

# **EVICTION MORATORIUM**

## ***ARE YOU AT RISK OF EVICTION DUE TO NON-PAYMENT OF RENT?***

### **1. HAVE YOU APPLIED TO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR HELP PAYING YOUR RENT?**

- In Rhode Island, financial assistance may be available from agencies such as Crossroads, United Way, and the various community action agencies. For help, you can call 211. Apply on-line to Safe Harbor at:  
<https://www.uwri.org/safe-harbor-housing-program-tenant-application/>

### **2. DO YOU EARN LESS THAN \$99,000 PER YEAR? (\$198,000 FOR A JOINT TAX RETURN)**

### **3. ARE YOU UNABLE TO PAY YOUR RENT BECAUSE OF A LOSS OF INCOME, WAGES, OR HOURS OF WORK, OR PAYMENT OF EXTRAORDINARY MEDICAL EXPENSES?**

### **4. ARE YOU USING YOUR BEST EFFORTS TO MAKE THE LARGEST PAYMENT POSSIBLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES?**

### **5. IF YOU ARE EVICTED, WOULD YOU: BECOME HOMELESS, MOVE INTO A HOMELESS SHELTER, MOVE INTO AN OVERCROWDED HOME WITH FRIENDS OR FAMILY?**

Tenants who can truthfully answer “yes” to each of the above questions can stop their landlords from evicting them by signing the attached form and giving a copy to their landlord.

Once you give the signed form to your landlord, they must cease and desist from taking any action to evict you.

Tenants may report landlords who violation the moratorium to the police, Attorney General, and Department of Justice.

Landlords may report tenants believed to have lied on the sworn declaration to the police, Attorney General, and Department of Justice.

**[FORM] DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY FOR  
THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION'S TEMPORARY  
HALT IN EVICTIONS TO PREVENT FURTHER SPREAD OF COVID-19**

This declaration is for tenants, lessees, or residents of residential properties who are covered by the CDC's order temporarily halting residential evictions (not including foreclosures on home mortgages) to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. Under the CDC's order you must provide a copy of this declaration to your landlord, owner of the residential property where you live, or other person who has a right to have you evicted or removed from where you live. Each adult listed on the lease, rental agreement, or housing contract should complete this declaration. Unless the CDC order is extended, changed, or ended, the order prevents you from being evicted or removed from where you are living through December 31, 2020. You are still required to pay rent and follow all the other terms of your lease and rules of the place where you live. You may also still be evicted for reasons other than not paying rent or making a housing payment. This declaration is sworn testimony, meaning that you can be prosecuted, go to jail, or pay a fine if you lie, mislead, or omit important information.

I certify under penalty of perjury, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, that the foregoing are true and correct:

- I have used best efforts to obtain all available government assistance for rent or housing;<sup>1</sup>
- I either expect to earn no more than \$99,000 in annual income for Calendar Year 2020 (or no more than \$198,000 if filing a joint tax return), was not required to report any income in 2019 to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, or received an Economic Impact Payment (stimulus check) pursuant to Section 2201 of the CARES Act;
- I am unable to pay my full rent or make a full housing payment due to substantial loss of household income, loss of compensable hours of work or wages, lay-offs, or extraordinary<sup>2</sup> out-of-pocket medical expenses;
- I am using best efforts to make timely partial payments that are as close to the full payment as the individual's circumstances may permit, taking into account other nondiscretionary expenses;

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<sup>1</sup> "Available government assistance" means any governmental rental or housing payment benefits available to the individual or any household member.

<sup>2</sup> An "extraordinary" medical expense is any unreimbursed medical expense likely to exceed 7.5% of one's adjusted gross income for the year.

- If evicted I would likely become homeless, need to move into a homeless shelter, or need to move into a new residence shared by other people who live in close quarters because I have no other available housing options.<sup>3</sup>
- I understand that I must still pay rent or make a housing payment, and comply with other obligations that I may have under my tenancy, lease agreement, or similar contract. I further understand that fees, penalties, or interest for not paying rent or making a housing payment on time as required by my tenancy, lease agreement, or similar contract may still be charged or collected.
- I further understand that at the end of this temporary halt on evictions on December 31, 2020, my housing provider may require payment in full for all payments not made prior to and during the temporary halt and failure to pay may make me subject to eviction pursuant to state and local laws.

I understand that any false or misleading statements or omissions may result in criminal and civil actions for fines, penalties, damages, or imprisonment.

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Signature of Declarant

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Date

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<sup>3</sup> “Available housing” means any available, unoccupied residential property, or other space for occupancy in any seasonal or temporary housing, that would not violate federal, state, or local occupancy standards and that would not result in an overall increase of housing cost to you.