
From: cubanelsa@
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 7:48 PM
To: John_Gioia; Candace Andersen; Diane Burgis; Karen HP neighbor Kidwell; Federal Glover
Cc: Clerk of the Board
Subject: Item D-3

Heartless corporate landlords have more of an incentive to get rid of tenants than to get rid of cockroaches and rats. Vermin and faulty plumbing actually help corporate landlords to get rid of low rent paying tenants. Make a place unlivable and even tenants who have paid their rent on time for years will self-evict. Once those tenants are gone, make repairs and a few cosmetic improvements and you can double the rent.

Where did the original tenants go? Nowhere. Market wages do not match market rents. And now, after being laid off for two years, people are lucky to get hired back to their old jobs even with reduced hours. The County has not done enough. Spending more money to pay people to answer the phone and direct desperate renters to underfunded programs is cruel. ERAP and Measure X tax monies are intended to help your constituents. It is a cruel joke to force renters to go to court unaided while heartless landlords show up with \$350 per hour Real Estate lawyers. Use the \$200,000 left of the ERAP monies to keep people housed by providing effective legal representation. If you refuse then you are violently inflicting homelessness on TEN THOUSAND O F YOUR CONSTITUENTS. Homelessness is expensive for people forced to live on the street and for the affected businesses and neighborhoods impacted and for every level of government that has to attempt to heal the wounds. In 2022, we need Miranda Rights for renters.

From: Adolfo Ruiz <[redacted]@com>
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 8:04 PM
To: John Gioia; Candace Andersen; Diane Burgis; Karen Mitchoff; Federal Glover; Kristi@workingeastbay.org; Clerk of the Board
Subject: Evict and No help. No real help.

Dear Supervisors

My name is Adolfo Ruiz, I live in Contra Costa in Concord on Detroit Ave. I am now being evicted. I work for Lyft, but my car window got smashed in in April and I lost days of work while the car got repaired. This is my main source of income. This made me fall behind in rent in May. I did catch up with rent for June, but I was a month behind. When I tried to pay the rent in July, the manager wouldn't accept my check and alleged that I owed more than I did. They have been quite aggressive and unwilling to negotiate. They are not even willing to make money. They are discriminatory.

I was at the courthouse on Friday looking for legal help to file my answer. I went to several places to ask, going from building to building and no one knew how to give information. Finally, I was directed to the courthouse library. I spoke to a lady who kindly listened to me but told me that she could not help me with what I needed and told me to call another number. I only have five days to respond to this eviction and I can't keep taking days off and losing more money.

What I really need is legal help. But there is really no one to give legal advice there at the court. I think the county should help low-income tenants like me who are still struggling and even trying to pay back the rent. There are people like me who need legal help before they join the very long list of homeless people in California.

The condo where I live has lots and lots of money and lawyers. I have no one and no money. I just work to survive.

From: KarenKidwell
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2022 9:06 AM
To: John Gioia; Candace Andersen; Diane Burgis; Karen Mitchoff; Federal Glover
Cc: Clerk of the Board
Subject: today's meeting and staff report re Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Dear Supervisors,

*I live in Contra Costa and am concerned about evictions being on the rise now that the County and State protections have ended. I personally know of tenants who have been wrongly evicted with no where to turn for help. I know the county worked hard to make sure residents applied for the State's Emergency Rental Assistance Program in order to stabilize housing and prevent waves of evictions. Yet 30% of the cases were denied, even though many were income eligible. **Many residents desperately need some legal intervention and advocacy.***

*I also believe tenants deserve due process when they are facing an eviction in court. Yet, since May, observers found that only 13% of tenants are represented, while 87% of landlords had attorneys. This is unfair and unjust. I believe the County should prioritize investing in legal aid for low-income tenants. **I urge the Board to immediately allocate unspent ERAP 2 monies in tenant legal aid and use it to fund on-site legal clinics at the courthouse.** The ERAP funds are intended to be used for communities experiencing hardship in the aftermath of the pandemic. If invested in this way, it could prevent wrongful or unjust evictions and keep more people from losing their homes and ending up on the streets. Thank you for your consideration of this urgent matter.*
Karen Kidwell

From: william goodwin <>
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2022 10:28 AM
To: Clerk of the Board
Cc: John Gioia; Candace Andersen; Karen Mitchoff; Federal Glover; Diane Burgis
Subject: Agenda - Item D#3, EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM UPDATE

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I live in Contra Costa County, and I am concerned about evictions being on the rise; especially now that the County and State protections have ended. I know the county worked hard, reaching out to residents, to make sure residents applied for the State's Emergency Rental Assistance Program. We needed that hard work in order to stabilize housing and prevent waves of evictions. Yet 30% of the cases were denied, even though **many were income eligible**. Many residents still desperately need some legal intervention and advocacy.

Tenants deserve due process when they are facing an eviction in court. Yet, since May, observers found that only 13% of tenants are represented, while 87% of landlords had attorneys. This is unfair and unjust. I believe the County should prioritize investing in legal aid for low-income tenants. **I urge the Board to immediately allocate unspent ERAP 2 monies in tenant legal aid and use it to fund on-site legal clinics at the courthouse.** The ERAP funds are intended to be used for communities experiencing hardship in the aftermath of the pandemic. If invested in this way, it could prevent wrongful or unjust evictions and keep more people from losing their homes and ending up on the streets.

Thank You.

William Goodwin

Member | Board of Directors- East Bay Housing Organizations

Member | Board of Directors- Monument Impact

Resident Empowerment Program Leader- Hope Solutions