Methuen Housing Authority Hallway and Common Area Policy

In an effort to ensure compliance with the state Safe and Sanitary Housing Code and State Fire Code and ensure the safety of all, the MHA prohibits the following at all property common areas including hallways, common alcoves, stairwells, and any other common space outside individual apartments:

Furniture in hallways or common areas that includes but is not limited to desks, chairs, tables, bookcases, shelves, and any other furniture items.

Decorative hanging items in hallways or common areas such as pictures, art, floral décor, and any other decorative items that would hang on the wall or windows.

All other personal items

Decorative expression is completely appropriate and encouraged inside tenant apartments as long as all entry and exit doors are free and clear.

Residents who fail to comply with this policy will be subject to the following:

- <u>1st Offense: Warning</u>
 <u>2nd Offense: \$100 fine</u>
- 3rd Offense: \$200 fine

The MHA appreciates cooperation with this policy. It is difficult to maintain/clean/repair common areas if items are throughout the areas. It is also a health and safety hazard to have decorative items and/or furniture in common areas because it can block passageways or means of egress in the event of an emergency, such as a fire. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in maintaining the safety of residents, visitors, employees, and the community.