RAD – The Wave of the Future

Monday, June 15, 2015
3:30 – 4:45 p.m.
Salon I

Speaker Bios

William Lavy
Senior Advisor
Office of Recapitalization, Office of Housing
US Department of Housing & Urban Development
Washington, DC

Will Lavy has worked at HUD for over five years, primarily implementing HUD’s Rental Assistance Demonstration to preserve and improve the nation’s public housing stock. He has been responsible for policy and program development, stakeholder outreach, and training. He began at HUD within the Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) and now serves as a senior adviser within the newly formed Office of Recapitalization (Recap) within the Office of Housing. Mr. Lavy regularly speaks with PHAs and other stakeholders on strategies for utilizing and implementing RAD to reposition their public housing portfolios.

Richard M. Price, Esq.
Partner
Nixon Peabody, LLP
Washington, DC

Richard Michael Price focuses his law practice on commercial real estate and real estate finance; real estate, housing and community development regulation; and government contracts and administrative law. Mr. Price represents clients in transactions, administrative proceedings and civil litigation. He closes transactions financed with HUD-insured multifamily mortgage loans, Section 236 decouplings, tax credit equity syndications, tax-exempt bonds proceeds, and Rural Housing Service prepayments.

Mr. Price has defended parties before HUD, USDA and federal courts in suspensions, civil money penalties, debarments and other matters representing a wide variety of housing and real estate
finance issues. He also litigates issues concerning non-procurement and procurement contracts with federal agencies, and has represented parties in regulatory matters such as lead-based paint enforcement.

As a regulatory attorney, Mr. Price assists clients in transfer approvals and in completing special projects. He is often involved with the drafting of legislation and has advised parties about affordable housing issues internationally.

Before joining Nixon Peabody LLP, Mr. Price worked as a trial attorney in the Office of General Counsel at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. He served as coordinator of the Housing and Urban Policy Working Group for the Clinton/Gore ’92 Committee. He also co-chaired the American Bar Association’s Eighth Annual Conference on Affordable Housing and Community Development Law (June 1999). He is listed in Who’s Who in American Law.

Mr. Price earned his B.A. from George Washington University in 1985, and his J.D. from George Washington University in 1988. He is admitted to practice in Maryland, Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia, and before the Fourth, Tenth and Federal U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeals, the U.S. District Courts for Maryland, the District of Columbia and Colorado, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, and the U.S. Supreme Court.

John B. Rucker, III  
Executive Vice President  
Merchant Capital, L.L.C., a division of Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc.  
Montgomery, AL

Mr. Rucker has been an investment banker since 1977. He is a founding partner of Merchant Capital, L.L.C., which merged with Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated on January 1, 2015. Mr. Rucker manages the affordable housing finance activities of the firm. In the past two years, Merchant Capital has been the number one ranked firm in the country in negotiated multi-family housing bond issues. Founded in 1987, Merchant Capital advisors have served as senior managers or financial advisors for over $30 billion in bond financings for a multitude of apartment developers, governmental entities, hospitals and corporations. The principals of Merchant Capital have closed issues in over 40 states.

Through related companies and investments Merchant Capital is a minority partner in companies that have developed over 19,000 affordable housing units. Through a related company, MC Georgia, they actively syndicate and purchase Georgia State affordable housing tax-credits.

Mr. Rucker graduated from The University of Mississippi in 1973 and The University of Mississippi School of Law in 1976, and is a member of the Alabama and Mississippi Bar Associations. Mr. Rucker is also on the Board of Directors of the National Housing & Rehabilitation Association and is a vice chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta’s Affordable Housing Advisory Board.
Reggie Samuel is the Managing Director of The Leumas Group. He has completed numerous Technical Assistance assignments under HUD’s Expediter Services II Contract for the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program. These assignments required him to successfully assist Public Housing Authorities throughout the United States with the navigation of RAD applications, complex financial analysis, portfolio strategies, loan applications, tax credit applications, development planning, asset management issues, and other transaction-related challenges.

Mr. Samuel was recently appointed the RAD Transaction Manager for 19 Public Housing Authorities in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and North Dakota. He serves as the HUD Liaison for the Housing Authorities and validates that they are on target to meet all milestones leading up to the submission of their Final Financing Plan.

Prior to establishing The Leumas Group, Reggie Samuel was involved in more than $2.5 Billion in multifamily transactions (acquisitions and dispositions) as an Investment Officer of Sam Zell’s Equity Residential (EQR). Equity is a S&P 500 company and is the largest publicly traded apartment company in the United States.

Mr. Samuel has been an active leader within the multifamily industry since his undergraduate experience at Virginia Tech, where he graduated from the Real Estate Property Management (RPM) program. While pursuing his degree and playing on the varsity football team, Reggie worked part-time at a Section-8 apartment community in Blacksburg, Virginia.