

Marblehead Housing Authority Flag and Banner Policy

1. **Purpose.** The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the display of flags and banners on Marblehead Housing Authority (“MHA”) property.
2. **Applicability.** Section 3 of this policy applies to flags and banners that are displayed on flagpoles owned by the MHA. Section 4 of this policy applies to display of flags and banners by tenants within MHA-owned residential units. This policy does not apply to handheld flags, clothing, posters, or signs worn or carried on MHA property.
3. **Policy for MHA-Owned Flagpoles.** The MHA’s Board of Commissioners (“Board”) has sole discretion to determine what flags and banners, if any, are displayed on MHA-owned flagpoles. Private individuals and members of the community are not permitted to determine what flags or banners are displayed on MHA-owned flagpoles. The decision to display, or not display, any particular flag or banner on MHA property is an expression of the MHA’s official sentiments and is government speech. The MHA, acting by a majority vote of its Board, may initiate, continue, or discontinue the display of any particular flag or banner. The MHA’s flagpoles are not intended to, and do not, serve as a public forum for free expression by private individuals.
4. **Policy for Tenant Display of Flags within Residential Units.** Regardless of design or content, no flag or banner displayed in an exterior window of a residential unit shall be larger than five inches by seven inches. This policy does not limit display of flags or banners within a unit other than in an exterior window. Nothing in this policy supersedes, alters, or amends any existing requirement or obligation under a tenant’s lease.
5. **Severability.** If any provision of this policy is ruled invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the policy will remain in full force and effect.

ADOPTED ON [DATE]:

BY MARBLEHEAD HOUSING AUTHORITY:

[NAME]

[NAME]

[NAME]

[NAME]

[NAME]