

Property Owner's Rights and Responsibilities

Before the unit is rented, the property owner has the right to:

- 1. Offer and advertise vacant units for rent.
- 2. Screen potential tenants.
- 3. Select the tenant who is to reside in the rental unit.
- 4. Collect first month's rent and security deposit.

After the rental unit has been rented, the property owner has the right to:

- 1. Request mediation with the Rent Adjustment Program for issues with the tenant(s).
- 2. Petition for additional rent increases or exemption from the Rent Adjustment Program.
- 3. Enter the rental unit under the following circumstances:
 - 1. In an emergency.
 - 2. To make necessary or agreed upon repairs, decorations, alterations, or improvements, supply necessary services or show the unit to perspective buyers, tenants or workers.
 - 3. When a tenant has abandoned or given up the premises.
 - 4. As a result of a court order.
- 4. Initiate eviction proceedings under the Just Cause Ordinance, which include:
 - 1. Non-payment of rent.
 - 2. Failure to comply with a material term of the lease.
 - 3. Tenant causes or allows damage to the unit and refuses to pay for the damage.
 - 4. Tenant refuses to sign a new lease which is substantially the same as the old lease.

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Tenant's Rights and Responsibilities

Under California Law (Civil Code 1941.1), the tenant has the right to:

- 1. Roofs and walls must not leak.
- 2. Doors and windows must not be broken.
- 3. Plumbing and gas must work properly.
- 4. Hot and cold water must be provided.
- 5. Heater must work and be safe.
- 6. Lights and wiring must work and be safe.
- 7. Enough cans and bins be provided for trash.
- 8. Floors, stairways and railings must be maintained and safe.
- 9. The rental unit must be clean, with no trash, rodents or other pests.
- 10. Sewer and septic system must be connected and working properly.

Also under California Health and Safety Code (Sections 17900 through 17995), the tenant has a right to:

- 1. A working toilet, wash basin, and bathtub or shower.
- 2. The toilet, and bathtub or shower, must be in a room which is ventilated and allows for privacy.
- 3. A kitchen sink, which cannot be made of an absorbent material such as wood.
- 4. Natural lighting in every room through windows or skylights (which should be able to open at least halfway for ventilation, unless a fan provides mechanical ventilation).

Under Oakland Rent Adjustment Ordinance (O.M.C., Section 8.22.010):

- 1. Tenant may request a mediation to discuss issues with the property owner.
- 2. Tenant may file a petition for an increase above CPI or decrease in service within the unit.

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