

August 9, 2012

The Honorable Barack Obama  
The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500-0005

Dear Mr. President:

We urge you make a recess appointment to fill the Director position at the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA). The ongoing housing crisis affects millions of homeowners and threatens to hold back economic growth for years to come, driving down tax bases in cities, towns and states and further deepening their budget crises. It is therefore imperative to have a pragmatic leader at FHFA who will work cooperatively with your administration to resolve the housing crisis.

The FHFA regulates and serves as conservator for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac (GSEs), which currently hold the majority of the mortgages in the country. It has been reported that in the first quarter of 2012, 3.7 percent of Fannie Mae's mortgages and 3.5 percent of Freddie Mac's mortgages were seriously delinquent. As of the end of 2011, there were approximately 4.6 million Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac loans underwater. As long as this serious negative equity problem persists, many homeowners will remain at risk, and the housing market will continue to struggle.

It is clear that your administration has made every effort to constructively work with Edward DeMarco, the current Acting Director of FHFA, in order to repair the damage done by the housing crisis. However, in light of Mr. DeMarco's announcement after months of deliberation that he will not allow the GSEs to participate in the Home Affordable Modification Program Principal Reduction Alternative (HAMP-PRA), it is essential to fill the position with a permanent Director in a recess appointment and replace Mr. DeMarco.

FHFA's own analysis shows that allowing the GSEs to participate in the HAMP-PRA program could benefit up to 500 thousand homeowners, save \$3.6 billion for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and save up to a \$1 billion for taxpayers. Participation in the program would not only help Americans stay in their homes, it would also save the GSEs and taxpayers money. This is in addition to the positive impact that stabilizing the housing market will have on the economy.

In Treasury Secretary Geithner's July 31 letter to Mr. DeMarco, he rightly states that five years into this crisis, millions of homeowners are still at risk of losing their homes, and that FHFA has the power to help many of those homeowners by correcting their loan principals to better reflect the current value of their homes. In turn, your administration has the power to ensure that FHFA is run by a Director who will do what is best for the GSEs, taxpayers and homeowners alike.

Your recess appointment of Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Director Richard Cordray in January 2012 has already had a positive impact for many consumers and homeowners. This is another situation where a recess appointment is not only appropriate and within your power as President, but absolutely necessary.

Sincerely,

Consumer Action

National Association of Consumer Advocates (NACA)

National Association of Latino Community Asset Builders (NALCAB)

National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC)

National Urban League

National People's Action

PICO National Network

Public Citizen

Rainbow PUSH Coalition

The New Bottom Line

1st Choice Counseling & Education

AAA Fair Credit Foundation

AAMU CDC

Abyssinian Development Corporation

Action Now Institute

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality (ABLE)

Affordable Homes of South Texas

Affordable Housing Centers of America

Affordable Housing Clearinghouse

African American Chamber of Commerce of Montgomery County

Aging Care Connections

Alaska Works Partnership, Inc.

Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE)

An Angel's Touch Foundation

Apprisen

Association for Neighborhood & Housing Development, Inc (ANHD)

Athens Land Trust

Atlanta Housing Association of Neighborhood-based Developers (AHAND)

Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership, Inc.

Aurora Family Services

Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc.

BAME Renaissance CDC

Bayside Community Center

BDT Housing Services Enterprise

Birmingham Business Development Initiative

Birmingham Business Resource Center

BRIDGE, Inc.

Bridging Communities, Inc.  
Buffalo Urban League, Inc.  
Building Alabama Reinvestment (BAR)  
Business and Professional People for the Public Interest  
Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation  
California Capital Financial Development Corporation  
California Coalition for Rural Housing  
California Community Economic Development Association  
California Reinvestment Coalition  
California Resources and Training - CARAT  
Calvert Asset Management Company  
Camden First Community Development Corporation  
CASA of Oregon  
Causa Justa::Just Cause  
CDC of Marlboro County (CDCMC)  
CDC Small Business Finance Corporation  
CEIBA Housing & Economic Development Corporation  
Center for Fair Housing, Inc  
Center for New York City Neighborhoods  
Centre for Homeownership and Economic Development Corporation  
Chelsea Collaborative  
Chester Community Improvement Project (CCIP)  
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless  
Chicago Community Loan Fund  
Chicago Jobs Council  
Chicago Rehab Network  
Chicago Urban League  
Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.  
City Life/ Vida UrbanaClarifi  
Coalition for Community Banking  
Coastal Enterprises, Inc.  
Common Wealth Development, Inc.  
Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley  
Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin  
Community Action Partnership of the Greater Dayton Area  
Community Development Advocates of Detroit (CDAD)  
Community Development Council of Greater Memphis  
Community Economic Development Association of Michigan (CEDAM)  
Community Housing Opportunities Corporation  
Community Media Workshop  
Community Reinvestment Fund, Inc.  
Community Reinvestment Organizing Project, Chicago, Illinois  
Community Service Network, Inc.  
Community Service Programs of West Alabama, Inc.  
Community Solutions Consumer Services, Inc.

Covenant Faith Outreach Ministries/Covenant Community Development Corporation  
Credit Builders Alliance  
Debt Counseling Corporation  
Delaware Community Reinvestment Action Council, Inc. (DCRAC)  
Destiny Development Corporation  
Detroit Nonprofit Housing Corporation  
Divine Direction Consulting  
Dominion Financial Management  
Durham Regional Community Development Group  
Each One Teach One, Inc.  
Eden Council for Hope and Opportunity (ECHO)  
Elder Law of Michigan  
Empowering and Strengthening Ohio's People (ESOP)  
Escambia County Housing Finance Authority  
Fair Housing Center of Greater Boston  
Fair Housing Center of Metropolitan Detroit  
Fair Housing Center of Northern Alabama  
Fair Housing Center of Southeastern Michigan  
Fair Housing Center of Southwest Michigan  
Fair Housing Council of Northern New Jersey  
Fair Housing Council of Riverside County, Inc.  
Fair Housing Council of Suburban Philadelphia  
Faith Action for Community Equity (FACE)  
Family Management Credit Counselors  
Family Tree  
Florida Community Loan Fund  
Florida Housing Coalition, Inc.  
Florida Low Income Housing Associates, Inc.  
Foundation Capital  
Forest of the Rain Productions  
GAP Community Development Resources, Inc.  
Genesis Housing Development Corporation  
Georgia Community Action Association  
Global Network CDC  
Global One Development Center  
Governance & Accountability Institute  
Greater Boston Legal Services  
Greater New Haven Community Loan Fund  
Greater Rochester Community Reinvestment Coalition  
Greater Sacramento Urban League  
Greater Southwest Development Corp  
Habitat for Humanity of Washington State  
Hamilton County Community Reinvestment Group  
Hammond Human Relations Commission  
Harlingen Community Development Corporation  
Hartford Community Loan Fund, Inc.

Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc.  
Helping Hands Community Outreach Center  
Hill Community Development Corporation  
Home Preservation & Prevention, HPP Cares  
Homeward, Inc.  
Hope Enterprise Corporation  
Housing Action Coalition of Rhode Island  
Housing Action Illinois  
Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania  
Housing Assistance Council (HAC)  
Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh  
Housing Development Fund, Inc.  
Housing Education and Economic Development (HEED)  
Housing Education Resource Center  
Housing Helpers Inc.  
Housing Network of Rhode Island  
Housing Opportunities Collaborative  
Housing Opportunities Made Equal of Virginia (HOME)  
Housing Opportunities Project for Excellence, Inc. (HOPE)  
Housing Research & Advocacy Center  
Housing Resource Center of Monterey County  
Housing Resources of Western Colorado  
Indiana Association for Community Economic Development, Inc. (IACED)  
Illinois People's Action  
Inner City Press/Fair Finance Watch  
Instituto Socio-Economico Comunitario, Inc. (INSEC)  
Interfaith Housing Center of the Northern Suburbs  
Iowa Foundation of Microenterprise  
Irvin M. Henderson & Company  
Jacksonville Area Legal Aid  
Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity (JCCEO)  
Jewish Community Action  
John Marshall Fair Housing Center  
Justine Petersen Housing and Reinvestment, Inc  
Lakeside Community Development Corporation  
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley  
Lawyers Committee for Better Housing  
Legacy Redevelopment Corporation  
LINC Community Revitalization, Inc. Long Island Housing Services, Inc.  
Louisiana Community Reinvestment Coalition  
Lynn United for Change  
M.C. Library Education Center Corporation  
Main Street Birmingham, Inc.  
Marian Creek Jackson Center  
Martin Luther King Jr. Community Development Corporation  
Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition, Inc.

Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance (MAHA)  
Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations  
Metro St. Louis Coalition for Inclusion & Equity (M-SLICE)  
Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers  
Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council  
Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing Opportunity Council (EHOC)  
Miami Valley Fair Housing Center, Inc.  
Michigan CRA Coalition  
Milwaukee Fair Housing Council  
Milwaukee Realist Association, Inc  
Movin' Out, Inc.Mt. Pleasant Community Zone  
NC Institute of Minority Economic Development  
Nehemiah Community Reinvestment Fund  
Neighborhood Economic Development Advocacy Project (NEDAP)  
Neighborhood Home Solutions  
Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland  
Neighborhood Housing Services of Jamaica  
Neighborhood Housing Services of South Florida  
Neighborhood Legal Services of LA County  
Neighborhood Recovery CDC  
Nevada Fair Housing Center, Inc.  
New Hampshire Community Loan Fund  
New Hope Community Development Non-Profit Housing Corporation  
New Jersey Citizen Action (NJCA)  
New Orleans Neighborhood Development Foundation  
New Visions Community Development Corporation  
New York StateWide Senior Action Council, Inc.  
North Walke Housing Corporation  
North Branch Works  
Northside Community Reinvestment Coalition-Minneapolis  
North Side Community Federal Credit Union  
Northern New England Housing Investment Fund  
Northwest Fair Housing Alliance  
Northwest Indiana Community Actions  
Northwest Indiana Reinvestment Alliance  
Northwest Side Community Development Corporation  
Northwest Side Housing Center  
Oak Park Regional Housing Center  
Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks  
Ohio Community Development Finance Fund  
One-Stop Career Center of Puerto Rico  
Opening Doors, Inc.  
Oregon Opportunity Network  
Organize Ohio  
Pacific Asian Consortium on Employment (PACE)  
Partners in Charity

Partners in Community Building, Inc. (PICB)  
PathStone  
People's Self-Help Housing Corporation  
Philadelphia Association of CDCs  
Philadelphia Council for Community Advancement  
Philadelphia Unemployment Project  
Piedmont Housing Alliance  
Pilsen Neighbors Community Council  
Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group  
Poverty & Race Research Action Council  
Pratt Area Community Council  
Pride Through Empowerment Foundation  
Project IRENE  
RAFI-USA  
Raleigh Area Development Authority (RADA)  
REACH Community Development, Inc.  
Reinvestment Partners  
RISE Foundation  
River Cities Development Services  
River City Community Development Corporation  
Rochester Home Opportunities  
Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation  
Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC)  
Rural Housing, Inc.  
Sacramento Yolo Mutual Housing Association  
San Diego Reinvestment Task Force  
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, Inc.  
Scott County Housing Council  
Select Milwaukee, Inc.  
Self-Help Enterprises  
SJ Adams Consulting  
South Fairmount Community Council  
South Philadelphia H.O.M.E.S., Inc.  
South Suburban Action Conference  
Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project, Inc. (RCAP)  
Southern Mutual Help Association, Inc.  
Southern Regional Community Reinvestment Corporation  
Southwest Fair Housing Council  
Southwest Georgia Housing Partnership  
Spanish Coalition for Housing  
Spokane Low Income Housing Consortium  
St. Johns Housing Partnership  
St. Joseph Homeownership Ministry  
Sunnyside Up Campus Neighborhoods Revitalization Corporation  
Sustainable Community Farms  
Texas Association of Community Development Corporations (TACDC)

The Arc of Hilo  
The Mattie C. Stewart Foundation  
The Monroe Foundation  
The Nehemiah Foundation  
The PERICO Institute for Development and Entrepreneurship (PRIYDE)  
The South Orange / Maplewood Community Coalition on Race, Inc  
The Victoria Foundation  
The Woodstock Institute  
Toledo Fair Housing Center  
U-SNAP-BAC  
Umoja Institute  
Union of The Pan Asian Communities  
United Community Center  
United Neighborhood Centers of Northeastern Pennsylvania  
United Neighbors, Inc.  
United Planning Organization  
United South Broadway Corporation  
United Way of Central Alabama  
Unity Economic Development Corporation  
Universal Housing Solutions CDC  
Urban Economic Development Association of Wisconsin, Inc. (UEDA)  
Valley Economic Development Center  
Vermont Slauson Economic Development Corporation  
Washington Asset Building Coalition  
Wateree Community Action  
We Help Community Development Corporation  
Welcome Home CDC  
Westside Health Authority  
West Company  
West Humboldt Park Family & Community Development Council  
West Tennessee Legal Services  
Westchester Residential Opportunities, Inc.  
Western Hill Chamber of Commerce  
Western Maine Community Action  
Western New York Law Center, Inc. Women's Development Center (WDC)  
World Efforts Outreach Ministries  
WOTHA Housing and Development Corporation