

## 2010 Census

You may be asking yourself, "Why is Sentry Management telling me about the 2010 Census?" Because it is something that we will all take part in. Because it determines things like the number of seats that each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. It helps determine the allocation of federal funds for community services, senior citizen centers and new construction such as highways and hospitals.

Additionally, even though you will receive the Census form in the mail, you may also be contacted by a Census worker. Census workers may visit your home or those of your neighbors more than once. If you live in a gated community or a condominium building with restricted entry, Census workers cannot be denied the right of entry. So, the Board may need to implement a plan for the gate attendants (if a manned gated entry) of what to do when confronted by this situation. You may also want to let your residents know that a visit, unannounced by the gate attendant may be a possibility. The Census Bureau advises that if a census worker visits your home, you should do the following to verify they are what they say they are by:

- First asking to see their ID. All census workers carry official government badges marked with just their name; they may also have a "U.S. Census Bureau" bag.
- If you're still not certain about their identity, call the Regional Census Centers to confirm they are employed by the Census Bureau
- Answer the census form questions for your entire household (you must be at least 15 years old to answer questions) so that the census taker can record the results for submission to the Census Bureau.
- Note: the census taker will NEVER ask to enter your home

"Census takers visit local homes several times to capture resident information for the 2010 Census. If you prefer, you can schedule a visit with your census taker. Should the census taker come when you are away from your home, they will leave a contact number. If a census taker has not visited your home or you have a question about your participation with the census, call your Census Office."

Census forms will be received by most of us in March. The return deadline is April 1, 2010. It is during the period of April through July, that everyone needs to be aware that census workers may have access to the community and be knocking on our doors. Their job is to verify information or take information if the forms have not been returned by mail.

We felt it was important to make everyone aware ahead of time that this national endeavor may impact your community and in this time of heightened security, to know what to look for and who to contact if you have any questions.

Sentry Management, Inc.