## FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY



## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release December 23, 2008 **Contact:** Corinne Russell

(202) 414-6921

Stefanie Mullin

(202) 414-6376

## 2009 CONFORMING LOAN LIMITS RAISED IN TWO COUNTIES

**WASHINGTON, DC** – The Federal Housing Finance Agency, regulator of Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and the 12 Federal Home Loan Banks has revised two counties' maximum conforming loan limits effective Jan. 1, 2009. For loans purchased by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, Blaine County, Idaho will have a new limit of \$625,500 and Kalawao County, Hawaii will have a \$626,750 limit.

The conforming loan limits for 2009, originally announced on November 7, 2008 were revised in response to changes in local median price estimates by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Loan limits in high-cost areas are set at 115 percent of local home price medians under rules set forth in the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008.

The change in Blaine County, ID comes as a result of an appeal, which increased Blaine County's median home price estimate from \$398,000 to \$562,000, resulting in an increase in the one-unit loan limit to \$625,500 from \$457,700.

The median price for Kalawao County, HI has been set equal to the median price for the adjacent county, Maui County. This increases the county's loan limit to \$626,750, slightly above the \$625,500 limit announced Nov. 7, 2008.

The list of <u>maximum conforming loan limits</u> incorporates the changes for the areas above as well as limits originally announced November 7, 2008.

Click here for the <u>revised abbreviated list</u> of areas with loan limits exceeding the general limits (\$417,000 in the continental United States and \$625,500 for Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands).

###