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September 19, 2014

Kathleen Zadareky
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Single Family Housing
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20410

Re: Extension Request – Servicing Section of the FHA Single-Family Housing Policy Handbook

Dear Deputy Assistant Secretary Zadareky,

The undersigned associations commend the efforts of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to develop a new comprehensive Federal Housing Administration (FHA) Single-Family Housing Policy Handbook (Handbook) and to seek stakeholder input to ensure its accuracy and completeness. We particularly applaud the recently released *Servicing* section that will consolidate many disparate information sources to govern how all servicers understand FHA requirements and work with borrowers.

In an effort to provide full, thoughtful and complete feedback, we have begun and will continue to work diligently with our members to review the *Servicing* section. This will be a significant undertaking that requires extensive outreach among our respective memberships, particularly considering the diverse size and institutional capacities of FHA servicers. The final version of the *Servicing* section will be the guide for most FHA servicing activities going forward. For this reason, it is of paramount importance that FHA receive thoughtful, high-quality feedback.

Our members do not have the resources to thoroughly review the draft, compare it to two decades of HUD guidance and their own internal procedures, and provide input by the October 17, 2014 deadline. Some also noted that the review of FHA's Handbook section on the 203(k) program will also be on-going during the majority of this review period and will require resources that must also be used to evaluate the *Servicing* section.

In order for FHA servicers to provide sound and comprehensive feedback, we respectfully request that HUD extend the comment deadline to December 8, 2014.

Again, we greatly appreciate HUD's work to develop the Handbook and HUD's efforts to seek needed input.

Sincerely,

American Bankers Association
Mortgage Bankers Association
National Council of State Housing Agencies