

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, November 14, 2012

Contact: Melinda Nestlerode
Housing and Community Development Manager
(707) 648-4408

MARINA VISTA APARTMENTS AT 201 MAINE STREET FIRST COMMUNITY TO COMPLETE ALL THREE PHASES OF CRIME FREE MULTI-HOUSING PROGRAM

Marina Vista will hold a community social tomorrow night at 4:00 pm, which marks the third required phase in the Crime Free Multi-Housing (CFMH) Program. The social is designed to educate residents about the CFMH and neighborhood watch programs, and to ensure that all residents sign a Crime Free Lease Agreement.

Marina Vista has already completed the first two phases of the CFMH Program. Phase One requires eight hours of training on tenant screening, evictions, and drug and gang identification. Phase Two requires a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) inspection, and curing all identified barriers to a safe, crime-free environment. The CFMH program is designed to help tenants, property owners and management of rental property keep drugs and illegal activity off their property. Once all the residents have signed the Crime Free lease agreement, Marina Vista will qualify as Vallejo's first Crime Free Multi-Housing certified property.

About 75 percent of the residents have already signed the Crime Free lease agreement, and the property manager has implemented the Crime Free program for those tenants. On November 11, 2012, the alleged perpetrators of robbery at a downtown restaurant were apprehended because of cameras installed at the Marina Vista property. The three suspects were taped running into a unit at Marina Vista. Although the tenant was not involved in the robbery, she was immediately provided with an eviction notice, in accordance with the zero tolerance for crime philosophy of the CFMH program.

The City of Vallejo Housing Authority, in partnership with the Vallejo Police Department, Fighting Back Partnership and the Vallejo Fire Department, has implemented the CFMH Certification Program. The program utilizes a three-part strategy to reduce crime, while maintaining a tenant-friendly atmosphere. Upon completion of all three phases, the property is awarded certification and allowed to display the CFMH sign. The certification must be renewed annually.

The overall goal of the CFMH program is to build a cooperative effort between property owners/management, tenants, and the police department with their CFMH partners, to keep illegal and nuisance activity out of rental property. Through a pro-active, rather than reactive, approach to crime prevention, the national CFMH program is proven to reduce police calls for service and reduce crime.