



For Immediate Release

NHA Settles Three Lawsuits

Newark, NJ—July 8, 2009— The Newark Housing Authority reached a mutual agreement to settle three lawsuits with Tony Gomes Construction Company (TGCI) before U.S. District Judge Dickinson Debevoise. The focus of the settlement is the 56 units that TGCI constructed for the NHA along Elizabeth Avenue. The NHA, when given a clear title to the units, will pay TGCI \$8,688,530 and all further claims and liens related to this property will be dismissed.

“This has been a difficult and time-consuming process, but I am pleased that all parties involved have come to an agreement and that we can move forward and do what’s right for low-income Newark residents,” said NHA Executive Director Keith Kinard.

Judge Debevoise in his comments from the bench commended the work Keith Kinard had accomplished saying he had “great confidence in you and your staff”.

“Hopefully this settlement will be approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) quickly so that we can begin reconstruction on the 56-unit project,” Chairman Modia Butler said.

“We expect that it will take six to nine months to repair these units to an acceptable standard, finally giving the families the decent high-quality units of affordable housing that they deserve.” Kinard said.

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