



August 6, 2021

Deputy Secretary Adrienne Todman
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th Street SW
Washington DC 20410

Dear Deputy Secretary Todman:

The National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) writes to congratulate you on your confirmation as Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). We appreciate your ongoing commitment to equitable housing access for the low income and veteran communities. Many American veterans sustain some kind of disability; the Protection and Advocacy (P&A) system serves these individuals. Furthermore, people with disabilities are statistically more likely to live below the poverty line. NDRN is excited to work with HUD on these important issues.

NDRN is the non-profit membership association of Protection and Advocacy (P&A) agencies that are located in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the United States Territories. In addition, there is a P&A affiliated with the Native American Consortium which includes the Hopi, Navajo, and San Juan Southern Paiute Nations in the Four Corners region of the Southwest. P&A agencies are authorized under various federal statutes to provide legal representation and related advocacy services, and to investigate abuse and neglect of individuals with disabilities in a variety of settings. The P&A Network comprises the nation's largest provider of legally based advocacy services for persons with disabilities, including advocacy on housing related services.

Your work history exemplifies your commitment to equitable and livable housing for all people. While you worked at the District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA) you worked to provide proper housing for military veterans. Many veterans leave the military with injuries and disabilities. The 57 P&As routinely serve these individuals in gaining access to the services they have a right to.

You have emphasized a commitment to eliminating all forms of housing discrimination. People with disabilities continue to face numerous forms of housing discrimination. This includes things such as discrimination when applying for housing, inaccessible housing units, or refusal to rent to a person with a service animal. We are excited to work with you to combat such discrimination.

Additionally, you expressed a commitment to build our nations housing infrastructure in

a way that expands equitable access to housing. This is a greatly needed area of action for people with disabilities. The number of accessible housing units continues to lag behind. We look forward to working with you on such developments in infrastructure.

We would once again like to congratulate you on your confirmation. We are excited to work with you moving forward. Please reach out to NDRN with any questions by contacting Claire Stanley. You can reach out to Claire Stanley at Claire.Stanley@ndrn.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curtis L. Decker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Curtis L. Decker
Executive Director