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Bureau of Environmental Health

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

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NOTICE TO TENANTS OF LEAD PAINT HAZARDS

Lead in violation of the Lead Law (Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 111, sections 189A-199B) and the state Department of Public Health's Regulations for Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control (105 Code of Massachusetts Regulations 460.000) has been found in apartment 7, in this building. Children exposed to lead hazards are at risk of becoming lead poisoned. This disease can affect all parts of a young child's developing body, and in particular, can seriously and permanently hurt the brain, kidneys and nervous system. Even at lower levels of exposure, lead can cause children to have learning and behavioral problems.

If you have a child under six years of age, it is important that he or she be regularly tested for lead poisoning, as the law requires. If your child has not been tested recently, you should ask your child's doctor or health care provider to test him or her. If you don't have a regular health care provider, you can call your local board of health, or the state Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP), at 1-800-532-9571, to find out where you can get your child tested for lead for free. Lead poisoning can only be detected by such testing.

Since lead violations have been found in an apartment in this building, it is quite possible that your unit may have lead violations too. If you have a child under six years of age, you should ask the owner of your building about having your apartment inspected for lead paint. You can call your local board of health to check for lead (ask for a lead determination), or call CLPPP at 1-800-532-9571 for further advice. It is against state law for property owners to discriminate against tenants with children because of lead paint hazards in their apartment.

If deleading of apartment 7 will also include deleading of common hallways, staircases and porches of your building, you will get a written notice 10 days before any deleading will begin. While the deleading is being done, everyone must keep out of the areas being worked on. You have to use another way to go in and out of your building during this time. If your apartment is on the same floor and is in the work area as a common area in which deleading is being done, the person or persons doing the deleading work will protect your apartment too. They will be temporarily covering your doorway with thick plastic sheeting and taping it down with masking tape, so that fine lead dust can't be blown in, around, or under your door. If they have not properly covered areas to protect them from lead dust and debris from the deleading work, tell the owner of your building or call the state Division of Occupational Safety (DOS) at 1-800-425-0004, or CLPPP at 1-800-532-9571. If you don't have an alternative way of

getting in and out of your building, talk to the owner of your building, or the person or people doing the deleading, and coordinate the work.

Check your windowsills and doorways for any visible dust after deleading. Lead dust can be cleaned up with paper towels and a mixture of regular household detergent and water. If you notice lead dust from deleading in your apartment, tell the person doing the deleading, and the owner of your building.

Deleading work that is done the right way should not result in lead contamination of your building. However, if you notice any lead paint dust or debris that has not been properly cleaned up at the end of the workday, tell the owner of your building. You can also call DOS at 1-800-425-0004 or CLPPP at 1-800-532-9571 or the local health department.