

NOTICE- GOOD CAUSE EVICTION PROTECTION

As a resident in a “housing Tax Credit Program” rental unit, you have a right to continue living in your rental unit unless you do something that gives your landlord “good cause” to evict you. This notice provides basic information about your rights.

Why are you being notified of your right against eviction without “good cause”?

The federal law that created the Housing Credit Program requires this protection. The California Tax Credit Allocation Committee requires your landlord to notify you and amend your lease. You and your landlord must also sign the “Lease Rider” to make this important resident protection part of your lease. This “Lease Rider” has already been signed by your landlord and should be attached to this notice for your signature.

What is “good cause” for your landlord to evict or to terminate your tenancy?

There is no specific list of “good cause” to evict residents. Rather, this matter has been left to the courts to decide and define. However, your landlord would have “good cause” if you commit a serious or repeated violation of the significant terms of your lease. Some examples of what might be considered good cause are failure to pay rent on time, failure to cooperate with legal recertification requirements, and engaging in illegal activity on the premises.

Can your landlord refuse to renew your lease without showing good cause?

No, the owner must have good cause for any eviction or termination of tenancy, including a refusal to renew your lease when it expires.

What if your lease does not yet include protection against being evicted without “good cause”?

Even if your lease does not state this protection, you have the right NOT to be evicted without “good Cause.” To strengthen this protection, you should immediately sign and return the “Lease Rider.”

What procedures must the landlord follow to evict me or terminate my tenancy?

Before your tenancy can be terminated, your landlord must give you a written notice of the reasons – the “good cause” – that is specific enough for you to present a defense if you wish. You do not have to move out after the notice if you believe there is no good cause. Whether you agree or disagree with the notice, you should never ignore it. If you choose to stay and contest the eviction, the landlord must file and serve you with a court action, called an “unlawful detainer”. This court action must be based on the same good cause stated in the notice. You have the right to show why there is not good cause at a hearing in court. The judge will then decide whether the landlord has shown good cause. You only have to leave the premises if the court orders you to do so.

IMPORTANT! If you receive an eviction notice or court papers, you should contact an attorney immediately for legal advice.

Who should you contact if you have more questions?

Please contact your resident manager, local legal services office, local housing rights organization, or a private attorney.