

May 15, 2000

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

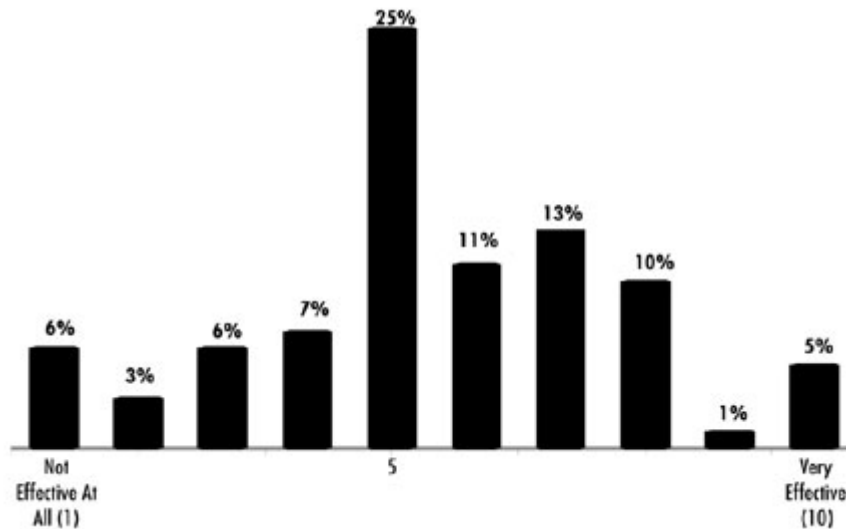
## **Voters Are Neutral in Assessing HUD, a New Novogradac & Company LLP Survey Shows**

SAN FRANCISCO—American voters are largely neutral in assessing the effectiveness of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), a new Novogradac & Company LLP survey shows.

Novogradac & Company LLP's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Affordable Housing Survey, conducted April 12-13 by Alexandria, Va.-based Public Opinion Strategies, asked 800 registered voters to rate HUD's effectiveness on a scale of 1-to-10, with 1 being "not effective at all" and 10 being "very effective."

Five percent of the voters polled said HUD was very effective, while 6 percent rated the federal agency not effective at all. The overwhelming majority of voters surveyed lay right in the middle, with 25 percent giving HUD a rating of 5. This mirrored the results of Novogradac & Company LLP's survey last year, which found that 24 percent of respondents gave HUD a rating of 5.

"These results show that American voters are still not terribly convinced by the federal government's ability to deliver affordable housing to low-income families," said Michael J. Novogradac, CPA, managing partner of Novogradac & Company LLP, a San Francisco-based certified public accounting and consulting firm that specializes in affordable housing issues. "These results are further evidence that HUD needs to work toward developing a positive image among American voters."



The San Francisco-based Novogradac & Company LLP is a national certified public accounting and consulting firm that specializes in affordable housing issues. The firm will present the results of the entire survey at its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Credit & Bond Financing for Affordable Housing Conference May 18-20 in Dallas. Novogradac & Company LLP has offices in San Francisco, Atlanta, Austin, Texas and Washington, D.C.