





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Update on Alameda County's Eviction Moratorium

ALAMEDA COUNTY, CA — The Board of Supervisors enacted an eviction moratorium in 2020 to ensure that all residents countywide can shelter-in-place and weather the dual public health and financial crisis of COVID-19. It provides that **all residential** evictions anywhere in the County are prohibited, with few exceptions (see below).

On August 4, 2020, the Board of Supervisors amended this ordinance to extend 60 days after the Local Health Emergency is lifted. The local health emergency order issued by the Public Health Officer is still in place.

Tenants and property owners can access funding resources available to help with past due and future rent and utilities through our Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Residents can go to www.AC-HousingSecure.org for details on how to apply for rent relief and other resources to retain housing.

Alameda County renters who have fallen behind on rent or utilities payments due to the COVID-19 pandemic may qualify for assistance. Alameda County still has millions of Federal and State relief funds available to address the impacts of COVID-19. Payments will be distributed directly to landlords, and income-eligible applicants can receive up to 12 months of payment relief for past due rent and up to 3 months of future rent if necessary to preserve housing stability. The Cities of Oakland and Fremont also received funds and are operating their own rental assistance programs.

The moratorium on evictions in Alameda County was drafted to cover to ALL evictions except those based on an imminent public health and safety threat, an Ellis Act eviction, or a government order. In addition, it provides that late payment fines, fees, and interests are prohibited.

In addition, the Alameda County Superior Court extended its stay on some evictions (for writs of possession issued before July 13, 2020) through the end date of the County's eviction moratorium. The Court's press release is available here.

To date, Alameda County has approved over \$20 million in financial assistance to over 1,300 households, at an average of \$15,000 in aid per household. Renters who have qualified for unemployment, can demonstrate financial hardship due to COVID-19, or are at risk of experiencing homelessness can still apply for rent relief. **Call 211 or visit ac-housingsecure.org for resources.**

The full eviction moratorium ordinance is available <u>here</u>. Access to legal support may be available by contacting Centro Legal de la Raza at centrolegal.org or (510) 437-1554.