

Elberon Senior Apartments  
Price Hill, OH  
September 2012

In my previous experience as a Section 3 subcontractor, I had received little of the suggested training and partnership(s) that it is spelled out in the Federal Regulations governing Section 3\*. However, this was not so on the Elberon Senior Apartments project in Price Hill, under the leadership of the Model Group.

My help from the Model Group on this project extended from matching help with a supply vendor, to suggestions on equipment that would enhance the job I was trying to do. I'm indebted to the quiet stewardship of the head of construction, always there in my crisis with a smile, to Mike Connelly always assuring me "you can do this, I've got faith in you" and to project manager, Tom Schuetz, who I learned negotiating skills suitable for Wall Street...

These three helped me navigate Section 3 as a sub so well, I was able to hire a total of 11 people, young, old, skilled and unskilled laborers – a proverbial gender, age, race, and economic status group, that crossed and re-crossed all requirement lines.

My sincere thanks for the opportunity to work with your company. It was a highlight of my business and personal life.

- S. Abu Bakr

\* Section 3 is a program instated by HUD which obligates those utilizing HUD funds for development and public housing to offer residents access to jobs and contracting opportunities, to the greatest extent feasible.

**model**construction

