

# The Bronx Defenders

Redefining public defense.

## FACT SHEET:

### NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY (NYCHA) & CONVICTION HISTORIES

Public housing agencies and Section 8 providers can and do obtain criminal records of applicants and tenants. When you apply, NYCHA will run a criminal background check on you, everyone you currently live with, everyone 16 or older who might live with you, and any biological parent of any children who will be living with you, even parents who are not part of the public housing application.

Only two types of convictions permanently bar a person from living in NYCHA:

- Any conviction that makes a person subject to *lifetime* sex offender registration; and
- A conviction for producing methamphetamine on public housing grounds.

As of October 15, 2013, NYCHA **no longer considers Violation convictions to be automatic grounds for ineligibility**. Click [here](#) for extensive information non Reentry Net/NY

In addition, the **NYCHA Family Reentry Pilot** is designed to reunite a pilot group of 150 individuals who are leaving prison and/or jail with their families who live in NYCHA public housing and to provide them with re-entry services. Click [here](#) for more information.

The following chart lays out the updated ineligibility periods.

NYCHA Public Housing		
Criminal Conviction		Years After Serving Sentence (date is calculated from the end of a sentence, including release from incarceration but not completion of parole/probation)
Felonies	Class A, B, C	6 years
	Class D and E	5 years
Misdemeanors	Class A	4 years
	Class B or Unclassified	3 years
Violations or DWI		No automatic ineligibility, but NYCHA may find the family ineligible. Use of a controlled substance, including marijuana, can be grounds for 3 years of ineligibility.
<i>Multiple Convictions</i>		Ineligible for longest applicable period.