



Housing and Eviction Virtual Town Hall

November 22, 2021

Join on Zoom at tinyurl.com/ChicagoEvictionInfo
for Spanish, Polish, Mandarin and ASL translations



Agenda

- Welcome
- Eviction Fact or Eviction Fiction (10 mins)
- Resources (10 mins)
- Understanding the Eviction Process (15 mins)
- Question and Answer (20 mins)
- Close

Submit your questions to communityengagement@cityofchicago.org



Our goals are for you to leave this event:

- 1.) Knowing where you can get help with housing and eviction issues
- 2.) With a better understanding of the eviction process so you can help yourself or someone you know
- 3.) With your questions answered or connected with someone who can help answer your questions



Eviction Fact or Eviction Fiction

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★ Eviction: Fact or Fiction?

A renter can be evicted for not paying rent right now.

FACT

★ Eviction: Fact or Fiction?

My landlord can force me to leave my home without filing an eviction.

FICTION

★ Eviction: Fact or Fiction?

I should go to court if I receive an eviction summons.

FACT

★ Eviction: Fact or Fiction?

Once I receive an eviction notice as a tenant, there is no help available to me.

FICTION

★ Eviction: Fact or Fiction?

As a landlord there is no help available to me.

FICTION



What to Know

The eviction moratorium ended on October 3, 2021.

- **Don't self-evict; your landlord can't force you to leave your home without filing an eviction**
- **Help is available for tenants and landlords**



Finding Resources

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Which rental assistance programs are available right now?

- All Chicago's COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program is available to Chicago renters who have been financially impacted by the pandemic
 - Visit [RentRelief.com/AllChicago](https://rentrelief.com/allchicago) for more information
- Visit [Chicago.gov/RentHelp](https://chicago.gov/renthelp) to see up-to-date information on where to apply for assistance



Which rental assistance programs will open soon?

- The Department of Housing (DOH) will launch a new round of applications on December 6, 2021
- DOH is continuing to process and approve rental assistance applications submitted earlier this year
- You can visit [Chicago.gov/RentHelp](https://www.chicago.gov/RentHelp) for information about how to check the status of a submitted application
- The Illinois Housing Development Authority will launch a new round of applications on December 6, 2021
 - Applicants will be eligible for up to 15 months of assistance
 - Learn more about eligibility requirements by visiting illinoishousinghelp.org
- If you are a tenant or a landlord and have applied to receive ILRPP assistance during the May-July 2021 application periods, you can check the status of your application at ilrpp.ihda.org/status



How do I find shelter if I am at risk of or experiencing homelessness?

- If you need to seek short-term shelter right away, **call 3-1-1** from anywhere in the City for placement
- If you are at risk of homelessness, call the Homelessness Prevention Call Center by **dialing 3-1-1** or **312-744-5000** and **ask for "Short-Term Help"**



How can I find mental health resources?

- If you are experiencing anxiety or depression you can speak with someone and find other mental health resources by visiting chicagoconnects.com
- More information about mental health services can also be found at the Chicago Department of Public Health website at chicago.gov/cdph



What to Know

- Financial help is still available
- Mental health resources are available
- For up-to-date information about resources visit:
 - [Chicago.gov/Eviction](https://www.chicago.gov/eviction)
 - [Chicago.gov/RentHelp](https://www.chicago.gov/renthelp)



Understanding the Eviction Process

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What we will cover:

- Where to get help if you're behind on rent but haven't received an eviction summons
- What to do if you've received an eviction notice or summons
- How to prepare for eviction court
- What happens in eviction court
- How to get connected to legal aid, mediation and other resources throughout the process

★ Are you behind on rent but haven't received an eviction summons?

Visit [Rentervention.com](https://rentervention.com) or text "hi" to 866-773-6837 to get connected with a volunteer attorney who can answer your questions about the eviction process and tell you about your rights

- The service is free and confidential

Call the Cook County Legal Aid for Housing and Debt (CCLAHD) Hotline at 855-956-5763 to learn how to get help with your housing and debt problems

- All services are free to Cook County residents

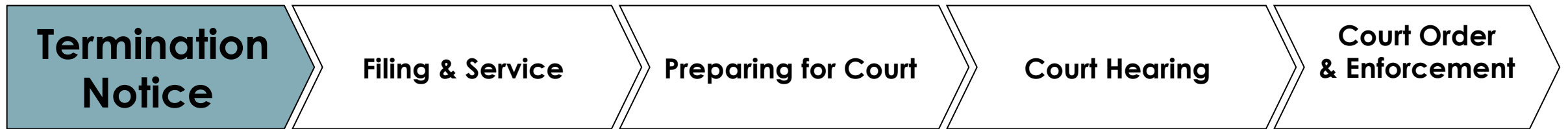




What are reasons a renter could receive an eviction notice?

- Not paying rent
- Lease violations (other than not paying rent)
- If your landlord decides not to renew your lease

★ What happens before an eviction filing?



- Landlords must give tenants written notice before filing an eviction court case
- It is illegal for a landlord to lock you out, remove your belongings or force you to move
- In many cases, renters can fix the problem within the notice period and avoid an eviction filing



What are common types of eviction notices?

- 5 days for nonpayment of rent
- 10 days lease violations
- **In Chicago, your landlord must give you a notice before a rent increase or if they decide not to renew your lease**
 - 30 days before, if you lived in the unit less than 6 months
 - 60 days before, if you lived in a unit from 6 months to 3 years
 - 120 days before if you lived in a unit for over 3 years



Are there any COVID-19 housing protections still in place?

- Though the evictions moratorium expired on October 3, 2021, additional protections are available under the COVID-19 Eviction Protection Ordinance
- Tenants must give landlords written notice of their inability to pay rent because of lost income due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- **The ordinance is in effect until December 2, 2021**



What should I do if my landlord tries to remove me from my home?

Only the Cook County Sheriff's Office can remove residents from their homes.

- If your landlord tries to remove you, this is called a "lockout," and is always illegal. You can **call 3-1-1** to file a formal police report detailing the lockout incident
- Learn more about your rights as a renter by calling:
 - The Department of Housing Renters' Rights Information Line at **312.742.RENT (312.742.7368)**
 - The Metropolitan Tenants Organization Hotline at **773-292-4988**

★ What should I know about receiving an eviction summons?



- **Landlord requirements to start the Court Process**
 - 1.) Filing a complaint for eviction with the Court
 - 2.) Formal Notice to the tenant (Service and Summons)
- **How a tenant might learn about a Court proceeding (Service):**
 - 1.) Sheriff hands you court paperwork (Summons and Complaint)
 - 2.) Posting a Notice at the property
- **State law requires most eviction cases to be sealed**

★ How can I get connected to legal help and other resources?

Cook County Legal Aid for Housing and Debt (CCLAHD) offers free legal help for residents of Cook County through the Early Resolution Program (ERP)

- All services are free for Cook County landlords and tenants regardless of income, language or immigration status
- The program includes free legal aid, mediation services and connections to other resources including rental assistance
- Visit CookCountyLegalAid.org or call **855-956-5763**

Cook County
LEGAL AID
for Housing and Debt 

Helping you resolve eviction, foreclosure, debt, and tax deed issues.

★ How can I prepare for eviction court?



Step 1: Call CCLAHD (1-855-956-5763) or go to [cookcountylegalaid.org](https://www.cookcountylegalaid.org)

Step 2: Keep you Summons and any other eviction paperwork

Step 3: Plan how to connect to Court on Zoom

- Smartphone/Tablet/Computer
- Call in (no video)
- Go to CL-16 in Daley Center on your court date

Step 4: Arrange to be on-time for your court appearance

★ What will happen at my court hearing?



Participate in your case

- Be on time or early
- Attend by Zoom
- Attend all court dates

Help is available

- Ask for your case to go the Early Resolution Program

Interpretation/Translation

- Let the judge know if you need an interpreter



How can I get connected to mediation services?

Center for Conflict Resolution (CCR) provides case management for the Early Resolution Program and offers a court-based mediation service that takes place in virtual eviction courtrooms

- A court case is not required to access mediation; clients can self-refer outside of the court process
- **Email newcase@ccrchicago.org or call 312.922.6464 ext. 22**



What should I know if I receive an eviction judgment?



- If a court order is entered in favor of the landlord, a judge can decide whether to keep the file sealed
- Remember, you landlord cannot enforce the eviction order, only the Sheriff can

Can I still get help after an eviction order?

The Sheriff's Assistance for Evictions (SAFE) Unit helps connect tenants with social service organizations

- Individuals who are elderly, experiencing mental illness, or have a physical disability and families with young children can reach out for help
- SAFE helps defendants connect with social services organizations that can be helpful prior to the enforcement of the eviction
- **Contact SAFE at 312-603-3337 for more information**



What to Know

1.) If you are behind on rent but haven't received an eviction notice, you should still reach out for help.

- [Rentervention.com](https://rentervention.com)
- [Cookcountylegalaid.org](https://cookcountylegalaid.org)

2.) If you get an eviction summons, you are not alone. There are resources to help you.

- It is important that you go to all court cases.
- You can be connected to help in court by asking for your case to go to the "Early Resolution Program".



Questions & Answers

Join on Zoom at tinyurl.com/ChicagoEvictionInfo
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Submit your questions by:

1. Emailing communityengagement@cityofchicago.org
2. Typing your question into the Facebook chat
3. Typing your question into the Zoom chat



Recap and Close



What to Know

The eviction moratorium ended on October 3, 2021.

1. Don't self-evict

2. Financial help is available

3. Legal help is available

4. You can find more information about resources and access this presentation at chicago.gov/eviction

  **Thank you!**

Please email crystal.godina@cityofchicago.org with any additional questions



Additional Resources

★ How can I get help with my utility bills?

- Visit cedaorg.net or call **800-571-CEDA (800-571-2332)** to find out if you're eligible for utility bill assistance
- If you receive a disconnection notice, it is important that you call your utility company immediately to discuss your options
- Visit CUBHelpCenter.com or call **1-800-669-5566** for more information about your rights as a utility customer



CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD
Fighting for Illinois Consumers





Is there assistance available for internet services?

You may be eligible for subsidized monthly internet through the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBBP)

- The EBBP provides \$50/month discount for broadband service
- You can also access a one-time discount of \$100 off a device (like a laptop or tablet)
- Visit [GetEmergencyBroadband.org](https://www.getemergencybroadband.org) or contact your existing internet provider for more information and to apply

★ Is there assistance available for internet services?

Free high-speed internet is also available for Chicago Public School (CPS) families in need.

Chicago Connected provides eligible CPS families with:

- Free high-speed internet for up to four years
- Access to free digital resources and trainings
- To check your eligibility visit cps.edu/getconnected



★ How can I get help with food assistance and other benefits?

The Greater Chicago Food Depository can help you access benefits like SNAP (food stamps), Medicaid and other benefits

- **Get connected by:**
 - Applying with the State of IL at [Illinois.gov](https://www.illinois.gov) - [IL Application for Benefits Eligibility \(ABE\) Homepage](#)
 - Call the Benefits Outreach Hotline at [773-834-5416](tel:773-834-5416)
 - Fill out the online Benefits Referral Form at chicagosfoodbank.org/snap-referral



★ How can I get help with food assistance and other benefits?

Pregant, postpartum, or nursing parents with children under 5 may be eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

- WIC participants can receive the following benefits:
 - Supplemental nutritious foods
 - Nutrition education and counseling
 - Screening and referrals to other health, welfare and social services
- Find out if you're eligible by visiting wic.fns.usda.gov **Pre-Screening Tool**
- Enroll by calling your local WIC clinic or **217-782-2166**
 - Find your local clinic by visiting [Illinois Department of Human Services Office Locator Website](#)

