

# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

## EVICTON LAWS FOR TENANTS

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### The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says that if you:

- Lost income or have extraordinary medical expenses; and
- Earn less than \$99k for an individual; and
- Would be homeless or have to move in with relatives if you were evicted; and
- Gave a signed declaration swearing that these things are true to your landlord (see reverse side).
- **A SHERIFF CANNOT EVICT YOU UNTIL APRIL 1, 2021.**

### New State Laws and Rental Assistance:

- If you lost income due to COVID-19 you can get free rental assistance.
- Your landlord MUST apply for rental assistance on your behalf.
- You can apply by calling 1-703-962-1884
- If your landlord owns 5+ apartments they have to offer you a repayment plan as long as you sign a statement saying you lost income or had extra expenses because of COVID-19.
- Your landlord cannot sue to evict you for getting behind on rent unless:
  - You refuse to cooperate with their application for rental assistance and refuse to apply on your own; OR
  - You have not received approval for rental assistance within 45 days of applying.

**If you lost income because of the COVID-19 emergency you can ask for your court hearing to be put off for 60 days. (YOU STILL HAVE TO GO TO COURT TO ASK FOR THIS).**

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#### **ALWAYS GO TO YOUR COURT DATE AND CALL LEGAL AID**

Legal Aid Justice Center:

(804) 643-1086 (Richmond)

(434) 977-0553 (Charlottesville)

(703) 778-3450 (Falls Church)

(804) 862-2205 (Petersburg)

Virginia Eviction Legal Helpline: 1-833-NO-EVICT

\*COVID -19 tenant protections change frequently – always call legal aid for up to date information.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

- These laws ONLY help tenants being evicted for not paying rent.
- These new laws have many requirements before a landlord can evict you. If you've received a pay or quit notice call legal aid immediately.
- Even if you've already lost your court case your eviction may be preventable.