



San Antonio Housing Authority
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News Release

Date: Sept. 10, 2008
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SAHA REVISES LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE TO IMPROVE SERVICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

SAN ANTONIO – Effective today, the San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA) has revised the agency's leadership structure to more clearly define roles, responsibilities and accountability.

"When I agreed to serve as the interim CEO back in July, I promised that I would do whatever I could to make SAHA a better place for our residents and the hundreds of employees who are dedicated to serving our program participants," said Alfred Valenzuela, interim CEO/president of SAHA.

Since his term began two months ago, Valenzuela has been meeting with SAHA's Board of Commissioners, SAHA staff, residents, as well as community and business leaders, to assess the organization's strengths and weaknesses

"I truly believe SAHA is doing good work, but we all agree there is room for improvement in many areas," Valenzuela explained. "This revised reporting structure focuses leadership responsibility and accountability on several specific areas that I have identified as functions requiring improvements and new initiatives."

Several key changes include: creation of a compliance and process improvement department; creation of a director of facilities and construction services position, which, among other duties, will lead the team working to resolve the Mirasol issues; and creation of a position to oversee initiatives in the areas of human resources, customer service and corporate relations. Other changes include: creation of a position that will provide more proactive outreach to the community; and moving the internal audit position to report directly to the CEO and the Board of Commissioners.

"No employees were laid off in this process, and all new positions have been filled with existing employees through reassignments of duties," Valenzuela added.

"We're pleased that Gen. Valenzuela has taken the initiative to restructure the staff in a way that should help SAHA be more accountable," says Board Chairman Ramiro Cavazos. "We support these changes and Gen. Valenzuela's continuing efforts to improve our organization."

Valenzuela said the changes were made in the best interest of SAHA, and with the full support of the Board. "The bottom line is that we're here to provide affordable, quality housing for the residents of San Antonio. I believe this reorganization will help us do that even better."

SAHA owns and manages approximately 6,400 public housing units and 3,200 affordable housing units. SAHA also administers nearly 12,000 Section 8 vouchers, all with a \$130 million annual operating budget and more than \$300 million in assets.

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Organizational Chart

