



Cathy Hoog, Executive Director

Main Office and Public Housing Department  
27 Charter Street, Salem, MA 01970

Section 8 Department & Procurement/Modernization  
136 Canal Street, Suite 2, Salem, MA 01970

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2024 SEP 12 PM 1:55  
CITY CLERK  
SALEM, MASS

September 12, 2024

Ilene Simons, City Clerk  
Office of the Clerk  
City Hall, 93 Washington Street  
Salem, MA 01970

Dear Ms. Simons:

In accordance with Chapter 30A, Section 20 of the General Laws, as amended, Notice of **SPECIAL MEETING** of the **SALEM HOUSING AUTHORITY** to be held on **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. VIA ZOOM WEBINAR** is hereby posted.

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Sep 18, 2024 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)  
Topic: Special Board of Directors Meeting on September 18, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87969069054?pwd=rQjkMTdLyhS4vZv4WJFPD8DjSy5Fpp.1>  
Passcode: 851195

Or One tap mobile :

- +13017158592,,87969069054#,,,,\*851195# US (Washington DC)
- +13052241968,,87969069054#,,,,\*851195# US

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
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- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US
- +1 507 473 4847 US
- +1 564 217 2000 US
- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
- +1 689 278 1000 US
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- +1 253 205 0468 US



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+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)  
Webinar ID: 879 6906 9054  
Passcode: 851195

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kc5cKzJoYf>

It is anticipated by the Chair that the matters outlined in the agenda below will be discussed as well as any other unforeseen business that may lawfully come before it.

**AGENDA FOR THE  
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024  
9:00 a.m.**

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This Special Meeting will be held via Zoom Webinar only.

- I. **Call Meeting to Order**
- II. **Roll Call**
- III. **New Business**
  - Open Meeting Law Complaint - See Attached Compliant
- IV. **Adjournment**

Very truly yours,

  
Cathy Hoog  
Executive Director

Copy: SHA Board Members  
Charter Street Tenants Association  
Morency Tenants Organization  
Pioneer/Bertram Terrace Tenants Organization  
Dalton House Tenants Organization  
Rainbow Terrace Tenants Organization

**This notice posted on "Official Bulletin Board"  
City Hall, Salem, Mass. on SEP 12 2024  
at 1:55 PM in accordance with MGL Chap. 30A  
Sections 18-25.**



## OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT FORM

Office of the Attorney General  
One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108

Please note that all fields are required unless otherwise noted.

### Your Contact Information:

First Name: Judith Last Name: Reilly

Address: 20 West Ave, Unit 3

City: Salem State: MA Zip Code: 01970

Phone Number: 4014196899 Ext. \_\_\_\_\_

Email: judith.reilly.77@gmail.com

Organization or Media Affiliation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Are you filing the complaint in your capacity as an individual, representative of an organization, or media?

(For statistical purposes only)

Individual  Organization  Media

### Public Body that is the subject of this complaint:

City/Town  County  Regional/District  State

Name of Public Body (including city/town, county or region, if applicable): Salem Housing Authority (a local public body)

Specific person(s), if any, you allege committed the violation: Cathy Hoog, Executive Director of the Salem Housing Authority

Date of alleged violation: 5/30/2024 & later

## Description of alleged violation:

Describe the alleged violation that this complaint is about. If you believe the alleged violation was intentional, please say so and include the reasons supporting your belief.

Note: This text field has a maximum of 3000 characters.

Please see the attached cover letter and documentation for more information.

Violation #1: On May 30, 2024, Cathy Hoog, executive director of the Salem Housing Authority (SHA), intentionally violated the open meetings law ("OML"; MGL Ch. 30a, § 20(g)) by refusing to leave the Zoom call after the SHA's board of commissioners adjourned into executive session. The board's chairperson, Veronica Miranda, had indicated that Ms. Hoog should leave the Zoom call because the executive session had been called for board members only and Ms. Hoog's presence would defeat the purpose of the executive session. After the board adjourned from open session into executive session, Ms. Hoog remained in the executive session for approximately 22 minutes, arguing with the chairperson and ultimately demanding a roll call vote from the board to allow Ms. Hoog and her assistant to stay.

Violation #2: Ms. Hoog, as Secretary for the SHA board, intentionally caused minutes to be created that obscured the vote to adjourn into executive session, the time of that vote, and Ms. Hoog's defiance of the chair between approximately 1:05 pm and 1:29 pm. Creation of inaccurate minutes was a violation of MGL Ch. 30a, § 22.

Violation #3: After the board voted on June 12, 2024 to release the minutes of the executive session of May 30, 2024 to the public, Ms. Hoog refused to release those minutes to the public. This was an intentional violation of MGL Ch. 30a, § 22.

Possible Violation: Ms. Hoog may have violated OML, and certainly violated the spirit of OML, by refusing to share the Zoom recording of the May 30 meeting with Chairperson Miranda in the period between May 30 and July 23, when the board voted to release publicly all materials relating to the executive session.

What action do you want the public body to take in response to your complaint?

Note: This text field has a maximum of 500 characters.

1. Get OML re-training from AGO for board & relevant staff members
2. Create accurate minutes of May 30 sessions
3. Revise by-laws: clarify that the Secretary is not a member of the public body
4. Develop an executive session policy for inviting non-board members when their presence is appropriate and for alerting the public to the invitations when appropriate
5. Get access to the SHA website so staff no longer has sole control of notices of public meetings
6. Get access to the SHA Zoom account

## Review, sign, and submit your complaint

### I. Disclosure of Your Complaint.

**Public Record.** Under most circumstances, your complaint, and any documents submitted with your complaint, is considered a public record and will be available to any member of the public upon request.

**Publication to Website.** As part of the Open Data Initiative, the AGO will publish to its website certain information regarding your complaint, including your name and the name of the public body. The AGO will not publish your contact information.

### II. Consulting With a Private Attorney.

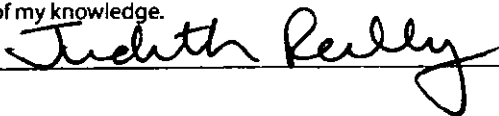
The AGO cannot give you legal advice and is not able to be your private attorney, but represents the public interest. If you have any questions concerning your individual legal rights or responsibilities you should contact a private attorney.

### III. Submit Your Complaint to the Public Body.

The complaint must be filed first with the public body. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Open Government by calling (617) 963-2540 or by email to [openmeeting@state.ma.us](mailto:openmeeting@state.ma.us).

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the provisions above and certify that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

8/21/2024

For Use By Public Body

Date Received by Public Body:

For Use By AGO

Date Received by AGO:

12 de septiembre de 2024

2024 SEP 12 PM 1: 55

Ilene Simons, Secretaria Municipal  
Oficina de la Secretaria  
Ayuntamiento, 93 Washington Street  
Salem, MA 01970

CITY CLERK  
SALEM, MASS

Estimada Sra. Simons:

De conformidad con el Capítulo 30A, Sección 20 de las Leyes Generales, en su forma enmendada, se publica por la presente el Aviso de REUNIÓN ESPECIAL de la AUTORIDAD DE VIVIENDA DE SALEM que se llevará a cabo el MIÉRCOLES 18 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2024 a las 9:00 a. m. A TRAVÉS DE UN SEMINARIO WEB POR ZOOM.

Está invitado a un seminario web por Zoom.

Cuándo: 18 de septiembre de 2024 a las 09:00 a. m., hora del este (EE. UU. y Canadá)  
Tema: Reunión especial de la Junta Directiva el 18 de septiembre de 2024 a las 9:00 a. m.

Haga clic en el siguiente enlace para unirse al seminario web:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87969069054?pwd=rQjkMTdLyhS4vZv4WJFPD8DjSy5Fpp.1>

Código de acceso: 851195

O con un solo toque en el móvil:

+13017158592,,87969069054#,,,,\*851195# EE. UU. (Washington DC)

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O teléfono:

Marcar (para una mejor calidad, marca un número según tu ubicación actual):

+1 301 715 8592 EE. UU. (Washington DC)

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+1 646 931 3860 EE. UU.

+1 346 248 7799 EE. UU. (Houston)

+1 360 209 5623 EE. UU.

+1 386 347 5053 EE. UU.

+1 507 473 4847 EE. UU.

+1 564 217 2000 EE. UU.

+1 669 444 9171 EE. UU.

+1 669 900 9128 EE. UU. (San José)

+1 689 278 1000 EE. UU.

+1 719 359 4580 EE. UU.

+1 253 205 0468 EE. UU.

+1 253 215 8782 EE. UU. (Tacoma)

ID del seminario web: 879 6906 9054

Código de acceso: 851195

Números internacionales disponibles: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kc5cKzJoYf>

El Presidente prevé que se tratarán los asuntos que se describen en la agenda a continuación, así como cualquier otro asunto imprevisto que pueda presentarse legalmente.

ORDEN DEL DÍA PARA LA  
REUNIÓN ESPECIAL DE LA JUNTA DIRECTIVA  
MIÉRCOLES 18 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2024  
9:00 a. m.

Esta reunión especial se llevará a cabo únicamente a través de un seminario web de Zoom.

I. Llamado a orden a la reunión

II. Lista de asistencia

III. Nuevos asuntos

- Queja sobre la ley de reuniones abiertas - Ver adjunto  
Quejas

IV. Levantamiento de la sesión

Atentamente,

  
Cathy Hoag  
Directora ejecutiva

Copia: Miembros de la junta directiva de SHA  
Asociación de inquilinos de Charter Street  
Organización de inquilinos de Morency  
Organización de inquilinos de Pioneer/Bertram Terrace  
Organización de inquilinos de Dalton House  
Organización de inquilinos de Rainbow Terrace

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