Gottfried discussed all of the initiatives that he and his staff are implementing to provide better communication and access between HUD and the housing bar. Mr. Gottfried’s sincerity and enthusiasm for his charge was palpable.

After the luncheon, the conference substantive panels followed. Noted industry experts delivered timely and updated information on the new *public housing operating subsidy and project based management rules*. Additionally, a panel of housing directors *who already have implemented asset based management* presented their model programs, their successes and challenges, and another panel of experts discussed how to maximize HUD’s recent Final Rule on *project-based vouchers*.

Day two of the conference began with an Open Forum where HUD’s new *draft notice on nonprofit affiliates* was analyzed and discussed, and a session on *important legal ethics issues* in the technological and other areas. The substantive panels included the *implications of the 2005 Violence Against Women Act* on evictions and other operations and *emergency and disaster preparedness*.

The conference finale was an address by HUD’s Inspector General, [Kenneth Donohue](#), and his top legal advisor. The HUD IG graciously responded to questions from the audience.

HDLI thanks all of the conference speakers and participants for another terrific Spring Conference.

HDLI’s 2006 Fall Conference will take place **Monday, October 16, 2006** as part of NAHRO’s national conference in Atlanta, GA. Save the date, and tune in for more details in future issues of the [HDLI Messenger](#).