

## FOREWORD

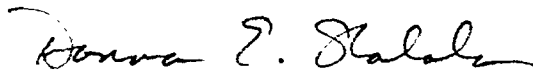
The idea for this special volume of the *Urban Law Annual* grew out of the HUD-ABA National Housing Justice and Field Assistance Program.

From meetings of the national advisors to the program and the American Bar Association's Special Committee on Housing and Urban Development Law came some very exciting thinking, often of a nature that promised to lead beyond the program itself to an even wider appraisal of housing justice around the country.

When it was seen that a series of articles on the subject would be a major public service, Randall Scott, the director of the HUD-ABA program, approached the *Urban Law Annual* at Washington University School of Law in St. Louis with a request to publish an unscheduled issue of their law review. Students and faculty lent their support, and more than twenty authors prepared articles. HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research contributed funds to support publication.

The result is this provocative volume, in which advocates and critics have their say about certain court systems and experimental non-judicial approaches to resolving disputes in the housing field. Although many of the articles are of a kind not typically found in law reviews, they offer important and stimulating points of view on a subject of increasing significance in urban life.

Particular thanks for this innovative volume go to Edward T. Foote, Dean of the Washington University School of Law, to the *Urban Law Annual* Staff, to D. Bruce La Pierre, its faculty advisor, to Bernard Seward and Fred Eggers of the Office of Policy Development and Research, and to the chairperson and members of the ABA's Special Committee on the program's advisors. Thanks are also extended to Randall Scott and to the authors who volunteered their time and efforts for this project.



Donna E. Shalala  
Assistant Secretary  
for Policy Development and  
Research



## **COMMENTARY**

