

Notes From Inside The Beltway

Heard At HUD

HUD Smoking Ban Triggers New Industry: HUD's ban on cigarette, cigar, vaping, and pipe smoking in public housing took effect July 21 after a two-year preparation period. Tenants are not allowed to smoke in their apartments, common areas or within 25 feet of the buildings. By the end of the year, HUD will begin enforcing the ban with evictions for those not complying. The strategy has created a new cottage industry -- smoking testers to detect violators trying to mask their habits -- for what could be a lucrative industry covering the department's 1.1 million units. Chatsworth, CA-based Clark Seif Clark, an indoor air quality inspection firm, is promoting its services to HUD. "At Clark Seif Clark, their building science professionals offer testing services for environmental tobacco smoke, smoke and nicotine residues, marijuana smoke contamination, and a wide range of other indoor environmental quality issues," according to a promotional statement. Info: The firm details its services at www.csceng.com

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