### HOUSING, RESIDENTIAL RENT AND RELOCATION BOARD FULL BOARD SPECIAL MEETING June 23, 2022 5:00 P.M. Meeting Will Be Conducted Via Zoom

### AGENDA

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The public may observe and/or participate in this meeting in many ways.

### **OBSERVE:**

• To observe, the public may view the televised video conference by viewing KTOP channel 10 on Xfinity (Comcast) or ATT Channel 99 and locating City of Oakland KTOP – Channel 10

• To observe the meeting by video conference, please click on the link below:

When: June 23, 2022 5:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada) Topic: HOUSING, RESIDENTIAL RENT AND RELOCATION BOARD FULL BOARD MEETING- June 23, 2022

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88367828107

Or One tap mobile :

US: +16699009128,,88367828107# or +13462487799,,88367828107# Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 9128 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 646 558 8656 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 Webinar ID: 883 6782 8107

International numbers available: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbHhGgbwv

### COMMENT:

There are two ways to submit public comments.

• To comment by Zoom video conference, click the "Raise Your Hand" button to request to speak when Public Comment is being taken on an eligible agenda item at the beginning of the meeting. You will be permitted to speak during your turn, allowed to comment, and after the allotted time, re-muted. Instructions on how to "Raise Your Hand" are available <u>here</u>.

• To comment by phone, please call on one of the above listed phone numbers. You will be prompted to "Raise Your Hand" by pressing "**\*9**" to speak when Public Comment is taken. You will be permitted to speak during your turn, allowed to comment, and after the allotted time, re-muted. Please unmute yourself by pressing "**\*6**".

If you have any questions, please email <u>hearingsunit@oaklandca.gov</u>.

# HOUSING, RESIDENTIAL RENT AND RELOCATION BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. ROLL CALL
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT
  - a. Comments on all agenda items will be taken at this time. Comments for items not on the agenda will be taken during open forum.
- 4. CONSENT ITEMS
  - a. Approval of Board Minutes, 6/9/2022 (pp. 4-10)
- 5. APPEALS\*
  - a. T22-0024, Leshne v. Meriau (pp. 61-156)
- 6. SCHEDULING AND REPORTS
  - a. Board Recess 2022
- 7. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
  - a. Board Training Session—Robert's Rules of Order (pp. 11-24)
- 8. EVICTION MORATORIUM RESOLUTION DISCUSSION (pp. 25-60)
- 9. OPEN FORUM
- **10. ADJOURNMENT**

*Note: Appeal parties do not need to comment on their case during public comment or open forum.* 

\*Staff appeal summaries will be available on the Rent Adjustment Program's website and the City Clerk's office at least 48 hours prior to the meeting pursuant to O.M.C. 2.20.070.B and 2.20.090

As a reminder, alternates in attendance (other than those replacing an absent board member) will not be able to take any action, such as with regard to the consent calendar.

#### Accessibility:

Contact us to request disability-related accommodations, American Sign Language (ASL), Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, or another language interpreter at least five (5) business days before the event. Rent Adjustment Program (RAP) staff can be contacted via email at <u>RAP@oaklandca.gov</u> or via phone at (510) 238-3721. California relay service at 711 can also be used for disability-related accommodations.

Si desea solicitar adaptaciones relacionadas con discapacidades, o para pedir un intérprete de en Español, Cantones, Mandarín o de lenguaje de señas (ASL) por favor envié un correo electrónico a <u>RAP@oaklandca.gov</u> o llame al (510) 238-3721 o 711 por lo menos cinco días hábiles antes de la reunión.

需要殘障輔助設施, 手語, 西班牙語, 粤語或國語翻譯服務, 請在會議前五個工作天電 郵 <u>RAP@oaklandca.gov</u> 或致電 (510) 238-3721 或711 California relay service.

### HOUSING, RESIDENTIAL RENT AND RELOCATION BOARD FULL BOARD SPECIAL MEETING June 9, 2022 5:00 P.M. VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE OAKLAND, CA

#### MINUTES

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Board meeting was administered via Zoom by H. Grewal, Housing and Community Development Department. He explained the procedure for conducting the meeting. The HRRRB meeting was called to order by Chair Ingram at 5:03 p.m.

#### 2. ROLL CALL

MEMBER	STATUS	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
R. NICKENS, JR.	Tenant			Х
P. VIRAMONTES	Tenant			Х
J. DEBOER	Tenant Alt.	Х		
Vacant	Tenant Alt.			
D. INGRAM	Undesignated	Х		
C. OSHINUGA	Undesignated	Х		
E. TORRES	Undesignated		Х	
Vacant	Undesignated			
	Alt.			
Vacant	Undesignated			
	Alt.			
T. WILLIAMS	Landlord	Х		
N. HUDSON	Landlord	Х		
Vacant	Landlord Alt.			
K. SIMS	Landlord Alt.			Х

### Staff Present

Braz Shabrell Harman Grewal Briana Lawrence-McGowan Mike Munson Deputy City Attorney Business Analyst III (HCD) Administrative Analyst I (RAP) KTOP

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. James Vann from the Oakland Tenants Union spoke and stated that he did not receive the agenda as he normally does and requested for the mailing list to be corrected. Mr. Vann also mentioned that he has noticed an increase in the frequency of cases being remanded, stating that if there's sufficient evidence, the Board should attempt to rule on the matter rather than remanding cases because it slows the process down and is unnecessary. Mr. Vann urged the Board to think twice about remanding, and stated that if the Board has enough information, they should make a decision.
- b. Hannon Smith spoke and stated that his appeal hearing was scheduled and asked if he was going to have time to speak during that time or if he should speak during public comment. Staff informed Mr. Smith that he would be allowed to speak during the appeal hearing.

### 4. CONSENT ITEMS

 Renewal—Adoption of AB 361 Resolution and Approval of Board Minutes, 5/12/2022 & 5/26/2022: Chair Ingram moved to renew the adoption of AB 361 resolution and to approve the Board minutes from both the 5/12/2022 and 5/26/2022 meetings. Vice Chair Oshinuga seconded the motion.

The Board voted as follows:

Aye:	T. Williams, N. Hudson, J. deBoer, C. Oshinuga, D. Ingram
Nay:	None
Abstain:	None

The motion and minutes were approved.

### 5. APPEALS\*

a. T21-0128, Smith v. Chan

Appearances: Hannon Smith Tenant

This case involved a tenant petition that was filed alleging various decreased housing services. The owner filed a response and indicated that many of the issues were being addressed and submitted receipts and other substantive responses to the tenant's claims. The owner also indicated that the unit was exempt from the Rent Adjustment Ordinance pursuant to Costa Hawkins. A hearing took place on February 1, 2022, and the hearing was strictly limited to the issue of jurisdiction and whether the unit was exempt from the Rent Adjustment Ordinance. The Hearing Officer did not get into any of the

substantive decreased housing service claims raised in the tenant's petition. In the Hearing Decision, the Hearing Officer found that the unit was exempt from the Rent Adjustment Ordinance as a single-family residence. This was based on the fact that there were no other buildings on the property, the owner never rented out the house as separate units, and the property was always rented to a single party. The tenant appealed the Hearing Decision. There was a prior RAP Hearing Decision issued from 2015 that found that the property was exempt as a single-family residence because the rental agreement was for the entire property and the owner was not renting out a multi-unit dwelling. The following issue was presented to the Board:

1.) Was there sufficient evidence supporting the determination that the property is exempt from the Rent Adjustment Ordinance pursuant to Costa Hawkins?

The tenant contended that they have lived at the property for eight years, that they have been a sub-tenant since 2014, and that a new lease was signed in October 2016. The tenant argued that a previously issued notice of violation shows that the property was in violation and that it was not zoned as a residential property. The tenant contended that the owner has been renting the property to them illegally for six years, and that evidence was previously submitted after RAP denied the initial petition due to jurisdiction, since the house has been deemed a single-family home. The tenant contended that after the Hearing Decision was issued in 2015, their rent was increased, despite there being no improvements to the property and there being multiple violations on the property. The tenant argued that the property has been rented to them for residential living and that it was rented to others previously, even though the property was previously a dental office and storage unit and is not zoned as a residential property.

The tenant argued that there was mold growing in another sub-tenant's room downstairs, that it took a long time for the owner to fix the issue, and that the owner's response was not immediate to that specific issue, nor to the tenant's initial claims when the petition was filed. The tenant contended that none of the owner's responses were immediate, which is why the tenant contacted the City for help. The tenant argued that the owner lied about making a remodel in a previous hearing, and that when the tenant called them out in that hearing, they retracted their statement. The tenant contended that they are currently being evicted at no fault and without just cause—and that the owner is working with a contractor to make repairs so that the property can be reverted back to a fully commercial space. The tenant argued that the owner has ignored basic maintenance to the property over the years, that they've been renting to people illegally for over a decade, and that after the owner was shown the issues with the property by the tenant, they responded by stating "It is an old home and there is nothing we can do about it'. The tenant contended that they think the owner was always aware of and admitted guilt to the zoning issues with the property.

After parties' arguments, questions to the parties, and Board discussion, Member T. Williams moved to remand the case back to the Hearing Officer, as the definition of residential real property was not met, therefore Costa Hawkins does not apply; and for the Hearing Officer to hold a hearing to address the tenant's alleged decreased housing services claims. Vice Chair Oshinuga seconded the motion.

The Board voted as follows:

Aye:T. Williams, N. Hudson, J. deBoer, C. Oshinuga, D. IngramNay:NoneAbstain:None

The motion was approved.

b. T22-0029, Felix v. Sarabia

Appearances:	Jacqueline Sarabia	Owner
	Karla Felix	Tenant
	Gregory Ching	Tenant Representative
	Laura & Vicky	Spanish Interpreters

The interpreters were sworn in by staff.

This case involved a tenant petition contesting a rent increase from \$1100 to \$1200 that was received in August 2021. The tenant indicated in the tenant petition that they did not receive a RAP notice along with the rent increase notice or previously. The owner did not file a response to the tenant's petition-and because a response was not filed, an Administrative Decision was issued that granted the tenant's petition and the scheduled hearing was cancelled. The tenant's petition, which was signed under penalty of perjury, made a sufficient showing of facts supporting a finding that the rent increase was unlawful. The increase was held to be invalid because the required RAP notice was not served with the increase or at any time, the increase was above the allowable CPI amount at the time due to the local emergency moratorium, which prohibits increases above the CPI-and because the rent increase notice was not served at least 30 days prior to when the rent increase was to go into effect. The landlord is appealing the Administrative Decision and the appeal was filed on the grounds that the decision is not supported by substantial evidence. On appeal, the owner alleged that the tenant's rent is \$1300 a month: \$1200 for rent and \$100 for utilities. The owner claims that they have receipts and a contract to demonstrate this amount and that the alleged rent increase is not in fact an increase— it is what the tenant's rent is. The following issue was presented to

the Board:

- 1.) Is the Administrative Decision that granted the tenant's petition supported by substantial evidence?
- 2.) Was there good cause for the owner not to file a response?

The owner contended that she did not understand that tenant's petition, that she did not know that she was supposed to give a RAP notice to inform the tenant of the Rent Adjustment Program and Ordinance—and that she has other tenants and did not give them a RAP notice either. The owner argued that the tenant is paying \$1300 a month—\$1200 for rent and \$100 for utilities; and that she has all of the receipts from 2018 to the present. The owner contended that when the tenant first moved in back in 2018, the unit was not being rented to her, it was being rented to her boyfriend. The owner argued that at that time, the tenant was pregnant and she felt sorry for her, which is why she decided that the tenant could stay without a contract—however, now she has a contract. The owner argued that she did not receive anything in the mail regarding the case, which is why a response was not filed, and that sometimes her mail goes to another property with a similar address.

The tenant representative contended that a Hearing Officer is in power to issue a decision administratively if the owner has failed to file a response—and that in this case, the property owner did not file a response. The tenant representative argued that there is no dispute as to the facts and that the record provides substantial support to the Hearing Officer's decision. The tenant representative contended that the rent increase was deemed improper for three reasons, none of which have been disputed by the owner, which included that the owner did not provide a RAP notice concurrently with or prior to the rent increase notice, the rent increase was not served with a proper 30-day notice as required—and that the increase amount was 9.1%, which is in violation of the emergency moratorium, which states that any notice of rent increase in excess of the CPI rent adjustment shall be void and unenforceable. The tenant representative argued that the owner did not dispute that this amount is in excess of the effective CPI of 1.9%, making the increase void and unenforceable—and that this is sufficient for a finding that the increase notice was unlawful.

The tenant representative contended that the owner has not shown sufficient cause for failure to respond to the tenant's petition and that the Hearing Officer's decision should be upheld. The tenant representative argued that the owner's appeal made no mention of cause for failure to file a response and that the appeal focused on the amount of rent that the tenant pays. The tenant representative contended that the owner claims she was denied a sufficient opportunity to respond due to confusion around the hearing date, but that this confusion does constitute a good cause. The tenant representative argued that the notice and response requirements, hearings process, and deadline information is regularly and publicly available both on the RAP website and in the

Oakland municipal code—and argued that since the owner ignored these directions and claims to not have been personally aware of the substantiality of her inaction until the issuance of the Administrative Decision, this is not good cause for failure to file response. The tenant representative contended the owner claiming that the mail may have been redirected is no fault of her own nor any fault of the tenant, that this cannot proven or disproven; but that the owner did receive notice via multiple methods. The tenant representative argued that although it is possible that all of the mailed documents were accidentally directed to a different residence, that does not count as good cause for failure to respond to a petition. The tenant representative contended that the owner had the opportunity to present this kind of an argument at the time that the appeal was filed to support her claims of good cause to not respond—and argued that instead, the property owner has reiterated issues related directly to the amount of rent that the tenant has paid in the past.

After parties' arguments, questions to the parties, and Board discussion, Member J. deBoer moved find that the owner did not have good cause for failure to submit a response to the tenant's petition and to remand the case back to the Hearing Officer to schedule a new hearing and to allow the tenant to submit evidence up to 7 days prior to the scheduled hearing. This does not preclude the Hearing Officer from issuing another Administrative Decision. Vice Chair Oshinuga seconded the motion.

The Board voted as follows:

Aye:T. Williams, N. Hudson, J. deBoer, C. Oshinuga, D. IngramNay:NoneAbstain:None

The motion was approved.

#### 6. SCHEDULING AND REPORTS

a. None

### 7. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. None

### 8. EVICTION MORATORIUM RESOLUTION DISCISSION

a. Chair Ingram led a continued discussion related to drafting a resolution to support the eviction moratorium.

### 9. OPEN FORUM

a. James Vann spoke and stated that it is frustrating listening to Board meetings as the Board continuously discussed something that was not before them at all. Mr. Vann mentioned that the City Attorneys could do a better job at clarifying what the issues are before the Board, so that they can concentrate on those issues, and stated that in one of the cases, it was not the Board's duty to go into what was not in the record or what was not before them in a petition. Mr. Vann stated that he hopes the Board will do a better job from now on.

### 10. ADJOURMENT

a. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

# Robert's Rules of Order

June 23, 2022

Kent Qian, Oakland City Attorney's Office

# I. Introduction

- Parliamentary procedure in general
- Robert's formalized in the 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Regulations require Robert's (8.22.040.A.8)
- Large vs small bodies (rigid vs more permissive)
- Fills gaps in meeting rules not addressed by other law (Brown Act, Sunshine Ordinance, Regs, due process requirements)

# II. Chair

A. Opens meeting at appointed time, after ascertaining quorum

- B. Announces & expedites business before the Board
- C. Recognizes members entitled to the floor
- D. Put proper motions to vote
- E. Decides questions of order, subject to appeal

# III. Minutes

<u>Content</u>:

- Kind of meeting & name of body
- Date & time of meeting
- Presiding Chair
- Minutes approval for prior meetings
- Main motions if seconded & not withdrawn (maker, wording, disposition, amendments)
- Substance of oral committee reports
- Points of order & appeals

# IV. Committees

- Quorum = simple majority of the committee (absent different quorum rule created by the Board)
- Standing committee [continual] vs. special ("ad hoc") committee [short term]
- Empowered to perform a function [example: ad hoc committee to develop recommendation or make report on a particular subject]
- May not adopt their own rules

# V. Motions

<u>Requirements for *most* (but not all) motions,</u> <u>especially main motions</u>:

- Maker must have the floor (called on by chair)
- Stated in the affirmative (do something)
- Need a 2<sup>nd</sup> before discussion can begin (doesn't mean you have to support or vote for the motion)
- Permits discussion (only 1 speaker at a time)

# Types of Motions

- Main motion
- Subsidiary motions
- Privileged motions
- Incidental motions
- Motions that bring back a question

# Subsidiary motions

- Are subsidiary to the main motion
- Types:
  - 1. Table (undebatable)
  - 2. Previous question ("call the question") (undebatable)
  - 3. Limit or extend debate (undebatable)
  - 4. Postpone
  - 5. Refer to committee
  - 6. Amend (debatable if main motion is)

# Privileged motions

• Motions unrelated to pending question that concern urgency

## • Types:

- 1. Adjourn
- 2. Recess (during pending business)
- 3. Point of privilege (rights of member or assembly)
- 4. Regular order of business
- Can interrupt;
- Except for Adjourn, no second needed & undebatable

# Incidental motions

- Questions of procedure
- Types:
  - 1. Point of information (no second)
  - 2. Point of order (no second)
  - 3. Ask for vote by actual count rather than voice ("division") (no second)
  - 4. Withdraw of motion
- 5. Suspend the rules (Robert's or rules adopted under Robert's; includes taking item out of order; 2/3s vote required)
  - 6. Appeal ruling of Chair
- Not debatable except Appeal ruling of Chair

# Motions that bring back a question

Motions that bring back previously considered questions

• Types:

- 1. Reconsider
- 2. Discharge duty from committee
- 3. Rescind
- 4. Take from table



## <u>When you can interrupt</u>

## + no second or debate

- Point of privilege
- Point of order
- Point of information
- Regular order of business

## <u>Requires 2<sup>nd</sup> & permits debate</u>

• Appeal ruling of Chair

# What takes precedence

- Adjourn
- Recess
- Point of privilege
- Regular order of business
- Table
- Previous question ("call the question")
- Limit or extend debate
- Postpone until specific time
- Amend
- Postpone indefinitely
- Main motion

# VI. Voting

- A. <u>Determination</u>: Usually majority vote. (2/3s rarely)
- B. Right to abstain
- C. <u>Methods of voting</u>: 1. Voice ("aye" & "nay"); 2. Rollcall; 3. Unanimous consent

D. *Caveats* (which typically limit most Robert's Voting rules to ad hoc committees & some in person meetings):

1. Superseding Board regs (8.22.040.B)

2. Brown Act requires that votes during teleconferenced meetings be by rollcall.

- VII. Adjournment
- Terminates meeting
- May adjourn by motion
- If scheduled & all other business on agenda concluded, Chair may adjourn without motion

OFFICE OF THE CHERK

2020 APR 15 AMII: 45

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

ORNEY'S OFFICE

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER NIKKI FORTUNATO BAS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE DAN KALB, CITY ATTORNEY BARBARA J. PARKER, COUNCILMEMBER NOEL GALLO, COUNCILMEMBER LYNETTE GIBSON MCELHANEY, COUNCIL PRESIDENT REBECCA KAPLAN, VICE MAYOR LARRY REID, COUNCILMEMBER LOREN TAYLOR, AND COUNCILMEMBER SHENG THAO

### OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL = = 13589 = =

**ORDINANCE NO.** 

\_ C.M.S.

Six Affirmative Votes Required

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE (1) IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON RESIDENTIAL EVICTIONS, RENT INCREASES, AND LATE FEES DURING THE LOCAL EMERGENCY PROCLAIMED IN RESPONSE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC; (2) PROHIBITING AND COMMERCIAL EVICTIONS RESIDENTIAL BASED ON NONPAYMENT OF RENT THAT BECAME DUE DURING THE LOCAL EMERGENCY WHEN TENANT SUFFERED A SUBSTANTIAL LOSS OF INCOME DUE TO COVID-19; (3) PROHIBITING RESIDENTIAL EVICTIONS FOR NON-PAYMENT OF RENT WHERE THE LANDLORD IMPEDED THE PAYMENT OF RENT; AND (4) CALLING ON STATE AND LEGISLATORS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO FEDERAL LOW-INCOME PROVIDE RELIEF то HOMEOWNERS AND LANDLORDS

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease which was first detected in China and has now spread across the globe, with multiple confirmed cases in California, including the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, On March 1, 2020, Alameda County Interim Health Officer Erica Pan, MD, MPH, FAAP declared a Local Health Emergency, and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed that a State of Emergency exists in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Oakland is experiencing a severe housing affordability crisis and 60 percent of Oakland residents are renters, who would not be able to locate affordable housing within the City if they lose their housing; and

**WHEREAS**, in the City of Oakland, more than 4000 of our community members are homeless and live outdoors, in tents or in vehicles; and

WHEREAS, because homelessness can exacerbate vulnerability to COVID-19, it is necessary to take measures to preserve and increase housing security for Oakland residents; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization announced on March 11, 2020, that it has characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Oakland City Administrator issued a proclamation of Local Emergency which was ratified by the Oakland City Council on March 12, 2020; and

WHEREAS, at the City Council's Special Meeting on March 12, 2020, numerous members of the public gave commentary about the need to prevent residential evictions during the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Alameda County Interim Health Officer Erica Pan, MD, MPH, FAAP issued a Shelter-in-Place Order, requiring all Alameda County Residents to stay in their homes and leave only for specified essential purposes; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) Executive Director determined that energy, water, sewer, and communications companies under CPUC jurisdiction should halt customer disconnections for non-payment as a result of the State of Emergency called by Gov. Gavin Newsom. (Source: <u>http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M329/K673/329673725.PDF</u>); and

WHEREAS, the following California cities have enacted emergency eviction moratoriums: San Francisco, Berkeley, Emeryville, Alameda, San Jose, Los Angeles and San Diego, among others; and

WHEREAS, many Oakland residents are experiencing substantial losses of income as a result of business closures, the loss of hours or wages, or layoffs related to COVID<sub>7</sub>19, hindering their ability to keep up with rent payments; and

WHEREAS, many Oakland businesses are suffering economic losses related to COVID-19, in particular since the March 16, 2020, Shelter in Place Order; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland is supporting its small businesses and workers during this crisis by maintaining a new web page (<u>www.oaklandbusinesscenter.com</u>) to serve as a portal for all the local, state and federal resources available to support small businesses and workers during this crisis. These resources include assistance with small business taxes, loan programs, worker benefits programs, and other direct business support; and

WHEREAS, many Landlords charge late fees which can operate as an unfair penalty if a tenant is unable to pay rent due to reasons related to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, some Landlords refuse to provide a W-9 form when required for a tenant to access rental assistance from a government or non-profit agency; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Oakland Municipal Code Section 8.22.360F, the City Council may add limitations to a landlord's right to evict under the Just Cause for Eviction Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, during this state of emergency, and in the interests of protecting the public health and preventing transmission of the COVID-19, it is essential to avoid unnecessary displacement and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, an emergency ordinance restricting evictions during the COVID-19 crisis would help ensure that residents stay housed during the pandemic and would therefore reduce opportunities for transmission of the virus; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the Just Cause for Eviction Ordinance, as amended herein, is consistent with Civil Code Section 1946.2 (as enacted by the Tenant Protection Act of 2019), is more protective than Civil Code Section 1946.2, and, in comparison to Civil Code Section 1946.2, further limits the reasons for termination of residential tenancy, provides additional tenant protections, and, in conjunction with other City ordinances, provides for higher relocation assistance payments; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-28-20, which, among other things, suspended any provision of state law that would preempt or otherwise restrict a local government's exercise of its police power to impose substantive limitations on commercial evictions, if the basis for eviction was nonpayment of rent, or foreclosure, arising out of a substantial decrease in income or substantial out-of-pocket medical expenses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, or a government agency's response to it, and is documented; and requests that financial institutions implement an immediate moratorium on foreclosures and related evictions that arise due to a substantial loss of household/business income, or substantial out-of-pocket medical expenses, sue to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) enacted a 60-day moratorium on foreclosures and evictions for single family homes with FHA-insured mortgages, and the Federal Housing Finance Agency suspended foreclosures and evictions for single family homes with mortgages backed by either the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac) for 60-days; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20, ordering, with limited exceptions, all individuals living in the state of California to stay at home or at their place of residence, until further notice; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the United States Senate introduced a \$1 trillion proposal for a coronavirus stimulus package, with support from the Trump Administration, which includes a direct payment to qualified individuals, small business loans, corporate tax cuts, and financial support for hard-hit industries such as airlines; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2018 City of Oakland Equity Indicators Report 74 percent of African American residents are renters, 69 percent of Latinx residents are renters, and 48 percent of Asian residents are renters; and 58 percent of African American and 53 percent of Latino residents are rent burdened in Oakland, and African American residents are twice as likely to receive an eviction notice than all residents; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance will serve justice and promote racial equity for African American and Latinx renters; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Charter Section 213, the City Council may introduce and adopt an emergency ordinance at the same City Council meeting by six affirmative six votes; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is necessary to enact an emergency ordinance pursuant to the powers that City Charter Section 213 grants to the City Council to preserve the public health and safety which is threatened by COVID-19; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1. Recitals.** The City Council finds the foregoing recitals to be true and correct and hereby incorporates such findings into this ordinance.

**SECTION 2.** Purpose and Intent. The purpose and intent of this ordinance is to prevent displacement, reduce transmission of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), and promote the stability and the health and safety of the residents and businesses of Oakland during the Local Emergency declared by the City Administrator on March 9, 2020, and ratified by the Oakland City Council on March 12, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (hereinafter, "Local Emergency").

SECTION 3. Residential Eviction Moratorium. Except when the tenant poses an imminent threat to the health or safety of other occupants of the property, and such threat is stated in the notice as the grounds for the eviction, it shall be an absolute defense to any unlawful detainer action filed under Oakland Municipal Code 8.22.360A subsections (1) – (10) that the notice was served or expired, or that the complaint was filed or served, during the Local Emergency. Any notice served pursuant to Oakland Municipal Code 8.22.360A (1) - (10) on a tenant during the Local Emergency shall include the following statement in bold underlined 12-point font: "Except to protect the health and safety of other occupants of the property, you may not be evicted during the Local Emergency declared by the City of Oakland in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This does not relieve you of the obligation to pay back rent in the future. You may contact the Rent Adjustment Program at (510) 238–3721 for additional information and referrals." This section shall remain in effect until May 31, 2020, unless extended.

SECTION 4. Rent Increase Moratorium. For rental units regulated by Oakland Municipal Code 8.22.010 et seq, any notice of rent increase in excess of the CPI Rent Adjustment, as defined in Oakland Municipal Code Section 8.22.020, shall be void and unenforceable if the notice is served or has an effective date during the Local Emergency, unless required to provide a fair return. Any notice of rent increase served during the Local Emergency shall include the following statement in bold underlined 12-point font: "During the Local Emergency declared by the City of Oakland in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, your rent may not be increased in excess of the CPI Rent Adjustment (3.5% until June 30, 2020), unless required for the landlord to obtain a fair return. You may contact the Rent Adjustment Program at (510) 238–3721 for additional information and referrals."

SECTION 5. Late Fee Moratorium. Notwithstanding any lease provision to the contrary, for residential tenancies, no late fees may be imposed for rent that became due during the Local Emergency if the rent was late for reasons resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes, but is not limited to (1) the tenant was sick or incapacitated due to COVID-19, or was complying with a recommendation from a governmental agency to self-quarantine, (2) the tenant suffered a substantial reduction in household income because of a loss of employment or a reduction in hours, or because they were unable to work because they were caring for their child(ren) who were out of school or a household or family member who was sick with COVID-19, or because they were complying with a recommendation from a government agency to self-quarantine, and (3) the tenant incurred substantial out-of-pocket medical expenses caused by COVID-19. Any notice demanding late fees for rent that became due during the Local Emergency shall include the following statement in bold underlined 12-point font: "You are not required to pay late fees for rent that became due during the Local Emergency declared by the City of Oakland in response to the COVID-19 pandemic if the rent was late for reasons

#### <u>related to the pandemic. You may contact the Rent Adjustment Program at (510)</u> 238–3721 for additional information and referrals."

SECTION 6. Commercial Eviction Moratorium. In any action for unlawful detainer of a commercial unit based on non-payment of rent, it shall be an absolute defense if the failure to pay rent during the local emergency was the result of a substantial decrease in income (including but not limited to a decrease caused by a reduction in hours or consumer demand) and the decrease in income was caused by the COVID-19 pandemic or by any local, state, or federal government response to COVID-19, and is documented. This section shall only apply to small businesses as defined by Government Code Section 14837(d)(1)(A) and to nonprofit organizations. Any notice to a commercial tenant demanding rent shall include the following statement in bold underlined 12-point font: "If you are a small business as defined by Government Code 14837(d)(1)(a) or a non-profit organization, you may not be evicted for failure to pay rent if the failure was due to a substantial decrease in income caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, or by any local, state, or federal government response to COVID-19, and is documented. This does not relieve you of the obligation to pay back rent in the future." This section shall remain in effect until May 31, 2020, unless extended. Nothing in this section shall relieve the tenant of liability for the unpaid rent.

SECTION 7. No Residential Eviction for Nonpayment of Rent that Became Due During the Local Emergency. In any action for unlawful detainer filed under Oakland Municipal Code 8.22.360.A.1, it shall be a defense that the unpaid rent became due during the Local Emergency and was unpaid because of a substantial reduction in household income or substantial increase in expenses resulting from the Coronavirus pandemic. This includes, but is not limited to, where, as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic, the tenant suffered a loss of employment or a reduction in hours, or was unable to work because their children were out of school, or was unable to work because they were sick with COVID-19 or caring for a household or family member who was sick with COVID-19, or they were complying with a recommendation from a government agency to self-guarantine, or they incurred substantial out of pocket medical expenses due to COVID-19. Any notice served on a residential tenant demanding rent that became due during the Local Emergency shall include the following statement in bold underlined 12point type: "You may not be evicted for rent that became due during the Local Emergency if the rent was unpaid because of a substantial reduction in household income or a substantial increase in expenses related to the Coronavirus pandemic. This does not relieve you of the obligation to pay back rent in the future. You may contact the Rent Adjustment Program at (510) 238-3721 for additional information Nothing in this subsection shall relieve the tenant of liability for the and referrals." unpaid rent.

**SECTION 8.** No Eviction if Landlord Impeded Payment of Rent. Subsection D of Section 8.22.360 of the Oakland Municipal Code (Just Cause for Eviction Ordinance)] is hereby repealed and reenacted with amendments, as set forth below (additions are shown as <u>double underline</u>).

- D. Substantive limitations on landlord's right to evict.
  - 1. In any action to recover possession of a rental unit pursuant to Section 6 [8.22.360], a landlord must allege and prove the following:
    - a. the basis for eviction, as set forth in Subsection 6(A)(1) through 6(A)(11) [8.22.360 A.1 through 8.22.360 A.11] above, was set forth in the notice of termination of tenancy or notice to quit;
    - b. that the landlord seeks to recover possession of the unit with good faith, honest intent and with no ulterior motive;
  - 2. If landlord claims the unit is exempt from this ordinance, landlord must allege and prove that the unit is covered by one of the exceptions enumerated in Section 5 [8.22.350] of this chapter. Such allegations must appear both in the notice of termination of tenancy or notice to quit, and in the complaint to recover possession. Failure to make such allegations in the notice shall be a defense to any unlawful detainer action.
  - 3. This subsection (D) [8.22.360 D] is intended as both a substantive and procedural limitation on a landlord's right to evict. A landlord's failure to comply with the obligations described in Subsections 7(D)(1) or (2) [ *sic* ] [8.22.360 D.1 or 8.22.360 D.2] shall be a defense to any action for possession of a rental unit.
  - 4. In any action to recover possession of a rental unit filed under 8.22.360A1, it shall be a defense if the landlord impeded the tenant's effort to pay rent by refusing to accept rent paid on behalf of the tenant from a third party, or refusing to provide a W-9 form or other necessary documentation for the tenant to receive rental assistance from a government agency, non-profit organization, or other third party. Acceptance of rental payments made on behalf of the tenant by a third party shall not create a tenancy between the landlord and the third party as long as either the landlord or the tenant provide written notice that no new tenancy is intended.

**SECTION 9. No Relief from Liability for Rent.** Nothing in this Ordinance shall relieve any tenant of liability for unpaid rent that became due during the Local Emergency. Landlords are encouraged to work with local agencies that will be making rental assistance available for qualifying tenants.

**SECTION 10. Notice Requirements.** Obligatory notice statements required by this ordinance shall be written in the language that the landlord and/or the landlord's agents normally use for verbal communications with the tenant.

**SECTION 11. Good Samaritan Temporary Rent Decreases** – A landlord and tenant may agree in writing to a temporary rent reduction without reducing the base rent used for calculating rent increases under the Rent Adjustment Ordinance. For Good Samaritan Status to exist, the written agreement must include a statement that the

reduction is temporary and is unrelated to market conditions, habitability, or a reduction in housing services.

**SECTION 12. No Waiver of Rights.** Any agreement by a tenant to waive any rights under this ordinance shall be void as contrary to public policy.

**SECTION 13. City Council Request for Additional State and Federal Action.** The Oakland City Council hereby requests and urges Governor Newsom, California State legislators and U.S. Senators and Representatives to enact comprehensive legislation to further protect residents, tenants, homeowners and small businesses from the adverse health, safety and economic impacts of this crisis. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- A moratorium on mortgage foreclosures;
- A moratorium on commercial rent increases;
- Creation of emergency direct assistance programs for rent and mortgage payments, and other housing-related expenses such as utilities, property taxes, and insurance;
- Urging banks and financial institutions to suspend rents and mortgages;
- Creation of emergency grant programs to small businesses and nonprofits;
- Creation of emergency programs that provide homes and expanded services for people experiencing homelessness; and
- A moratorium on evictions, including those residential units newly covered by the enactment of AB 1482, which added Civil Code Section 1946.2.

**SECTION 14. City Council Requests Action by Financial Institutions.** The Oakland City Council hereby requests and urges banks and financial institutions to suspend mortgage payments, foreclosures, and late fees for low-income homeowners and landlords, with immediate forgiveness, and encourages financial institutions to provide zero-interest emergency unsecured loans and grants to small businesses and non-profits within Oakland that are unable to meet rent, mortgage, or other fixed operating costs.

**SECTION 15.** This ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15060(c)(2) (no direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment),15061(b)(3) (no environmental impact),15269(c) (specific actions necessary to mitigate an emergency), and 15378 (regulatory actions). In response to the COVID-19 crisis, which has been declared a national, state, and local emergency, this ordinance implements rent stabilization measures and an eviction moratorium for existing residential units in the City with tenants who have been negatively impacted by the emergency.

The ordinance is necessary to mitigate an emergency and contains no provisions modifying the physical design, development, or construction of residential or

nonresidential structures. Accordingly, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment and result in no physical changes to the environment.

**SECTION 16.** Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Chapter. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, subsection, clause or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that one or more other sections, subsections, clauses or phrases may be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 17. Direction to City Administrator. The City Council hereby directs the City Administrator to transmit a copy of this Ordinance to all banks, financial institutions, and public utilities operating in Oakland, Governor Gavin Newsom, State Senator Nancy Skinner, Assembly Member Buffy Wicks, Assembly Member Rob Bonta, U.S. Senator Kamala Harris, U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, and U.S. Representative Barbara Lee.

**SECTION 18. Regulations.** The City Administrator may issue regulations, guidance, and forms as needed to implement this Ordinance, including but not limited to guidelines for repayment of back rent.

**SECTION 19. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become effective immediately if it receives six or more affirmative votes.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

Introduction Date

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

MAR 2 7 2020

AYES - FORTUNATO BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, REID, TAYLOR, THAO AND PRESIDENT KAPLAN - 8

NOES –  $\mathcal{P}$ ABSENT –  $\mathcal{P}$ ABSTENTION –  $\mathcal{O}$ 

2916782v6

MMONS ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the City of Oakland, California

Date of Attestation:



#### NOTICE AND DIGEST

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE (1) IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON RESIDENTIAL EVICTIONS, RENT INCREASES, AND LATE FEES DURING THE LOCAL EMERGENCY PROCLAIMED IN RESPONSE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC; (2) PROHIBITING RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL AND **EVICTIONS** BASED ON NONPAYMENT OF RENT THAT BECAME DUE DURING THE LOCAL EMERGENCY WHEN TENANT SUFFERED A SUBSTANTIAL LOSS OF INCOME DUE TO COVID-19; (3) PROHIBITING RESIDENTIAL EVICTIONS FOR NON-PAYMENT OF RENT WHERE THE LANDLORD IMPEDED THE PAYMENT OF RENT; AND (4) CALLING ON STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATORS AND ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO RELIEF TO LOW-INCOME PROVIDE HOMEOWNERS AND LANDLORDS

This ordinance imposes a temporary moratorium on residential evictions and rent increases in excess of CPI during the Local Emergency. It also prohibits residential evictions and the imposition of late fees for rent that became due during the Local Emergency if the tenant's failure to pay rent was a result of a substantial decrease in income or a substantial increase in expenses related to COVID-19; and prohibits evictions when the landlord has impeded the tenant's efforts to pay rent. The ordinance imposes a temporary moratorium on evictions of small businesses for non-payment of rent when the tenant suffered a substantial loss of business income related to COVID-19.

At the Oakland City Council's March 27, 2020 special meeting, the Council unanimously adopted the Emergency Ordinance by a vote of 8 ayes. Councilmember Fortunato-Bas made the motion to adopt the ordinance and President Pro Tempore Kalb seconded the motion.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER NIKKI FORTUNATO BAS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE DAN KALB, AND CITY ATTORNEY BARBARA J. PARKER

ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

### **OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL**

**6** Affirmative Votes Required

000035

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 13589 C.M.S. TO (1) EXTEND THE MORATORIUM ON RESIDENTIAL EVICTIONS DURING THE LOCAL EMERGENCY PROCLAIMED IN RESPONSE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC; AND (2) EXTEND THE MORATORIUM ON COMMERCIAL EVICTIONS BASED ON NONPAYMENT OF RENT THAT BECAME DUE DURING THE LOCAL EMERGENCY WHEN TENANT SUFFERED A SUBSTANTIAL LOSS OF INCOME DUE TO COVID-19

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease which was first detected in China and has now spread across the globe, with multiple confirmed cases in California, including the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, On March 1, 2020, Alameda County Interim Health Officer Erica Pan, MD, MPH, FAAP declared a Local Health Emergency, and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed that a State of Emergency exists in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Oakland is experiencing a severe housing affordability crisis and 60 percent of Oakland residents are renters, who would not be able to locate affordable housing within the City if they lose their housing; and

**WHEREAS**, in the City of Oakland, more than 4000 of our community members are homeless and live outdoors, in tents or in vehicles; and

WHEREAS, because homelessness can exacerbate vulnerability to COVID-19, it is necessary to take measures to preserve and increase housing security for Oakland residents; and

2931857v4

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization announced on March 11, 2020, that it has characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Oakland City Administrator issued a proclamation of Local Emergency which was ratified by the Oakland City Council on March 12, 2020; and

WHEREAS, at the City Council's Special Meeting on March 12, 2020, numerous members of the public gave commentary about the need to prevent residential evictions during the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Alameda County Interim Health Officer Erica Pan, MD, MPH, FAAP issued a Shelter-in-Place Order, requiring all Alameda County Residents to stay in their homes and leave only for specified essential purposes; and

WHEREAS, the following California cities have enacted emergency eviction moratoriums: San Francisco, Berkeley, Emeryville, Alameda, San Jose, Los Angeles and San Diego, among others; and

WHEREAS, many Oakland residents are experiencing substantial losses of income as a result of business closures, the loss of hours or wages, or layoffs related to COVID-19, hindering their ability to keep up with rent payments; and

WHEREAS, many Oakland businesses are suffering economic losses related to COVID-19, in particular since the March 16, 2020, Shelter in Place Order; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Oakland Municipal Code Section 8.22.360F, the City Council may add limitations to a landlord's right to evict under the Just Cause for Eviction Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, during this state of emergency, and in the interests of protecting the public health and preventing transmission of the COVID-19, it is essential to avoid unnecessary displacement and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-28-20, which, among other things, suspended any provision of state law that would preempt or otherwise restrict a local government's exercise of its police power to impose substantive limitations on commercial evictions, if the basis for eviction was nonpayment of rent, or foreclosure, arising out of a substantial decrease in income or substantial out-of-pocket medical expenses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, or a government agency's response to it, and is documented; and requests that financial institutions implement an immediate moratorium on foreclosures and related evictions that arise due to a substantial loss of household/business income, or substantial out-of-pocket medical expenses, due to COVID-19; and

2931857v4

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20, ordering, with limited exceptions, all individuals living in the state of California to stay at home or at their place of residence, until further notice; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 13589 C.M.S., which imposed an eviction moratorium on residential evictions until May 31, 2020 and a moratorium on commercial evictions based on nonpayment of rent that became due during the Local Emergency when tenant suffered a substantial loss of income due to COVID-19 until May 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2020, the Judicial Council adopted emergency rules to suspend evictions and judicial foreclosures until 90 days after the Governor declares that the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic has been lifted; and

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2020, Alameda County Interim Health Officer Erica Pan, MD, MPH, FAAP extended the Shelter-in-Place Order, requiring all Alameda County Residents to stay in their homes and leave only for specified essential purposes, through end of May 2020; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2018 City of Oakland Equity Indicators Report 74 percent of African American residents are renters, 69 percent of Latinx residents are renters, and 48 percent of Asian residents are renters; and 58 percent of African American and 53 percent of Latino residents are rent burdened in Oakland, and African American residents are twice as likely to receive an eviction notice than all residents; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance will serve justice and promote racial equity for African American and Latinx renters; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Charter Section 213, the City Council may introduce and adopt an emergency ordinance at the same City Council meeting by six affirmative votes; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Charter Section 213 the City Council must state the reasons constituting the necessity of an emergency ordinance in order to preserve the public peace, health or safety of the City in an emergency; and

WHEREAS, based on the findings above, the City desires to further the public peace, health, safety and welfare to prevent transmission of the coronavirus by avoiding unnecessary displacement and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, if the Council does not enact an emergency ordinance implementing the above measures, the City's announcement of its intent to act would create an incentive for landlords to evict tenants after provisions of the existing eviction moratorium that expire on May 31, 2020 despite the clear intent of the City to protect such tenants to promote the health, welfare, and safety of the City; and

2931857v4

WHEREAS, in the time after a non-emergency ordinance was introduced, received a second reading, and became effective, many tenants could be subject to displacement, furthering the need for the Council to enact an emergency ordinance that is effective immediately; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is necessary to enact an emergency ordinance pursuant to the powers that City Charter Section 213 grants to the City Council to preserve the public health and safety which is threatened by COVID-19; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1. Recitals.** The City Council finds the foregoing recitals to be true and correct and hereby incorporates such findings into this ordinance.

**SECTION 2.** Purpose and Intent. The purpose and intent of this ordinance is to prevent displacement, reduce transmission of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), and promote the stability and the health and safety of the residents and businesses of Oakland during the Local Emergency declared by the City Administrator on March 9, 2020, and ratified by the Oakland City Council on March 12, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (hereinafter, "Local Emergency").

**SECTION 3.** Residential Eviction Moratorium Extension. Section 3 of Ordinance No. 13589 C.M.S. is hereby repealed and reenacted with amendments, as set forth below (additions are shown as <u>double underline</u> and deletions are shown as <u>strikethrough</u>).

**Residential Eviction Moratorium**. Except when the tenant poses an imminent threat to the health or safety of other occupants of the property, and such threat is stated in the notice as the grounds for the eviction, it shall be an absolute defense to any unlawful detainer action filed under Oakland Municipal Code 8.22.360A subsections (1) – (10) that the notice was served or expired, or that the complaint was filed or served, during the Local Emergency. Any notice served pursuant to Oakland Municipal Code 8.22.360A (1) - (10) on a tenant during the Local Emergency shall include the following statement in bold underlined 12-point font: "Except to protect the health and safety of other occupants of the property, you may not be evicted during the Local Emergency declared by the City of Oakland in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This does not relieve you of the obligation to pay back rent in the future. You may contact the Rent Adjustment Program at (510) 238–3721 for additional information and referrals." This section shall remain in effect until the Local Emergency declared on March 9, 2020, has been terminated by the City Council, or August 31, 2020, whichever comes first. May 31, 2020, unless extended.

**SECTION 4.** Commercial Eviction Moratorium Extension. Section 6 of Ordinance No. 13589 C.M.S. is hereby repealed and reenacted with amendments, as set forth below (additions are shown as <u>double underline</u> and deletions are shown as <u>strikethrough</u>).

Commercial Eviction Moratorium. In any action for unlawful detainer of a commercial unit based on non-payment of rent, it shall be an absolute defense if the failure to pay rent during the local emergency was the result of a substantial decrease in income (including but not limited to a decrease caused by a reduction in hours or consumer demand) and the decrease in income was caused by the COVID-19 pandemic or by any local, state, or federal government response to COVID-19, and is documented. This section shall only apply to small businesses as defined by Government Code Section 14837(d)(1)(A) and to nonprofit organizations. Any notice to a commercial tenant demanding rent shall include the following statement in bold underlined 12-point font: "If you are a small business as defined by Government Code 14837(d)(1)(a) or a nonprofit organization, you may not be evicted for failure to pay rent if the failure was due to a substantial decrease in income caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, or by any local, state, or federal government response to COVID-19, and is documented, This does not relieve you of the obligation to pay back rent in the future." This section shall remain in effect until May 31, 2020, unless extended the expiration of the Governor's suspension of state law limitations on local government's exercise of its police power to impose substantive limitations on commercial eviction in Executive Order N-28-20 and any extensions of such suspension. Nothing in this section shall relieve the tenant of liability for the unpaid rent.

SECTION 5. City Council Request for Additional State and Federal Action. The Oakland City Council hereby requests and urges Governor Newsom, California State legislators and U.S. Senators and Representatives to enact comprehensive legislation to further protect residents, tenants, homeowners and small businesses from the adverse health, safety and economic impacts of this crisis. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- A moratorium on mortgage foreclosures;
- A moratorium on commercial rent increases;
- Suspension or forgiveness of rent for tenants;
- Creation of emergency direct assistance programs for rent and mortgage payments, and other housing-related expenses such as utilities, property taxes, and insurance;
- Urging banks and financial institutions to suspend rents and mortgages;
- Creation of emergency grant programs to small businesses and nonprofits;
- Creation of emergency programs that provide homes and expanded services for people experiencing homelessness.

**SECTION 6. CEQA.** This ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15060(c)(2) (no direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment),15061(b)(3) (no environmental impact),15269(c) (specific actions necessary to mitigate an emergency), and 15378 (regulatory actions). In response to the COVID-19 crisis, which has been declared a national, state, and local emergency, this ordinance implements rent stabilization measures and an eviction moratorium for existing residential units in the City with tenants who have been negatively impacted by the emergency.

The ordinance is necessary to mitigate an emergency and contains no provisions modifying the physical design, development, or construction of residential or nonresidential structures. Accordingly, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment and result in no physical changes to the environment.

**SECTION 7. Severability.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Chapter. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, subsection, clause or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that one or more other sections, subsections, clauses or phrases may be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

**SECTION 8. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become effective immediately if it receives six or more affirmative votes.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

MAY 1 9 2020

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FORTUNATO BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, REID, TAYLOR, THAO AND PRESIDENT KAPLAN

NOES - Ø ABSENT - Ø ABSTENTION - Ø

ATTEST

LATONDA SIMMONS City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the City of Oakland, California

Date of Attestation: NOVEMBER 12, 2020

000040

#### NOTICE AND DIGEST

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 13589 C.M.S. TO (1) EXTEND THE MORATORIUM ON RESIDENTIAL EVICTIONS DURING THE LOCAL EMERGENCY PROCLAIMED IN RESPONSE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC; AND (2) EXTEND THE MORATORIUM ON COMMERCIAL EVICTIONS BASED ON NONPAYMENT OF RENT THAT BECAME DUE DURING THE LOCAL EMERGENCY WHEN TENANT SUFFERED A SUBSTANTIAL LOSS OF INCOME DUE TO COVID-19

This Ordinance amends Ordinance No. 13589 C.M.S. to (1) extend the moratorium on residential evictions during the local emergency proclaimed in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic; (2) extend the moratorium on commercial evictions based on nonpayment of rent that became due during the local emergency when tenant suffered a substantial loss of income due to COVID-19.

At the Oakland City Council's May 19, 2020 meeting, the Council unanimously adopted the Emergency Ordinance by a vote of 8 ayes. President Pro Tempore Kalb made the motion to adopt the ordinance and Councilmember Fortunato Bas seconded the motion.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER NIKKI FORTUNATO BAS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE DAN KALB, AND CITY ATTORNEY BARBARA J. PARKER

### OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL ORDINANCE NO. = 13606 = C.M.S.

6 Affirmative Votes Required

000042

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NOS. 13589 C.M.S. AND 13594 C.M.S. TO EXTEND THE MORATORIUM ON RESIDENTIAL EVICTIONS DURING THE LOCAL EMERGENCY PROCLAIMED IN RESPONSE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease which was first detected in China and has now spread across the globe, with multiple confirmed cases in California, including the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, On March 1, 2020, Alameda County Interim Health Officer Erica Pan, MD, MPH, FAAP declared a Local Health Emergency, and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed that a State of Emergency exists in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Oakland is experiencing a severe housing affordability crisis and 60 percent of Oakland residents are renters, who would not be able to locate affordable housing within the City if they lose their housing; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Oakland, more than 4000 of our community members are homeless and live outdoors, in tents or in vehicles; and

WHEREAS, because homelessness can exacerbate vulnerability to COVID-19, it is necessary to take measures to preserve and increase housing security for Oakland residents; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization announced on March 11, 2020, that it has characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Oakland City Administrator issued a proclamation of Local Emergency which was ratified by the Oakland City Council on March 12, 2020; and

WHEREAS, at the City Council's Special Meeting on March 12, 2020, numerous members of the public gave commentary about the need to prevent residential evictions during the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Alameda County Interim Health Officer Erica Pan, MD, MPH, FAAP issued a Shelter-in-Place Order, requiring all Alameda County Residents to stay in their homes and leave only for specified essential purposes; and

WHEREAS, the following California cities have enacted emergency eviction moratoriums: San Francisco, Berkeley, Emeryville, Alameda, San Jose, Los Angeles and San Diego, among others; and

WHEREAS, many Oakland residents are experiencing substantial losses of income as a result of business closures, the loss of hours or wages, or layoffs related to COVID-19, hindering their ability to keep up with rent payments; and

WHEREAS, many Oakland businesses are suffering economic losses related to COVID-19, in particular since the March 16, 2020, Shelter in Place Order; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Oakland Municipal Code Section 8.22.360F, the City Council may add limitations to a landlord's right to evict under the Just Cause for Eviction Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, during this state of emergency, and in the interests of protecting the public health and preventing transmission of the COVID-19, it is essential to avoid unnecessary displacement and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-28-20, which, among other things, suspended any provision of state law that would preempt or otherwise restrict a local government's exercise of its police power to impose substantive limitations on commercial evictions, if the basis for eviction was nonpayment of rent, or foreclosure, arising out of a substantial decrease in income or substantial out-of-pocket medical expenses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, or a government agency's response to it, and is documented; and requests that financial institutions implement an immediate moratorium on foreclosures and related evictions that arise due to a substantial loss of household/business income, or substantial out-of-pocket medical expenses, due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on May 29, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-66-20, which among other things, extended these provisions of Executive Order N-28-20 until July 28, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-71-20, which among other things, extended these provisions of Executive Order N-28-20 until September 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20, ordering, with limited exceptions, all individuals living in the state of California to stay at home or at their place of residence, until further notice; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 13589 C.M.S., which imposed an eviction moratorium on residential evictions until May 31, 2020 and a moratorium on commercial evictions based on nonpayment of rent that became due during the Local Emergency when tenant suffered a substantial loss of income due to COVID-19 until May 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2020, the Judicial Council adopted emergency rules to suspend evictions and judicial foreclosures until 90 days after the Governor declares that the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic has been lifted; and

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2020, Alameda County Interim Health Officer Erica Pan, MD, MPH, FAAP extended the Shelter-in-Place Order, requiring all Alameda County Residents to stay in their homes and leave only for specified essential purposes, through end of May 2020; and

WHEREAS, on May 19, 2020, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 13594 C.M.S., which extended the moratorium on residential evictions until August 31, 2020 and the moratorium on commercial evictions until the expiration of the relevant provisions of Executive Order N-28-20; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2020, Alameda County Interim Health Officer Erica Pan, MD, MPH, FAAP extended the Shelter-in-Place Order, until it is rescinded, superseded, or amended; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2018 City of Oakland Equity Indicators Report 74 percent of African American residents are renters, 69 percent of Latinx residents are renters, and 48 percent of Asian residents are renters; and 58 percent of African American and 53 percent of Latino residents are rent burdened in Oakland, and African American residents are twice as likely to receive an eviction notice than all residents; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance will serve justice and promote racial equity for African American and Latinx renters; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Charter Section 213, the City Council may introduce and adopt an emergency ordinance at the same City Council meeting by six affirmative votes; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Charter Section 213 the City Council must state the reasons constituting the necessity of an emergency ordinance in order to preserve the public peace, health or safety of the City in an emergency; and

3

WHEREAS, based on the findings above, the City desires to further the public peace, health, safety and welfare to prevent transmission of the coronavirus by avoiding unnecessary displacement and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, if the Council does not enact an emergency ordinance implementing the above measures, the City's announcement of its intent to act would create an incentive for landlords to evict tenants after provisions of the existing eviction moratorium that expire on August 31, 2020 despite the clear intent of the City to protect such tenants to promote the health, welfare, and safety of the City; and

WHEREAS, in the time after a non-emergency ordinance was introduced, received a second reading, and became effective, many tenants could be subject to displacement, furthering the need for the Council to enact an emergency ordinance that is effective immediately; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is necessary to enact an emergency ordinance pursuant to the powers that City Charter Section 213 grants to the City Council to preserve the public health and safety which is threatened by COVID-19; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1. Recitals.** The City Council finds the foregoing recitals to be true and correct and hereby incorporates such findings into this ordinance.

**SECTION 2.** Purpose and Intent. The purpose and intent of this ordinance is to prevent displacement, reduce transmission of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), and promote the stability and the health and safety of the residents and businesses of Oakland during the Local Emergency declared by the City Administrator on March 9, 2020, and ratified by the Oakland City Council on March 12, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (hereinafter, "Local Emergency").

**SECTION 3. Residential Eviction Moratorium Extension.** Section 3 of Ordinance No. 13589 C.M.S., as amended by Ordinance No. 13594 C.M.S., is hereby repealed and reenacted with amendments, as set forth below (additions are shown as <u>double underline</u> and deletions are shown as <u>strikethrough</u>).

**Residential Eviction Moratorium.** Except when the tenant poses an imminent threat to the health or safety of other occupants of the property, and such threat is stated in the notice as the grounds for the eviction, it shall be an absolute defense to any unlawful detainer action filed under Oakland Municipal Code 8.22.360A subsections (1) - (10) that the notice was served or expired, or that the complaint was filed or served, during the Local Emergency. Any notice served pursuant to Oakland Municipal Code 8.22.360A (1) - (10) on a tenant during the Local Emergency shall include the following statement in bold underlined 12-point font: "Except to protect the health and safety of other occupants of the property, you may not be evicted during the Local

2955810v2

Emergency declared by the City of Oakland in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This does not relieve you of the obligation to pay back rent in the future. You may contact the Rent Adjustment Program at (510) 238–3721 for additional information and referrals." This section shall remain in effect until the Local Emergency declared on March 9, 2020, has been terminated by the City Council, or August 31, 2020, whichever comes first.

**SECTION 4.** CEQA. This ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15060(c)(2) (no direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment),15061(b)(3) (no environmental impact),15269(c) (specific actions necessary to mitigate an emergency), and 15378 (regulatory actions). In response to the COVID-19 crisis, which has been declared a national, state, and local emergency, this ordinance implements rent stabilization measures and an eviction moratorium for existing residential units in the City with tenants who have been negatively impacted by the emergency.

The ordinance is necessary to mitigate an emergency and contains no provisions modifying the physical design, development, or construction of residential or nonresidential structures. Accordingly, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment and result in no physical changes to the environment.

**SECTION 5.** Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Chapter. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, subsection, clause or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that one or more other sections, subsections, clauses or phrases may be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

**SECTION 6. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become effective immediately if it receives six or more affirmative votes.

#### IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

#### JUL 2 1 2020

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FORTUNATO BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, REID, TAYLOR, THAO AND PRESIDENT KAPLAN

6

NOES – Ø ABSENT – Ø ABSTENTION – Ø

ATTEST:

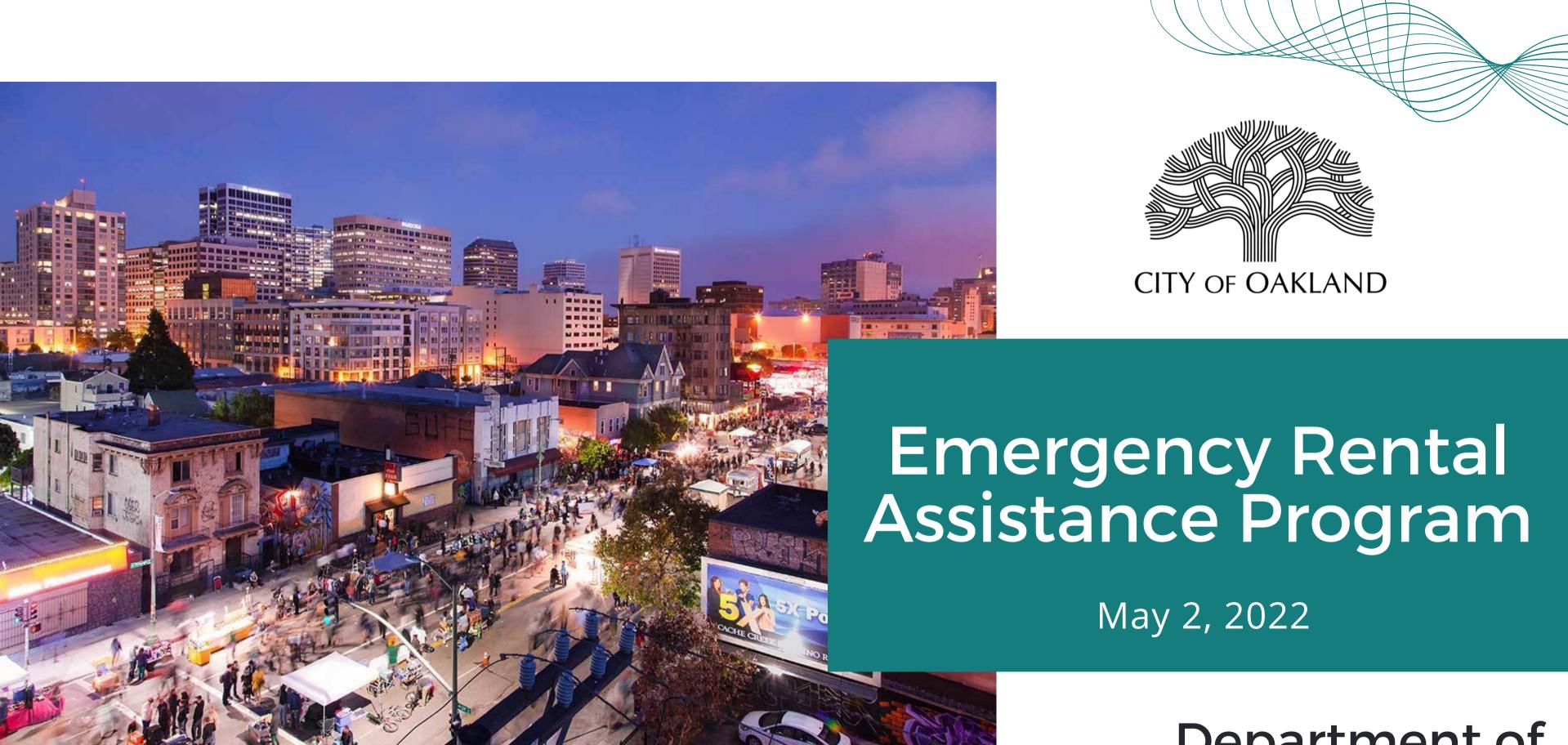
ASHA REED Acting City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the City of Oakland, California

14 23, 2020 Date of Attestation:

#### **NOTICE AND DIGEST**

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NOS. 13589 C.M.S. AND 13594 C.M.S. TO EXTEND THE MORATORIUM ON RESIDENTIAL EVICTIONS DURING THE LOCAL EMERGENCY PROCLAIMED IN RESPONSE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC

This Ordinance amends Ordinance Nos. 13589 C.M.S. and 13594 C.M.S. to extend the moratorium on residential evictions during the local emergency proclaimed in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.



# **Department of** Housing & Community Development

# ERAP Program

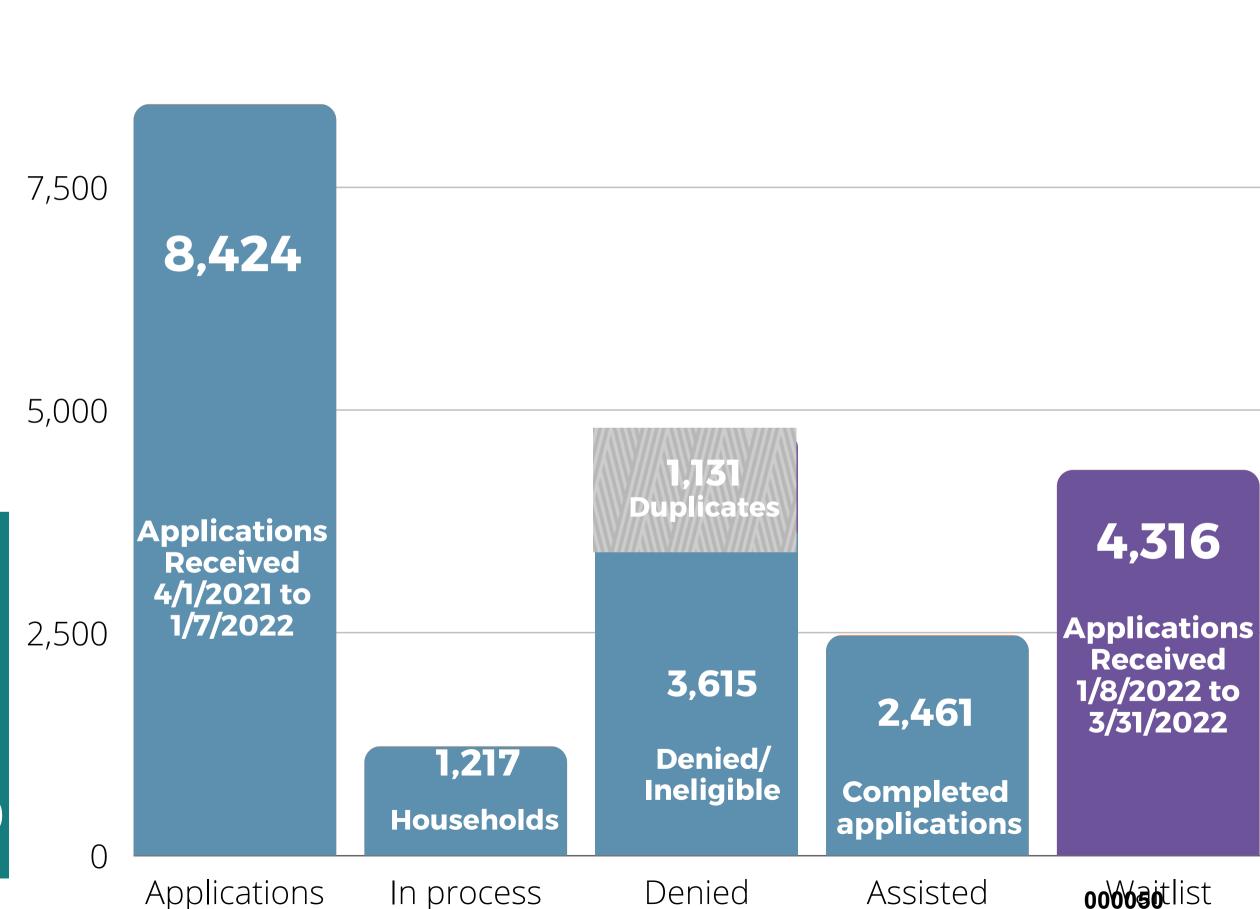
### **Applications Status** 5/2/2022



**Pictured: East Oakland Housing Properties** 

**TOTAL APPLICATIONS = 12,740** 

### 10,000

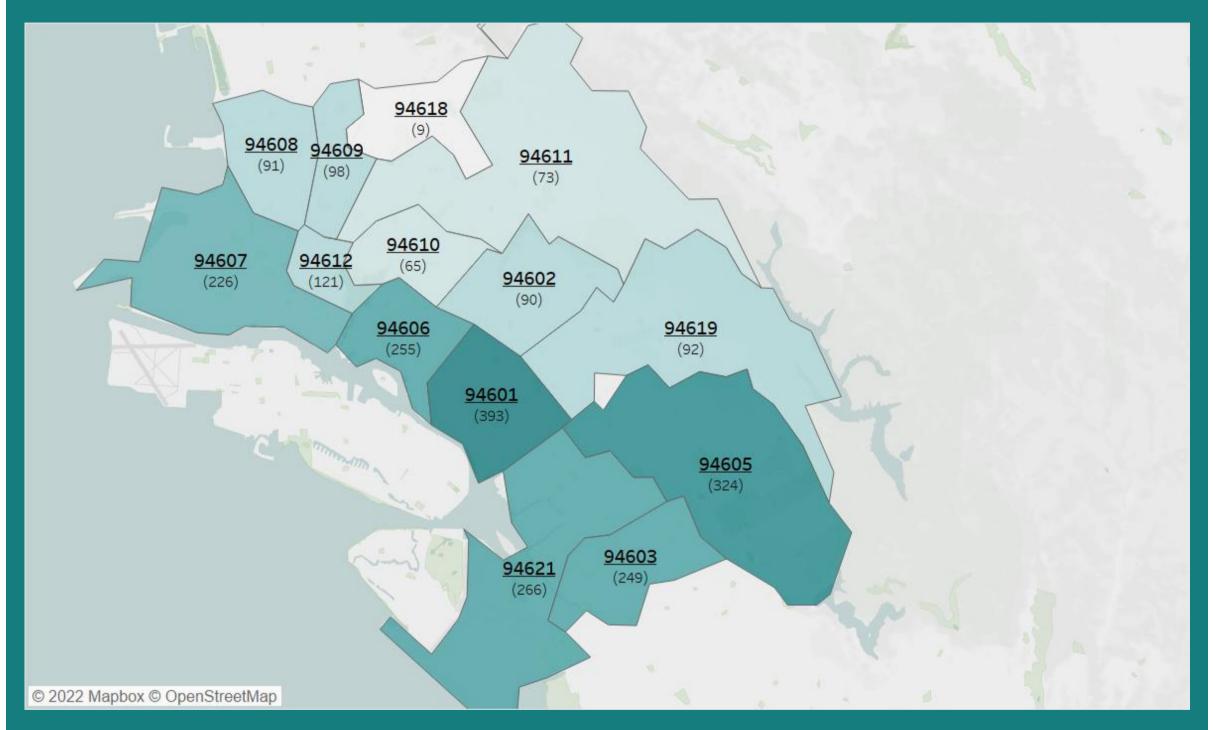


# Applicants Assisted By Geography

The majority of ERAP funds assisted households in **Oakland's Flatlands**.

Fruitvale (94601), East Oakland (94605/94621/94603), East Lake (94606), & West Oakland (94607)

were among the neighborhoods that received the most emergency rental assistance.



**Asian 4.3%** (101)

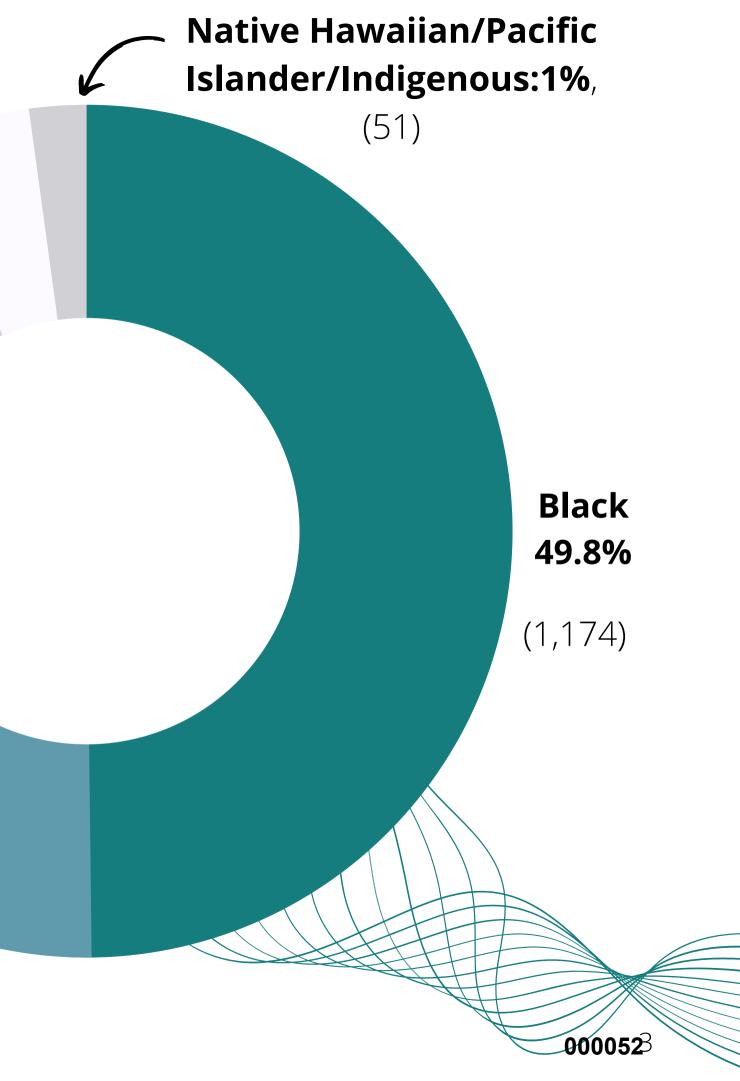
Applicants Approved By Race/Ethnicity Refused/Missing 16.7%

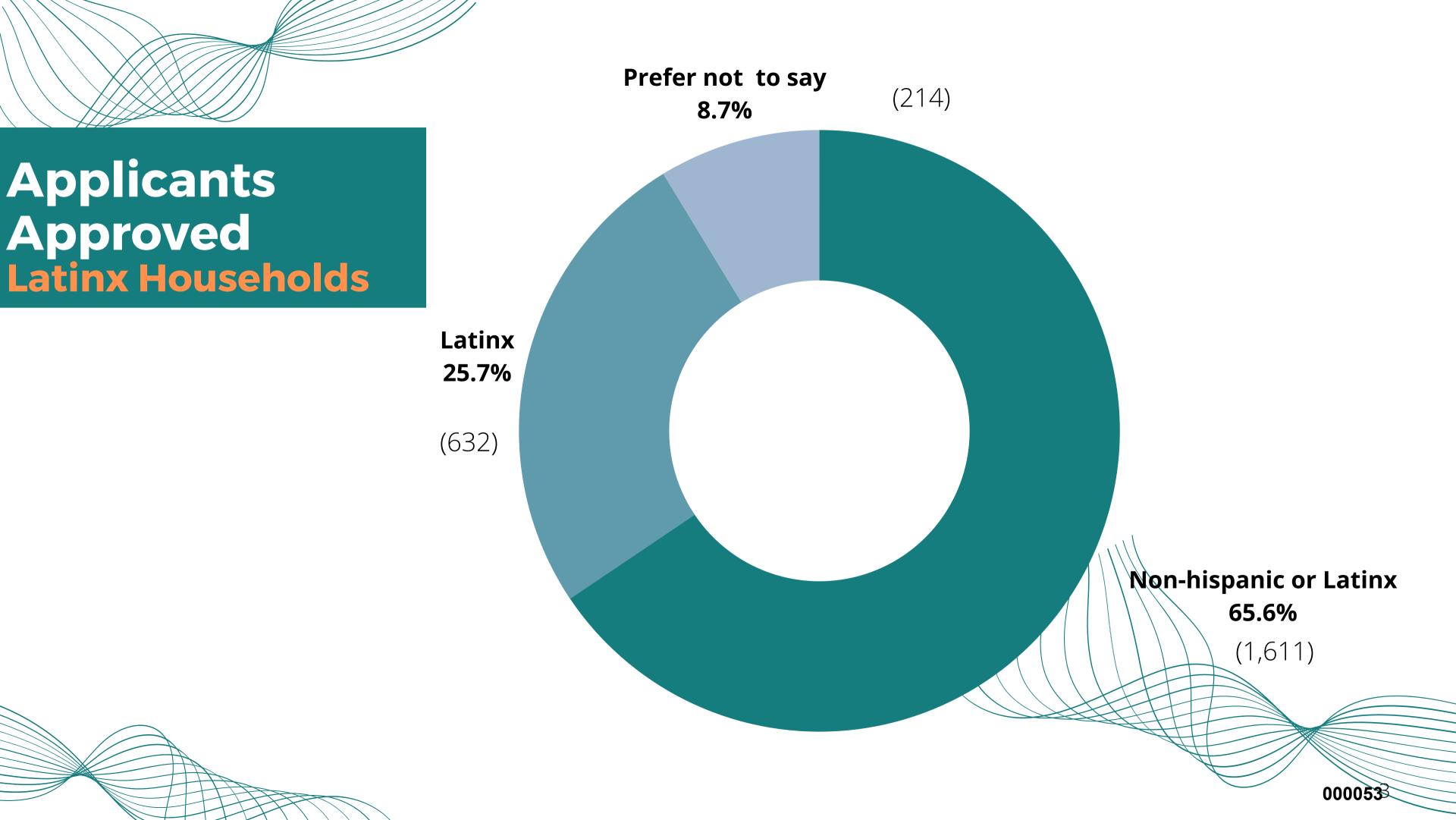
(393)

White 10.1%

(238)

**Multiracial 17%** (400)





# Applicants Assisted **By Area Median Income**

0-30% **OF AMI** 

30-50% **OF AMI** 

51-80% **OF AMI** 

# ΝΥΥ $\Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda$ $\Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda$

**AVERAGE AMI: 16.93%** 

000054



### **10%** OF APPLICANTS (228)

### **88%** OF APPLICANTS (2,085)





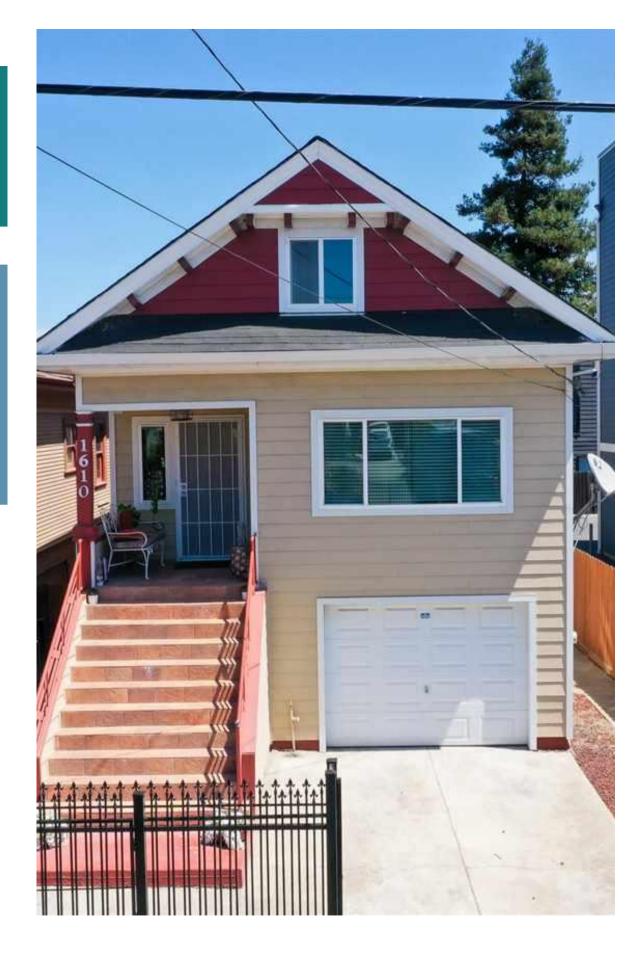
### TOTAL RENTAL ASSISTANCE ERAP1, SPEND BY 3/31/2022: \$11,603,448M

FUNDS EXPENDED \$11,603,448FUNDS PAID\$11,603,448

### **AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE: \$10,076**

\*Does not include funding anticipated from the Stat@00055 lifornia

100% 100%



### TOTAL RENTAL ASSISTANCE ERAP2, SPEND BY 9/30/2022: \$16,947,000M

FUNDS EXPENDED \$11,328,088	69
*FUNDS APPROVED \$13,227,515	80

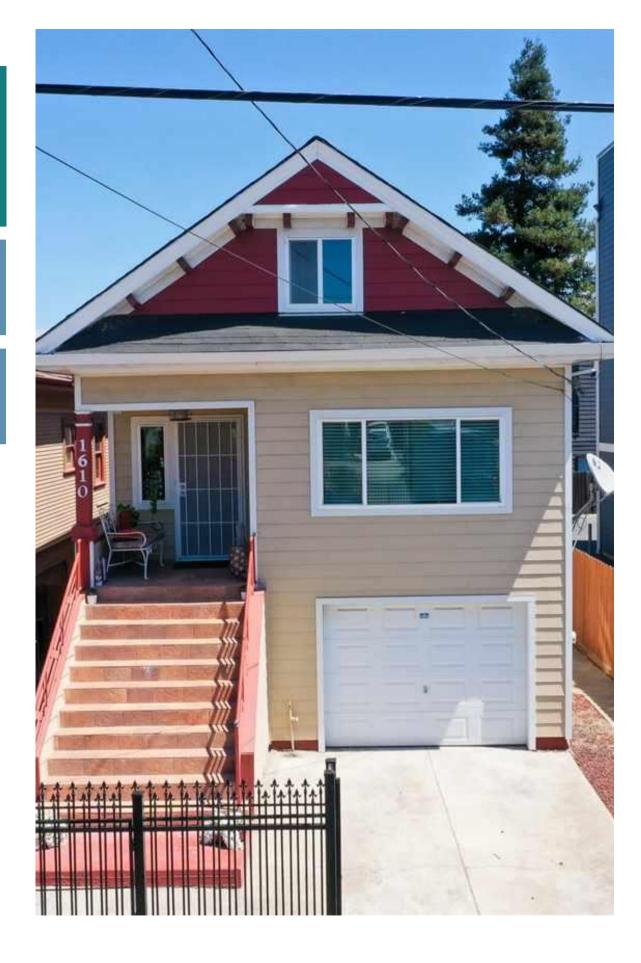
### **AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE: \$10,069**

### **\*HPP DATABASE**

\*Does not include funding anticipated from the Stat@00056 ifornia





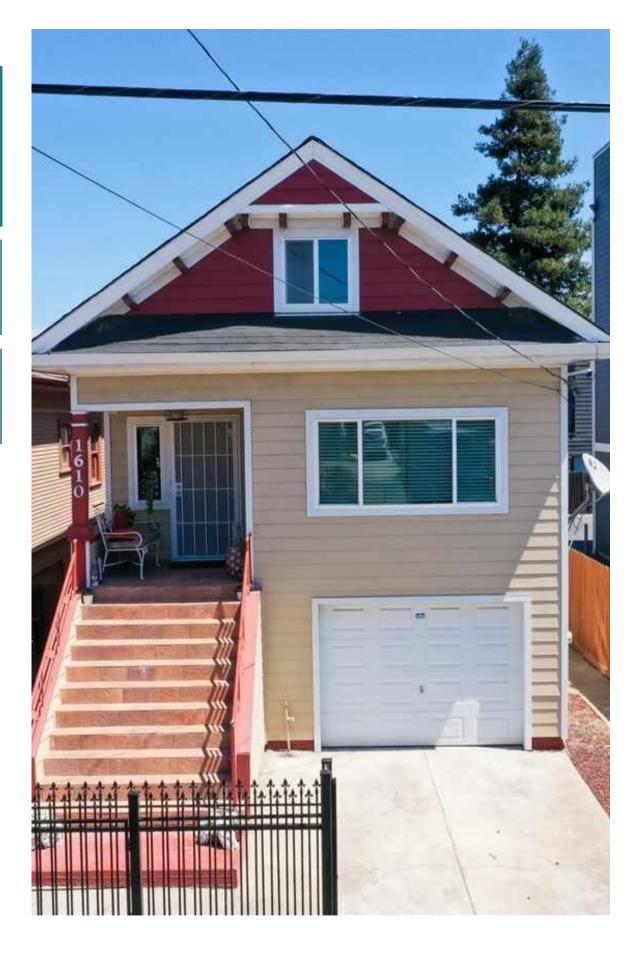


### TOTAL RENTAL ASSISTANCE ROUND 3/STATE RENTAL ASSISTANCE ONLY (SRA2): \$10,485,000M

FUNDS EXPENDED \$146,982	19
FUNDS APPROVED \$291,154	39

### **RECEIVED STATE FUNDING JAN. 22; AGENCY PARTNERS STARTED SPENDING** MAY 1, 2022

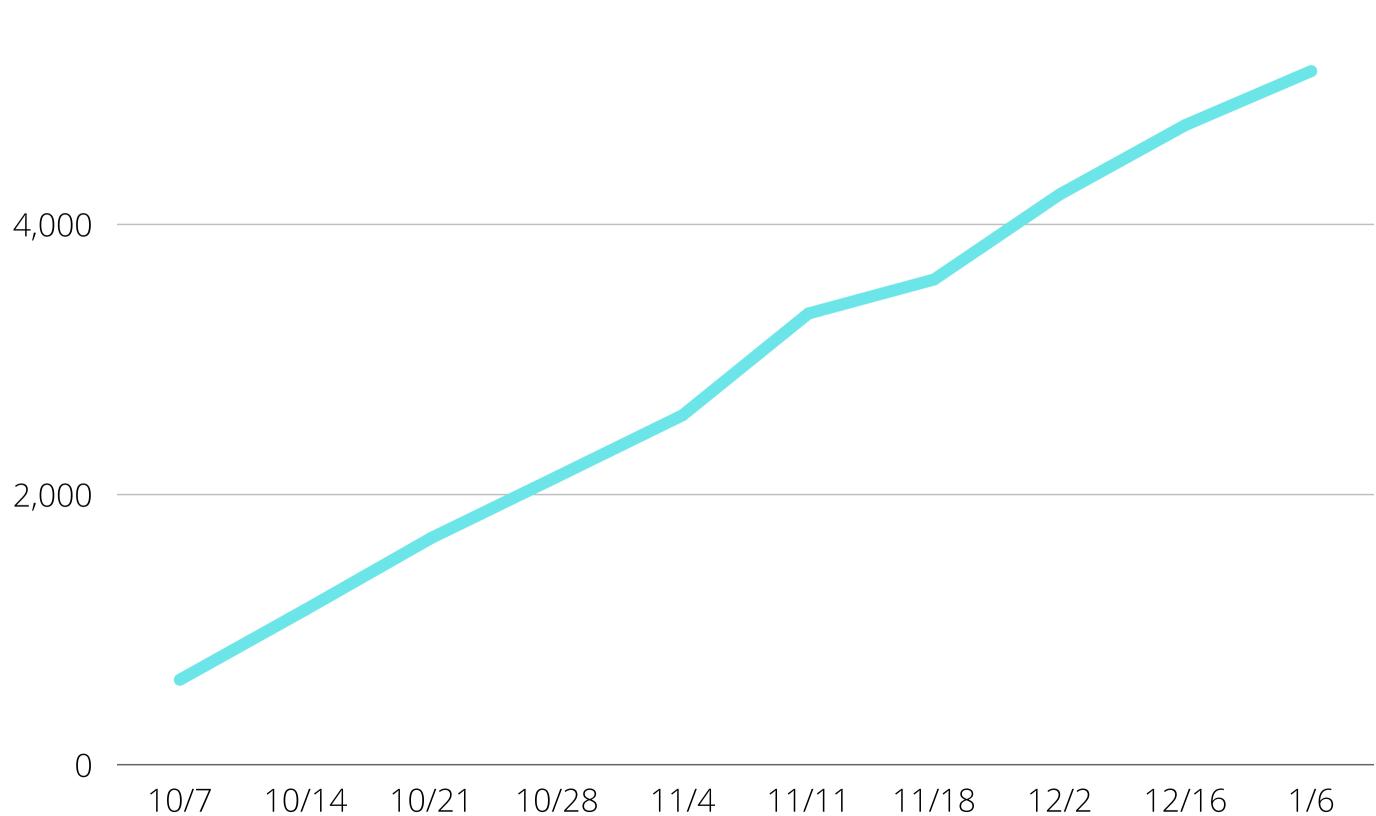




### Record Number of Applications

6,000

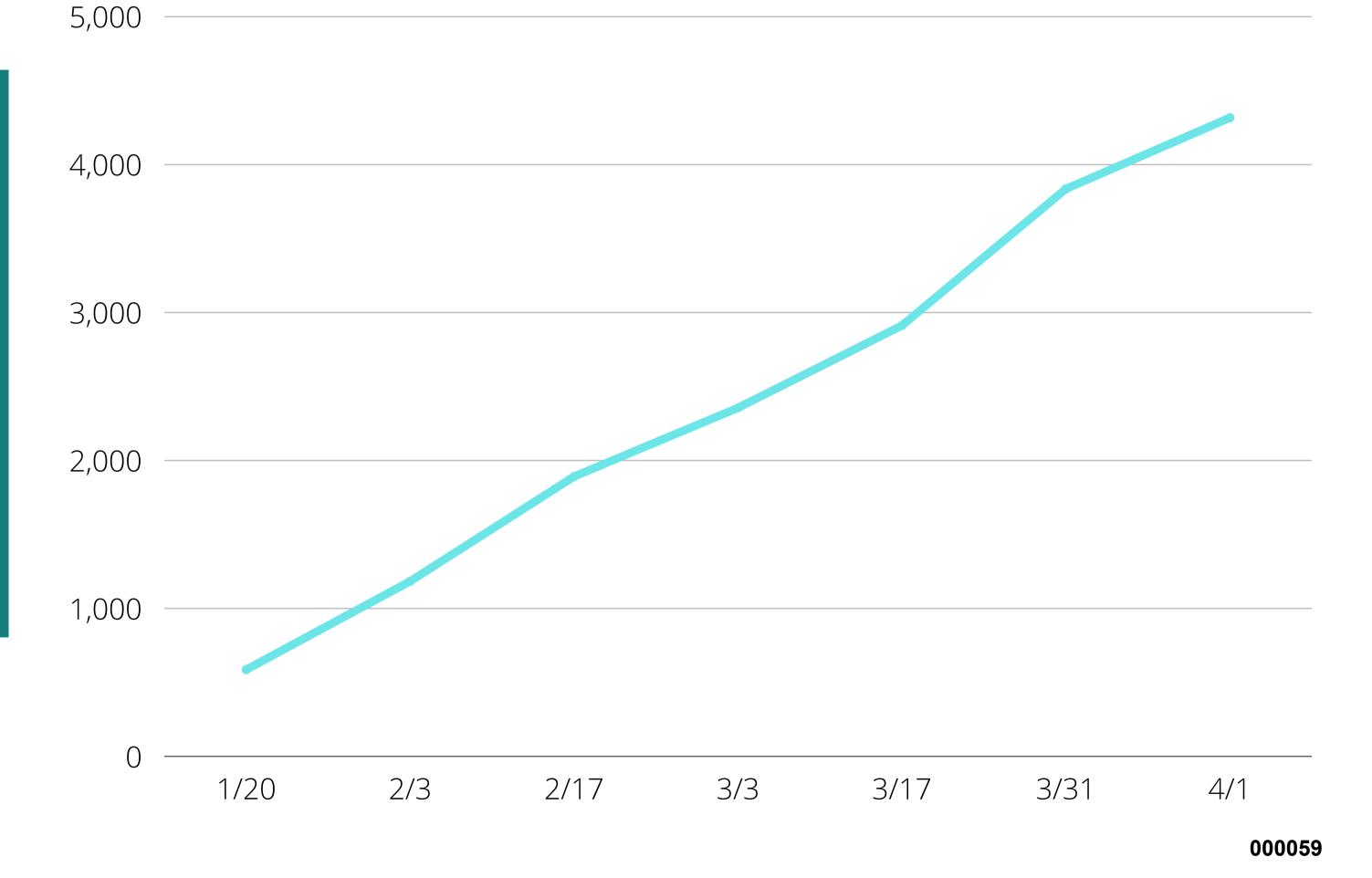
10/1/21 to 1/7/22 = 5,134



#### 11/11 11/18 12/2 12/16 1/6

### Waitlist Created

### 1/8/22 to 3/31/22 = 4,316





# **Contact us at** housingassistance@oaklandca. gov or call 510.238.6182

https://www.oaklandca.gov/departments/ department-of-housing-and-communitydevelopment



### CHRONOLOGICAL CASE REPORT

Case No.:	T22-0024
Case Name:	Leshne v. Meriau
Property Address:	1534 Filbert Street, Oakland, CA 94607
Parties:	Kai Leshne (Tenant) Duane Dejoie (Tenant Representative) Cedric Meriau (Owner) Matthew Quiring (Owner Representative)

#### **TENANT APPEAL:**

Activity	Date
Tenant Petition filed	January 21, 2022
Property Owner Response filed	February 17, 2022
Respondent's Submission of Tangible Evidence	April 13, 2022
Order of Dismissal emailed	April 22, 2022
Tenant Appeal filed	May 9, 2022

,	T22.0024 EL	BL	
	CITY OF OAKLAND	For Rent Adjustment Program date stamp.	
S MACHU	<b>RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM</b>		
	250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 5313		
	Oakland, CA 94612-0243	JAN 21 202?	
	(510) 238-3721		JU1
	CA Relay Service 711	RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM	110
CITY OF OAKLAND	www.oaklandca.gov/RAP	CIAMLAND	

### **TENANT PETITION**

<u>Please fill out this form as completely as you can</u>. Use this form to contest a rent increase, seek a rent decrease, and/or contest an owner exemption from the Rent Adjustment Program. Failure to provide the required information may result in your petition being rejected or delayed. See the last pages of this petition packet ("Important Information Regarding Filing Your Petition") or the RAP website for more information. **CONTACT A HOUSING COUNSELOR TO REVIEW YOUR PETITION BEFORE SUBMITTING.** To make an appointment email <u>RAP@oaklandca.gov</u>.

Rental Unit Information	
IS34 Filbert St. Street Number Street Name Unit Num	Oakland, CA
Move-in Date: JUly 1, 2021 Initial Rent at Move-In: \$ 900 C	urrent Rent: \$
Is your rent subsidized or controlled by a government agency (such as HUD or Section than Oakland Rent Adjustment Program? (See page 5 "Jurisdiction" for more information	
Are you current on rent? Yes (*Note: You must be current on your rent or lawfully No* Checking "No" without providing an adequate expla dismissed.)	
If not current on rent, explain why:	
the City form, NOTICE TO TENANTS OF THE RESIDENTIAL	RAP Notice on: <u>1/I2/22</u> led with the RAP Notice r if I ever received the RAP Notice
Case number(s) of any relevant prior Rent Adjustment case(s):	
Tenant information (List each tenant petitioner in unit if you need more space)	attach additional sheet.)
First Name Leshne Last Name	
Mailing Address ( <i>if different from above</i> ):	
Primary Telephone: 707-732-4413 Other Telephone:	
	Kai od. manavement 2 gm ail
First Name Last Name	
Mailing Address ( <i>if different from above</i> ):	
Primary Telephone: Other Telephone:	Email:
Tenant Representative (Check one) SNo Representative D. Attorney D.	Non-Attorney
First Name Last Name	Firm/Organization ( <i>if any</i> )
Mailing Address:	
Phone Number: Email:	
Page 1 of 4	

Property Owner Information	<b>n</b> Antonio antonio	
Property Owner		
First Name	Last Name	
Company/LLC/LP (if applicable):		
	Filbert St	
Phone Number:	Known Email: 1534	@fillert-st.com
Property Manager (if applicable)		
First Name	Last Name	Name of Management Company
Mailing Address:		
Phone Number:	Email:	
	GROUNDS FOR PET	TITION
Select the grounds for this petitio	on from the list below. Check all that app	ly. You must check at least one box. To contest a
rent increase, select item(s) from C	ategory A. If you have experienced a decre	ease in housing services and/or have issues with w, select item(s) from Category B. For more
information on each of the grounds,	see Oakland Municipal Code (O.M.C.) Se	ctions 8.22.070 and 8.22.090 (Rent Adjustment
	Regulations. A copy of the Ordinance and I-the-oakland-rent-adjustment-program-ord	
	(A1) I received a rent increase abov	e the allowable amount.
Unlawful Rent Increase(s)		believe is unlawful because I was not given ed, and/or was not provided with the required
A. (Complete section A		ne Residential Rent Adjustment Program").
<u>on page 3)</u>	because a government agency has	do not believe I should be required to pay it cited my unit for serious health, safety, fire, or <i>attach a copy of the citation to your petition.</i> )
Decreased		g me with fewer housing services than I ng charged for services originally paid for by the
Housing B. Services		ns based on bad conditions/failure to repair.)
(Complete section B. on hage 3)	(B2) I am being unlawfully charged	or utilities.
	(C1) My rent was not reduced after a improvements.	a prior rent increase period for capital
C. Other	(C2) I wish to contest an exemption exemption was based on fraud or m	from the Rent Adjustment Ordinance because the istake.
		irst moved in was unlawful because the property nitial rent without limitation. O.M.C. § 8.22.080 (C).

1

(

•-

### Unlawful Rent Increase(s)

(Complete this section if any of the grounds for petition fall under category A, above)

List all rent increases you wish to contest. Begin with the most recent increase and work backwards. If you never received the RAP Notice, you can contest all past increases. See the "Important Information" page at the end of this petition packet for more information on time limits for contesting rent increases. If you need additional space, attach a separate sheet or an additional copy of this form.

• For petitions contesting a rent increase on the grounds that the unit has been cited by a government agency for serious health, safety, fire, or building code violations, <u>you must attach a copy of the citation</u> to your petition. Failure to attach a copy of the citation may result in your petition being dismissed.

Date received rent increase notice:	Date rent increase went into effect:	Amount	of increase:		P Notice with nt increase?
(Month/Day/Year)	(Month/Day/Year)	FROM	то	YES	NO
1-12-2022	N/A	\$ 900	\$ 2,840	×	
	2011	\$	\$		
		\$	\$		
		\$	\$		
		8	\$		

#### Decreased Housing Services

(Complete this section if any of the grounds for petition fall under category B, above)

List all the conditions that you believe entitle you to a rent decrease. If your petition is based on problems related to your unit, or because the owner has taken away service(s) or is charging for services originally provided by the owner, you must complete this section. If you need more space, attach a separate sheet or an additional copy of this form.

- You are strongly encouraged to submit documentary evidence (photographs, inspection reports, correspondence with your landlord, etc.) together with your petition. Evidence may be submitted up to seven calendar days prior to your hearing.
- You may wish to have a City inspector come inspect your unit for possible code violations in advance of your hearing. Copies of any inspection report(s) may be submitted in support of your petition. To schedule an inspection, contact the City of Oakland Code Enforcement Unit at (510) 238-3381, or file a complaint online at <a href="https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/file-a-complaint-with-code-enforcement">https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/file-a-complaint-with-code-enforcement</a>. Note: if additional items are cited in an inspection report that were not included in your original petition (below), you must file an additional petition listing those items in order for RAP staff to consider them as a part of your claim.

	n an				
	Description of problem or decreased housing service (list separately):	Date problem or decreased service started: (Month/Day/Year)	Date first notified owner or manager of problem: (Month/Day/Year)	Date problem or service was fixed, if ever: (Month/Day/Year)	What is the dollar value of your claimed loss?
1.					\$
2.					\$
З,					\$
4.					\$

I/We declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to the law			
this Tenant Petition is true and that all of the documents           Image: Constraint of the documents           Tenant 1 Signature	e attached to the Petition are true copies of the originals. 		
Tenant 2 Signature	Date		
(Flighly) Check the box below if you agree to have RAP staff sen	LECTRONIC SERVICE Recommended) d you documents related to your case electronically. If all rtain documents only electronically and not by first class mail.		
	nts in this matter electronically at the email address(es)		
MEDIATI	ON PROGRAM		
Mediation is an optional process offered by RAP to assist parties in settling the issues related to their Rent Adjustment case as an alternative to the formal hearing process. A trained third party will work with the parties prior to the hearing to see if a mutual agreement can be reached. If a settlement is reached, the parties will sign a binding agreement and there will not be a formal hearing. If no settlement is reached, the case will go to a formal hearing with a Rent Adjustment Hearing Officer, who will then issue a hearing decision.			
Mediation will only be scheduled if both parties agree to	mediate. Sign below if you agree to mediation in your case.		
I agree to have the case mediated by a Rent Adjustm	nent Program staff mediator.		
Tenant Signature	1/19/2022 Date		
INTERPRET	ATION SERVICES		
If English is not your primary language, you have the rig Adjustment hearing and mediation session. You can req	ht to an interpreter in your primary language/dialect at the Rent uest an interpreter by completing this section.		
I request an interpreter fluent in the following language at my Rent Adjustment proceeding:	<ul> <li>❑ Spanish (Español)</li> <li>❑ Cantonese (廣東話)</li> <li>❑ Mandarin (普通话)</li> <li>❑ Other:</li> </ul>		

### -END OF PETITION-

.

١,

v



CITY OF OAKLAND RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 5313 Oakland, CA 94612-0243 (510) 238-3721 CA Relay Service 711 www.oaklandca.gov/RAP

For Rent Adjustment Program date stamp.

RECEIVED

JAN 21 2022

nent adjustment program OAKLAND

### PROOF OF SERVICE

NOTE: YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SERVE A COPY OF YOUR PETITION (PLUS ANY ATTACHMENTS) ON THE PROPERTY OWNER PRIOR TO FILING YOUR PETITION WITH RAP. You must include a copy of the RAP form "NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER OF TENANT PETITION" (*the preceding page of this petition packet*) and a completed PROOF OF SERVICE form together with your Petition.

- 1) Use this PROOF OF SERVICE form to indicate the date and manner of service and the person(s) served.
- Provide a completed copy of this PROOF OF SERVICE form to the person(s) being served together with the documents being served.
- 3) File a completed copy of this PROOF OF SERVICE form with RAP together with your Petition. Your Petition will not be considered complete until this form has been filed indicating that service has occurred.

On the following date: 4/4/22 I served a copy of (check all that apply):

TENANT PETITION plus \_\_\_\_\_\_ attached pages (number of pages attached to Petition not counting the Petition form, NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER OF TENANT PETITION, or PROOF OF SERVICE)

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER OF TENANT PETITION

Other:

by the following means (check one):

United States Mail. I enclosed the document(s) in a sealed envelope or package addressed to the person(s) listed below and at the address(es) below and deposited the sealed envelope with the United States Postal Service, with the postage fully prepaid.

Commercial Carrier. I deposited the document(s) with a commercial carrier, using a service at least as expeditious as first-class mail, with all postage or charges fully prepaid, addressed to the person(s) listed below and at the address(es) below.

Personal Service. I personally delivered the document(s) to the person(s) at the address(es) listed below or I left the document(s) at the address(es) with some person not younger than 18 years of age.

Name	Cedric Meriun
Address	1936 Filbert St
City, State, Zip	Owklast (CA 194607

#### PERSON(S) SERVED:

Name	
Address	
City, State, Zip	

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Koi Lethre

PRINTED NAME

the S. M

SIGNATURE

01/19/2022 DATE SIGNED



### FED 17 2022



Williams & RENTADJUSTMENT PAU Grice Conners

 1939 Harrison Street, Suite 460, Oakland, CA 94612

 Tel 510-625-0100

 Tel 510-625-0100

 OAKLAND

 625 Market Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105

 Tel 415-421-0100

 www.friedwilliams.com

Marena Perez-Ratto mperez@friedwilliams.com

February 16, 2022

City of Oakland Housing Community & Development Rent Adjustment Program 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 5313 Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Property Owner Response to Tenant Petition Rent Board Case No. **TBA** – *Leshne v. Meriau* 1534 Filbert Street, Oakland, CA 94607

To Whom it May Concern:

Enclosed for filing please find Property Owner Response to Tenant Petition and executed proof of service for the above-referenced rent board matter. Please provide us with a filed stamped copy of the Response and proof of service for our records. An extra copy of the Response and proof of service is enclosed along with a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Please note, Owner has not received a notice of hearing from the Rent Adjustment Program or any confirmation that Petitioner's petition was filed.

Thank you.

Sincerely, FRIED, WILLIAMS & GRICE CONNER LLP

Marena Perez-Ratto

Marena Perez-Ratto Paralegal

Encls. [as stated]



**CITY OF OAKLAND RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM** 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 5313 Oakland, CA 94612-0243 (510) 238-3721

For Rent Adjustment Program date stamp, 

FEB 17 202?

NENT AD 200 M DET PROGRAM CASE NUMBER T (Leshne v. Meriau)

### **PROPERTY OWNER RESPONSE** TO TENANT PETITION

Please fill out this form as completely as you can. Use this form to respond to the Tenant Petition you received. By completing this response form and submitting it in the required time for filing, you will be able to participate in the hearing. Failure to provide the required information may result in your response being rejected or delayed. See "Important Information Regarding Filing Your Response" on the last page of this packet for more information, including filing instructions and how to contact the Rent Adjustment Program ("RAP") with questions. Additional information is also available on the RAP website. CONTACT A HOUSING COUNSELOR TO REVIEW YOUR RESPONSE BEFORE SUBMITTING. To make an appointment email RAP@oaklandca.gov.

Rental Unit In	formation		
1534	Filbert Street		Oakland, CA 94607
Street Number	Street Name		Unit Number Zip Code
Is there more than	one street address on the parcel?		If yes, list all addresses: <u>1536 Filbert Street</u>
Type of unit(s) (check one):	<ul> <li>Single family home</li> <li>Condominium</li> <li>Apartment, room, or live-work</li> </ul>		Number of units on property:       2         Date acquired property:       January 12, 2022
Case number(s) of	f any relevant prior Rent Adjustment ca	ise(s):	None
Tenant Inform	ation		
Name of Tenant P	etitioner(s): Kai Leshne		
		Initial rei	nt amount: \$ <sup>*</sup> 2,840.00 Is/are tenant(s) Is/are tenant(s) Yes *See Attachment No
Property Own	er Information		
Cedric		Meriau	
First Name		Last Na	
Company/LLC/LP	(if applicable):		
Mailing address: _	1536 Filbert Street, Oakland, CA	94607	
Primary Telephone	e:	phone: _	Email:1534@filbert-st.com
Property Owne	er Representative (Check one):	D N	o Representative 🖾 Attorney 🗖 Non-attorney
Matthew	Quiring		Fried, Williams & Grice Conner LLP
First Name	Last Name		Firm/Organization (if any)
Mailing Address: _	1939 Harrison Street, Suite 460, O	akland,	CA 94612
Phone Number:	510-625-0100	Email: ,	mquiring@friedwilliams.com; mperez@friedwilliams.com

000069

#### **GENERAL FILING REQUIREMENTS**

To file a Response to a Tenant Petition, the property owner must be current on the following requirements and submit supporting documentation of compliance. Property Owner Responses that are submitted without proof of compliance with the below requirements will be considered incomplete and may limit your participation in the hearing.

Requirement	Documentation
Current Oakland business license	Attach proof of payment of your most recent Oakland business license.
Payment of Rent Adjustment Programservice fee ("RAP Fee")	<sup>m</sup> Attach proof of payment of the current year's RAP Fee for the subject property.
Service of the required City form entitled "NOTICE TO TENANTS OF THE RESIDENTIAL RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM" ("RAP Notice") on all tenants	<ul> <li>Attach a signed and dated copy of the <u>first</u> RAP Notice provided to the petitioning tenant(s) or check the appropriate box below.</li> <li>I first provided tenant(s) with the RAP Notice on (<i>date</i>): <u>1/12/2022</u></li> <li>I have never provided a RAP Notice.</li> <li>I do not know if a RAP Notice was ever provided.</li> </ul>

	PROPERTY OWNER CLAIM OF EXEMPTION					
eac	u believe that the subject property is exempt from the Rent Adjustment Ordinance (pursuant to O.M.C. § 8.22.030), check n box below that is the claimed basis of exemption. Attach supporting documentation together with your response form. If do not claim any exemption, proceed to the "Response <b>to Tenant Petition</b> " section on the following page.					
	The unit is a single-family residence or condominium exempted by the Costa Hawkins Rental Housing Act (Civil Code 1954.50, et seq.). <i>If claiming this exemption, you must answer the following questions. Attach a separate sheet</i> <i>if necessary.</i>					
	<ol> <li>Did the prior tenant leave after being given a notice to quit (Civil Code Section 1946)?</li> <li>Did the prior tenant leave after being given a notice of rent increase (Civil Code Section 827)?</li> <li>Was the prior tenant evicted for cause?</li> <li>At the time the prior tenant vacated were there any outstanding violations of building housing, fire or safety codes in</li> </ol>					
	<ol> <li>At the time the prior tenant vacated were there any outstanding violations of building notsing, he of safety codes in the unit or building?</li> <li>Is the unit separately alienable, meaning it can be sold separately from any other unit on the parcel?</li> <li>Did the petitioning tenant have roommates when he/she moved in?</li> <li>If the unit is a condominium, did you purchase it? If so: 1) From whom? 2) Did you purchase the entire building?</li> </ol>					
	The rent for the unit is controlled, regulated, or subsidized by a governmental unit, agency, or authority other than the City of Oakland Rent Adjustment Ordinance. <i>(Attach documentation.)</i>					
	The unit was newly constructed and issued a Certificate of Occupancy on or after January 1, 1983. (Attach copy of Certificate of Occupancy.)					
	The unit is located in a motel, hotel, or rooming/boarding house, which the tenant petitioner has occupied for less than 30 days.					
	The unit is in a building that was previously issued a certificate of exemption from RAP based on substantial rehabilitation. (Attach copy of Certificate of Exemption.)					
	The unit is an accommodation in a hospital, convent, monastery, extended care facility, convalescent home, non-profit home for the aged, or dormitory owned and operated by an educational institution. <i>(Attach documentation.)</i>					

### **RESPONSE TO TENANT PETITION**

<u>Use the chart(s) below to respond to the grounds stated in the Tenant Petition</u>. Enter your position on each claim in the appropriate section(s) below. You may attach any documents, photographs, or other tangible evidence that support your position together with your response form. If you need more space, attach additional copies of this page or state your response in a separate sheet attached to this form.

### Unlawful Rent Increase(s)

Complete this section if any of the grounds for the Tenant Petition fall under Category A on the Tenant Petition.

List all rent increases given within the past five years, starting with the most recent increase.

Date tenant given notice of rent increase:	Date rent increase went into effect:	Amount	of increase:	Did you pro RAP Notice notice of re increase?	e with the	Reason for increase (CPI, banking, or other):
(mm/dd/yy)	(mm/dd/yy)	FROM	TO	YES	NO	
		\$ <u>N/A, see</u>	attachment			
		\$	\$			
		\$	\$			
		\$	\$			
		\$	\$			

If the Tenant Petition is based on either of the following grounds, state your response in the space below or in a separate sheet attached to this form.

1	Tenant Petition Grounds	Owner Response
(A2)	Tenant did not receive proper notice, was not properly served, and/or was not provided with the required RAP form with rent increase(s).	See Attachment
(A3)	A government agency has cited the unit for serious health, safety, fire, or building code violations.	See Attachment

#### **Decreased Housing Services**

Complete this section if any of the grounds for the Tenant Petition fall under Category B on the Tenant Petition.

	Tenant Petition Grounds		Owner Response				
(B1)	The owner is providing tenant(s) with fewer housing services and/or charging for services originally paid for by the owner.		N/A				
(B2)	Tenant(s) is/are being unlawfully charged for utilities.		N/A				
C	Ot	her					
0.	Complete this section if any of the grounds for the Tenant Petition fall under Category C on the Tenant Petition.						
- 14 - 1 	Tenant Petition Grounds		Owner Response				
(C1)	Rent was not reduced after a prior rent increase period for capital improvements.		N/A				
(C2)	Owner exemption based on fraud or mistake.		N/A				
(C3)	Tenant's initial rent amount was unlawful because owner was not permitted to set initial rent without limitation (O.M.C. § 8.22.080 (C)).		N/A				

A.

B.

**OWNER VERIFICATION** (Required) IAWe declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the State of California that everything lAve said in this response is true and that all of the documents attached to the response are true copies of the originals. <u>2-15-22</u> Date <u>2/15/22</u> Property Owner 1, Signature Mpefty Owner 2 Signature CONSENT TO ELECTRONIC SERVICE (Highly Recommended) Check the box below if you agree to have RAP staff send you documents related to your case electronically. If you agree to electronic service. the RAP may send certain documents only electronically and not by first class mail. 12 IAWe consent to receiving notices and documents in this matter from the RAP electronically at the email address(es) provided in this response. **MEDIATION PROGRAM** Mediation is an optional process offered by RAP to assist parties in settling the issues related to their Rent Adjustment case as an alternative to the formal hearing process. A trained third party will work with the parties prior to the hearing to see if a mutual agreement can be reached. If a settlement is reached, the parties will sign a binding agreement and there will not be a formal hearing. If no settlement is reached, the case will go to a formal hearing with a Rent Adjustment Hearing Officer, who will then issue a hearing decision. Mediation will only be scheduled if both parties agree to modiate. Sign below if you agree to mediation in your case. I agree to have the case mediated by a Rent Adjustment Program staff mediator. Properly Owner Signature INTERPRETATION SERVICES If English is not your primary language, you have the right to an interpreter in your primary language/dialect at the Rent Adjustment hearing and mediation session. You can request an interpreter by completing this section Spanish (Español) I request an interpreter fluent in the following Cantonese (廣東話) language at my Rent Adjustment proceeding: Mandann (普通活) Other. -END OF RESPONSE-

### EXHIBIT INDEX Rent Adjustment Program Case No. PENDING/TBA Leshne v. Meriau 1534 Filbert Street, Oakland, CA 94607 Hearing Date: TBD

Description	Exhibit
City of Oakland Business Tax Certificate	li
Proof of Payment for Oakland Business License Rent Adjustment	
Program service fee ("RAP Fee")	ii

#### **ATTACHMENT**

#### Response to Tenant Petition, Grounds A1 & A2

Owner denies these allegations. Petitioner was not served with a Rent Increase.

1534 Filbert Street is the upper level of a residential duplex. The entire upper unit was originally rented in 2017 for \$3,200 by Owner's predecessor. The prior owner reduced the rent for the unit to \$2,840 in consideration for COVID. Petitioner thereafter entered and occupied the rental unit as a subsequent occupant. All other occupants except Petitioner thereafter vacated the unit prior to Owner's close of purchase of the premises on January 11, 2022, leaving Petitioner in sole occupancy of the entire unit. Owner observed Petitioner's possessions throughout the entire unit while inspecting the property prior to sale.

On January 12, 2022, Owner served on Petitioner a Notice of New Owner/Agent, with accompanying Rent Adjustment Program and Tenant Protection Ordinance notices, indicating that the rent was still \$2,840, with instructions for delivery and payment. Petitioner's first response was to file this petition on January 19, 2022<sup>1</sup>, and then email the Owner on January 23, 2022 to object to this notice as an alleged "illegal rent increase."

Petitioner has provided as evidence for his petition a "Tenant Estoppel Certificate" dated January 12, 2022 indicating that he moved in on July 1, 2021, his rent was \$900, and he had paid a security deposit of \$3,450. This estoppel does not clearly identify the premises to which it pertains – the address for both duplex units is listed, including the lower duplex unit currently in the possession of the Owner, which is obviously not being rented to Petitioner. The estoppel was also signed only by Petitioner, and not countersigned by the current Owner, or the prior owner.

Owner's attorney responded to Petitioner's email by letter explaining that the new owner notice was not a rent increase, and that if the Petitioner was claiming rent in the amount of \$900, then the rental must be for a portion of the rental unit, and the dispute could be resolved by Petitioner clarifying exactly what Petitioner was renting. As of the date of this response, Petitioner has not responded to Owner's attorney's letter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> After being served with Petitioner's petition, Owner has not received a notice of a hearing from the Rent Adjustment Program, or any confirmation that Petitioner's petition was actually filed. As of the date of Owner's response, to Owner's knowledge, no case number has been assigned to this petition. Nonetheless, Owner files this response to Petitioner's petition in good faith.

Exhibit i

CITY OF OAKLAND BUSINESS TAX CERTIFICATE ACCOUNT NUMBER 00244692 The issuing of a Business Tax Certificate is for revenue purposes only. It does not relieve the taxpayer from the responsibility of complying with the requirements of any other agency of the City of Oakland and/or any other ordinance, law or regulation of the State of California, or any other governmental agency. The Business Tax Certificate expires on December 31st of each year. Per Section 5.04.190(A), of the O.M.C. you are allowed a renewal grace period until March 1st the following year.	A BUSINESS TAX CERTIFICATE IS REQUIRED FOR EACH BUSINESS LOCATION AND IS NOT VALID FOR ANY OTHER ADDRESS.
1534-1536 FILBERT       ISA       EXPIRATION DATE         DBA       MERIAU CEDRIC F & WHITE HEATHER       ISA         BUSINESS LOCATION       1536 FILBERT ST       OAKLAND, CA 94607-2822         BUSINESS TYPE       M       Rental - Apartment	ALL OAKLAND BUSINESSES MUST OBTAIN A VALID ZONING CLEARANCE TO OPERATE YOUR BUSINESS LEGALLY. RENTAL OF REAL PROPERTY IS EXCLUDED FROM ZONING.
MERIAU CEDRIC F & WHITE HEATHER 1536 FILBERT ST OAKLAND, CA 94607-2822	PUBLIC INFORMATION ABOVE THIS LINE TO BE CONSPICUOUSLY POSTED!

# Exhibit ii

**EVENTS** 

N. CCC 6823

Guest

Find Account 🕈 Submit Payment 🕈 Receipt

> ▲ Home ♥ Report a Problem Paying

#### **Business License Online Payment**

PRINT THIS PAGE FOR YOUR RECORD

Thank you for your payment

Payment Date: 1/13/2022 Confirmation #: 299504

#### **Account Information**

Account #	00244692
Expire Date	12/31/2022
Name	MERIAU CEDRIC F & WHITE HEATHER
Address	1536 FILBERT ST
City	OAKLAND
Phone	(415) 361-1311

#### Summary

	Input	Balance Due
Tax Calculation		
BT Registration Fee	1.00	\$88.00
BT SB1186 (AB1379)	1.00	\$4.00
BT Recordation and Tech	1.00	\$3.00
Rent Adjustment Program (RAP) Calculation	- only use whole num	bers below
RAP Rent Adjustment Program (M)	1.00	\$101.00
Total Balance Due		\$196.00
•		
Payment Information		

Payment Amount

\$196.00

Powered by HclL<sup>2</sup> Select Language | V

Elected Officials Departments Boards and Commissions Staff Directory Services News & Updates Events Documents #OaklandLoveLife Oakland Library Visit Oakland Oakland Museum For Assistance Email: btwebsupport@oaklandca.gov Phone: (510) 238-3704

**City of Oakland** 250 Frank H Ogawa Plaza, Suite 132 Oakland, CA 94612

Hours: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday ,Friday

9:3( Have a question?

Representative or Self-Represented Party Name/Type: Matthew P. Quiring, SBN 261421 FRIED, WILLIAMS & GRICE CONNER LLP 1939 Harrison Street, Suite 460	
Oakland, California 94612 Telephone: (510) 625-0100	
Facsimile: (510) 550-3621	
Email Address: mquiring@friedwilliams.com	
Representative for: Respondent/Owner Cedric Meriau	Case Number: <b>TBA</b> Case Name: <i>Leshne v. Meriau</i>
RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM	
250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 5313 Oakland, CA 94612	Staff Analyst: TBA
CONSENT TO ELECTRONIC SERVICE AND NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC SERVICE ADDRESS	Hearing Officer: <b>TBA</b>
	presentative for:
a. tenant(name)	
b. X owner (name): Cedric Meria	u
c other (name):	
consents to electronic service of notices and docume case.	ents in the above-captioned
2. The electronic service address of the person (specify):	identified in item 1 is
<u>mquiring@friedwilliams.com;</u>	<u>illiams.com</u>
Date: February 16, 2022	-
Matthew P. Quiring	
TYPE OR PRINT NAME SIGNATUR REPRESE	RE OF PARTY OR NTATIVE

For Rent Adjustment Program date stamp.



#### CITY OF OAKLAND RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 5313

Oakland, CA 94612-0243 (510) 238-3721 CA Relay Service 711 www.oaklandca.gov/RAP

CASE NUMBER: TBA Leshne v. Meriau

# PROOF OF SERVICE

# NOTE: YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SERVE A COPY OF YOUR RESPONSE (PLUS ANY ATTACHMENTS) ON THE TENANT(S) PRIOR TO FILING YOUR RESPONSE WITH RAP.

- 1) Use this PROOF OF SERVICE form to indicate the date and manner of service and the person(s) served.
- 2) Note: Email is not a form of allowable service on a party of a petition or response pursuant to the Ordinance.
- 3) Provide a completed copy of this PROOF OF SERVICE form to the person(s) being served together with the documents being served.
- 4) File a completed copy of this PROOF OF SERVICE form with RAP together with your Response. Your Response will not be considered complete until this form has been filed indicating that service has occurred.

On the following date: <u>2</u> / <u>16</u> / <u>22</u> I served a copy of (*check all that apply*):

PROPERTY OWNER RESPONSE TO TENANT PETITION plus <u>6</u> attached pages (number of pages attached to Response not counting the Response form or PROOF OF SERVICE)

Other: Consent to Electronic Service & Notice of Electronic Service Address

by the following means (check one):

United States Mail. I enclosed the document(s) in a sealed envelope or package addressed to the person(s) listed below and at the address(es) below and deposited the sealed envelope with the United States Postal Service, with the postage fully prepaid.

Personal Service. | personally delivered the document(s) to the person(s) at the address(es) listed below or I left the document(s) at the address(es) with some person not younger than 18 years of age.

#### PERSON(S) SERVED:

Name	Kai Leshne	
Address	1534 Filbert Street	
City, State, Zip	Oakland, CA 94607	•

Name	
Address	
City, State, Zip	

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Marena Perez-Ratto

PRINTED NAME

1 1

Marena Perez-Ratto

SIGNATURE

2/16/22

#### DATE SIGNED

1	Matthew P. Quiring, SBN			
2	Angelica A. Sandoval, SBN FRIED, WILLIAMS & GRICE CONNER LLP			
3	1939 Harrison Street, Ste. 460			
4	Oakland, California 94612 Telephone: (510) 625-0100			
5	Facsimile: (510) 550-3621			
6	Email: mquiring@friedwilliams.com			
7	Attorneys for Respondents/Owners			
8	Heather White and Cedric Meriau			
9	DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMM	UNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY		
10	RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM			
11	CITY OF OAKLAND			
12	Kai Leshne.	CASE NO.: T22-0024		
13	Petitioner/Tenant,	<b>RESPONDENT'S SUBMISSION OF</b>		
14	VS.	TANGLIBLE EVIDENCE		
15	Heather White; Cedric Meriau.	Hearing date: April 27, 2020		
16	Respondents/Owners.	Time: 10:00 a.m. Place: 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Ste. 5313,		
17	respondents/ 0 witers.	Oakland, CA 94612		
18				
19		1 ( )) (1 ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( ( (		
20		espondents") are the owners of the real		
21	property commonly known as 1534-1536 Filber			
22	"Premises"), a residential duplex. Respondents	currently reside in 1536 Filbert Street, the		
23	lower unit. 1534 Filbert Street is the upper unit.			
24	The entire upper unit was originally rented in 2017 for \$3,200.00 by Owner's			
25	predecessor. The prior owner reduced the rent for the unit to \$2,840.00 in consideration for			
26	the COVID-19 pandemic. Kai Leshne ("Petitioner") thereafter entered and occupied all or			
27	part of the upper unit as a subsequent occupant. All other occupants except Petitioner			
28	thereafter vacated the unit prior to Owner's close of purchase of the premises on January 11,			

**RESPONDENT'S SUBMISSION OF EVIDENCE** 

2022, leaving Petitioner the sole occupant in the upper unit. Owner observed Petitioner's possessions throughout the entire upper unit while inspecting the Premises prior to sale.

The owner of the Premises has a current business license and has paid the Rent Adjustment Program (RAP) fees for 2020 (A copy of proof of payment of the City of Oakland Business license #00244692 and copy of Proof of RAP fees were attached to Respondent's Owner Response to Tenant Petition as evidence by the attached business tax certificate with an expiration of 12/31/2022 (a true and correct copy is attached hereto as Exhibit i) and copy of receipt that RAP fees for 2022 were paid (a true and correct copy is attached hereto as Exhibit ii).

On January 19, 2022, Petitioner served and subsequently filed a petition alleging the following 1) the rent increase is above the allowable amount; and 2) the rent increases is unlawful because Petitioner was not given proper notice, was not properly served, and/or was not provided with the required RAP Notice.

#### UNLAWFUL RENT INCREASE

Respondents deny these allegations. Petitioner was not served with a Rent Increase. The rent for the entire upper unit is \$2,840.00. The lease for the upper unit signed by the prior owner and the previous occupants states that the monthly rent was originally \$3,200.00. A true copy of this lease is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**. This monthly rental rate was thereafter *reduced* to \$2,840.00, as acknowledged in an August 2, 2021 letter addressed to Petitioner by the prior owner's attorney, Mr. Daniel Bornstein. A true copy of said letter is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**. Said letter goes on to say that:

"Accordingly, for the duration of your occupancy and/or until [prior owner] Mr. Gupta and/or his successor(s) in interest takes steps to reimpose the contract rent, you[sic] rent each month shall be \$2,840.00."

Petitioner was therefore on notice via this letter that his rent was \$2,840.00, before Respondents even owned the Premises.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

28

11

11

#### -2-RESPONDENT'S SUBMISSION OF EVIDENCE

Nonetheless, Petitioner claims his rent to be \$900.00. Respondents are aware that Petitioner apparently first occupied the upper unit as a subtenant of Nan Eastep, one of the original lessees. According to the sublease agreement provided to Respondents, Petitioner agreed to pay \$900.00 each month for a three-month tenancy apparently intended to terminate on July 31, 2021. The scope of this subtenancy was limited to a single room in the upper unit, with the agreement explicitly providing, "As Subtenant, I agree to be the sole occupant of the room I am renting." A true copy of this sublease agreement is attached hereto as **Exhibit C**.

However, when Respondents inspected the Premises prior to purchase, they observed Petitioner as the sole occupant of the upper unit, not just a single room. Accordingly, after the purchase, they issued a Notice of New Owner/Agent pursuant to California Civil Code Section 1962 stating the rent for the entire unit was \$2,840.00, due and payable monthly. A true copy of this notice is attached hereto as **Exhibit D**.

It is possible that, despite outward appearances, Petitioner is *not* claiming possession of the entire upper unit, but only the room he originally subleased as stated in Exhibit C. However, to date, Petitioner has not explained his claim or the scope of his tenancy. Petitioner refused to talk with Respondents while they were inspecting the Premises. After Respondents purchased the Premises and served the Notice of New Owner/Agent on Respondent, Respondent responded by email on January 23, 2021 announcing the filing of this petition, which included an estoppel signed by Respondent indicating his rent as \$900.00. A true copy of this email is attached hereto as **Exhibit E**.

Unfortunately, rather than clarifying the issue of the scope of Petitioner's tenancy, the purported estoppel only muddied things further, by listing the addresses of *both* upper and lower units. Furthermore, the estoppel was signed on January 12, 2022, the same day that Respondents issued their Notice of New Owner/Agent on Petition, and the day *after* escrow closed on the Premises, January 11, 2022. Finally, the estoppel is not signed or endorsed by anyone other than Petitioner.

#### - 3 -RESPONDENT'S SUBMISSION OF EVIDENCE

000084

Based on these facts, Respondents could not have relied on the contents of the estoppel for issuing their Notice to Petitioner, because it apparently did not exist until after the Notice was served. For the same reason, Respondents do not consider the contents of the estoppel to be reliable, since it may have been produced for the sole purposes of rebutting the Notice of New Owner/Agent after it was served.

Because Petitioner elected for his first correspondence with Respondents to be a Rent Board Petition and an accusation of illegal conduct, Respondents responded through their attorney seeking clarification of Petitioner's claims. A true copy of a letter sent by Matthew P. Quiring to Petitioner is attached hereto as **Exhibit F**. Petitioner has not responded to Respondent's attorney's letter, or to any subsequent correspondence.

In short, there is no evidence of any rent increase issued by Respondents to Petitioner. The document at issue is a statutory notice issued pursuant to Civil Code Section 1962 to fulfill Respondents' responsibilities as new owners. This notice did not change or increase the rent in any way, but only restated what the rent has been for the upper unit since August 2021.

#### **RENT INCREASE ABOVE THE ALLOWABLE AMOUNT**

Respondents deny these allegations. For all the reasons stated above, Petitioner was not served with a Rent Increase above the allowable amount.

#### CONCLUSION

It appears that the issue in this petition turns on a simple question: Is Petitioner renting the entire upper unit, or only a bedroom? If the entire unit, Petitioner is obligated to pay the full rental rate of \$2,840.00, as established by the prior owner. If only a bedroom, then he has agreed to pay \$900.00 for that space. While Respondents can accept either outcome, there is no legal basis for Petitioner to claim the entire unit while paying rent for a single bedroom.

11

11

-4-RESPONDENT'S SUBMISSION OF EVIDENCE

Respondents had hoped that Petitioner could resolve the issue by walking downstairs
to discuss the situation, or sending a letter or a note clarifying his position. Unfortunately,
Petitioner has apparently elected to speak entirely through this rent board action, with his
only supporting evidence apparently a belated and inaccurate estoppel.

If Petitioner was somehow offended by Respondent's Notice of New Owner/Agent letter, it should now be clear that Respondents were only attempting to fulfill their responsibilities under the Civil Code by providing basic information to Petitioner regarding his tenancy. There was no rent increase, because Petitioner had known the rental rates for both a single bedroom and for the entire upper unit since August 2021, and those rates have not changed. Respondents respectfully request Petitioner's petition be dismissed.

1	11		
13	Date: April 12, 2022	FRIED, WILLIAMS & GRICE CONNER L	LP
14			
15		Matthew P. Quiring	
16	5	Attorneys for Respondents/Owners	
17		Cedric Meriau & Heather White	
18	3		
19			
20			
21			
22	2		
23			
24	+		
25	5		
26	5		
27	7		
28	3		
		- 5	
	RESPONDEN	T'S SUBMISSION OF EVIDENCE	
			000086
1	11		000000

# EXHIBIT A

### LEASE/RENTAL AGREEMENT

1534 Filbert Street, Oakland, CA, 94607

This is a residential lease/rental agreement ("Agreement") entered on January 23, 2017,

Between: ("Tenants")

#### And: Arun Gupta ("Owner")

For the premises located at: 1534 Filbert Street, Oakland, CA, 94607 ("Premises")

This Agreement is for the rental of real property according to the terms specified below. Upon acceptance by the Owner, the Premises described are leased to the Tenants in consideration of the rents to be paid under this Agreement and in consideration of the performance and fulfillment of the covenants, conditions, and agreements expressed below.

- 1. ADDRESS: The location of the Premises is 1534 Filbert Street, Oakland, CA, 94607.
  - OWNER: The Owner of the Premises is Arun Gupta. His phone number is (408) 256-0839. His email address is asgupta15@gamil.com.
- 3. TENANTS: The Tenants are Chris Tuttle and Nan Eastep. During the term of their tenancy the Tenants shall keep the Owner updated as to their current phone numbers and email addresses. Notice upon the Tenants shall be served as permitted by law. The Tenants are jointly and severally liable for all Tenants' obligations under this Agreement.
- 4. OCCUPANCY: Unless otherwise specified in writing, the Premises are to be occupied by no one other than the persons named as the Tenants in this Agreement and the Premises shall be used only as a private residence. The Tenants may not maintain or use the Premises in any way that increases the Owner's cost of obtaining fire or liability insurance.

#### 5. INITIAL PAYMENT BREAKDOWN

а.	First month rent:		
	Rent from February 1, 2017 to February 28, 2017 at \$3200 per month		\$3200
b.	Last month rent:		
	Rent from February 1, 2018 to February 28, 2018 at \$3200 per month		\$3200
с.	Security/Cleaning/Damage Deposit as permitted in California Civil Code	e	
	Section 1950.5 (b) No portion of this Security Deposit shall be designate	d	
	by the Tenants as payment of rent. The Owner may use the Security Dep	osit	
	to remedy any default in the performance of this Agreement or to pay for	r	
	damages caused by the Tenants or any other purpose allowed by law.		\$3200
d.	Total Owed (Total of A. B. above)		\$9600
		Sar 1	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
e.	Balance Due on or before February 1, 2017	\$	\$9600

1.

 TERM: The term of this Agreement begins on February 1, 2018, and continues through February 28, 2017 (the "Term"), unless terminated pursuant to applicable state and local law by the Owner or the Tenants.

Upon the expiration of the Term of this Agreement, but not upon the earlier termination herof, this Agreement shall continue as a tenancy from year to year unless either (i) Owner gives Tenants at least sixty (60) days written notice prior to the expiration of the Term, than such year to year tenancy shall not commence, or (ii) Tenants give written notice to Owner at least thirty (30) days prior to expiration of the Term of Tenants' election that such year to year tenancy shall not commence, or (iii) Owner gives Tenants any other notice to terminate allowed by law. In the event this Agreement shall continue as a tenancy from year to year the terms and conditions of the Agreement shall apply with respect to such tenancy, except the Term shall be deemed modified to provide that the tenancy shall be from year to year, and Owner may, at its option, increase the Rent to the monthly rental rate set forth in a written notification to Tenants, or otherwise change the terms of tenancy as allowed by law. Tenants acknowledges that this section contains provisions under which this Lease may automatically continue as a tenancy from year to year upon the expiration of the Term.

- OWNER'S TERMINATION RIGHT. In the event that Owner elects to reside in the Premises use the Premises as his primary residence, Owner shall have the right to terminate this Agreement and Tenants' tenancy by providing at least ninety (90) days written notice.
- 8. RENT: The rent shall be \$3200 payable monthly on the first day of each month (the "Rent"). The Tenants shall pay a charge of five percent (5%) of the Rent to the Owner for each Rent payment that is not received by the Owner within 5 days after the due date. If any Rent check received from the Tenants is dishonored by the bank on which it is drawn, such check shall be considered nonpayment of Rent and the Tenants shall be obligated to pay a handling charge of \$50.00 plus the five percent (5%) late charge. Once any check received from the Tenants has been dishonored, the Owner may require future payment to be made by cash, money order, cashier's check, or certified check. By accepting late Rent, the Owner does not waive the right to insist on payment of the Rent in full on the date it is due. Two late payments in any twelve-month period is a material violation of this Agreement and constitute grounds for the Owner to terminate the tenancy. Rent will not be accepted from anyone other than the Tenants. Failure to pay the Rent on time may result in a negative report to credit reporting agencies. It is understood and agreed that it would be impractical and extremely difficult to ascertain the amount of actual damage the Owner might sustain by reason of a late payment or a dishonored check. Therefore, the fees stated above are expressly agreed upon as liquidated damages and are not intended to be a penalty.
- 9. POSSESSION: If the Tenants fail to take possession of the Premises, the Tenants shall still be responsible for paying Rent and complying with all other terms of this Agreement. In the event the Owner is unable to deliver possession of the Premises to the Tenants within thirty (30) days of the commencement date of the term for any reason not within the Owner's control the Tenants shall have the right to terminate this Agreement. In such event, the Owner's liability to the Tenants shall be limited to the return of all sums previously paid by the Tenants to the Owner. If the Owner is unable to deliver possession of the Premises at the commencement of the term of this Agreement, the Owner shall not be liable for any damages caused thereby and the Tenant shall not be liable for any Rent until possession is delivered.

- 10. CONDITION OF THE PREMISES: The Owner and the Tenants have made a pre-occupancy inspection of the Premises and its appliances. Except as noted in writing the Premises and its appliances are accepted as being in good condition. However, in the event that the Tenants shall discover anything not in good condition, a written statement to that effect shall be delivered to the Owner within 5 days after taking possession. Otherwise it will be conclusively presumed that, except for defects noted in writing, the Premises and its appliances are in good condition in all respects.
- 11. RESPONSIBILITY FOR REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE: The Tenants agree to immediately notify the Owner of any defects, damages, dilapidation or dangerous condition arising during the Tenants' tenancy, including any which affect the habitability of the Premises. The Tenants agree at their own expense to maintain the Premises in good condition at all times and not to cause or permit the Premises, including woodwork, floors, walls, fixtures, furnishings, and the appliances contained therein to be damaged or altered in any manner. The Tenants agree to pay for any loss, breakage or damage, except for damage caused by normal wear and tear, caused by the Tenants or their guests through misuse or neglect. Under no circumstances shall the accumulation of dirt in any form be considered as normal wear and tear. The accumulation of excessive amounts of junk, trash, and any other debris within the apartment shall be deemed a violation of this Agreement.
- 12. MANNER OF MAKING REPAIRS, ALTERATIONS: Except in emergencies, the Tenants' responsibilities, financial or otherwise, for maintenance and repairs do not give the Tenants the right to proceed with repairs or alterations without the written consent of the Owner, Rather, except in emergencies, the Tenants shall, before proceeding with repairs or alterations, obtain the written consent of the Owner, which shall not be unreasonably withheld with respect to repairs necessary to maintain the premises in conformity with the implied warranty of habitability; However, the Owner reserves the right to put reasonable conditions on his consent, such as approval of proposed workmen, materials and job specifications. With respect to repairs other than those necessary to maintain the Premises in conformity with the implied warranty of habitability, the Owner reserves the right to absolutely refuse to approve any alterations or redecoration, including painting and papering. Should the Tenants damage or depreciate the Premises, or make alterations, except in emergencies, or do painting or redecorating, without the prior written consent of the Owner, then all costs necessary to restore the Premises to its prior condition shall be borne by the Tenants. *Alterations include re-keying or adding locks for the unit, and drilling holes through walls for cable TV, internet service, etc.*
- 13. TENANTS' FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: The Tenants agree to accept responsibility for damage to Premises caused by the Tenants or any of their guests. The Tenants agree to reimburse the Owner for any damage within three days on any written demand. The Tenants agree to accept financial responsibility for any loss or damage to personal property belonging to the Tenants and their guests caused by theft, fire or any other cause. The Owner assumes no liability for any such losses.
- SEMI-ANNUAL INSPECTIONS: To assure that the premises remain in good condition the Owner may inspect the premises at least once every six months.
- 15. NO ASSIGNMENT OR SUBLETTING: The Tenants shall not let, sublet or assign any portion of the premises, or the Tenants' interest therein, nor shall the Tenants advertise the premises as being available for renting. Occupancy by a single guest for more than ten days in any one-year period is prohibited without the Owner's written consent and shall be considered a breach of this Agreement. Any name, other than those of the Tenants, placed on the mail receptacle for the unit rented to the Tenants shall be deemed to establish a violation of this section. The receipt of mail addressed to others than the Tenants shall be deemed to establish a violation of this section. If the listing of any telephone

service on the premises during the term of this lease, whether such listing is in the published telephone directory or is maintained with the telephone company's directory assistance service, contains any name other than these of the Tenants, such listing shall be deemed to establish a violation of this section.

- 16. HOLDING OVER: Upon termination of the tenancy. Tenants shall vacate the Premises, and any holding over by Tenants, members of Tenant's household. Tenant's family, guests, agents and others under Tenant's control ("Tenants' Related Parties") after such expiration date shall not constitute a tenewal hereof or give Tenants any rights with respect to the Premises. If Tenants fails to so vacate and surrender the Premises upon termination, Tenants shall indemnify and hold Landlord harmless from any loss or itability, including without limitation any claims made by any succeeding resident, from failure to vacate the Premises. Upon vacating the Premises, Tenants shall (a) deliver the Premises empty of all persons, (b) remove all of Tenants' and Tenants' Related Parties' personal property from the Premises and from all parking spaces, garages, and storage spaces provided under the Agreement, (c) clean the Premises as required under this Agreement, and (d) provide Landlord with Tenants' forwarding address.
  - 17. ABANDONMENT: The Tenants shall not vacate or abandon the Premises at any time during the term of this Agreement. Abandonment shall be conclusively presumed upon the failure of the Tenants to respond to a notice directed to the Tenants at the Premises within five days after the delivery or mailing thereof by the Owner. If the Tenants abandon, vacate, or surrender said Premises, or are dispossessed by process of law, or otherwise, then the Owner shall have the right to take immediate possession of and re-enter said Premises and remove any personal property. If Rent is overdue and the Tenants have not used Premises for thirty days, both parties agree that this shall amount to an abandonment of this lease and Premises by the Tenants.
  - RECOVERY OF POSSESSION: The Owner reserves the right to recover possession of the premises in all situations permitted by law.
    - 19. DEFAULTS: The following shall constitute a material default and a breach of this Agreement by Tenants:
      - a. Tenants abandon or vacates the Premises prior to the end of the Term.
- b. Tenants full to make any payment of Rent or any other payment required to be made by Tenants bereamder, as and when due, which fullure continues for a period of three (3) days after written notice thereof from Owner to Tenants.
- c. Tenants fail to comply with any provision of this Agreement or to perform any of Tenants' obligations under this Agreement, where such failure continues for more than three (3) days after written notice thereof from Owner to Tenants. If the breach is of a nature that cannot be cared within such three (3) day period or is deemed a noncamble breach under this Agreement (e.g., illegal activity, waste, nuisance.), then at Owner's option, this Agreement shall be terminated upon service of three days written notice to quit.
  - d. Temants provide failse information on any rental application or Temants' credit application or omits to disclose any information required by such application or this Agreement (such matter shall be deemed to be a noncumble default at the time of Owner's discovery that the information was false).
  - 20. REMEDNES: In the event of any default or breach by Tenant, Owner may at anytime thereafter, with ar without nutice or demand, and without limiting Owner in the exercise of any right or remedy that Owner may have by reason of such default or breach:



- a. Terminate Tenant's right to possession of the Premises by any lawful means, in which case this Agreement shall terminate and Tenant shall immediately surrender possession of the Premises to Owner.
- b. In the event of such termination, Owner may recover from Tenant the amount provided in California Civil Code Section 1951.2, including the worth at time of the award of the amount by which (i) the unpaid Rent owing from the date Tenant vacates the Premises until the end of the Agreement Term (including the balance of the Agreement Term after the date of judgment) exceeds (ii) the amount of such rental loss for the same period that Tenant proves could be reasonably avoided.
- c. Pursue any other remedy now or hereafter available under the laws or judicial decisions of the state where the Premises are located. The expiration or termination of this Agreement and/or the termination of Tenant's right to possession shall not relieve Tenant from liability under any indemnity provisions of this Agreement as to matters occurring or accruing during the Term or by reason of Tenant's occupancy of the Premises.
- d. No remedy or election under this Agreement shall be deemed exclusive, but shall, wherever possible, be cumulative with all other remedies at law or in equity.
- 21. ENTRY: The Owner and employees thereof shall have the right to enter the Premises at all reasonable times and for all purposes permitted by law. Except in case of an emergency, the Owner shall give the Tenants reasonable notice of intent to enter. For purposes of this section, a 24-hour written notice shall be deemed reasonable and reasonable hours shall be defined as 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Purposes for entry shall include entry for making repairs, or exhibiting the Premises to prospective or actual purchasers, mortgagers, tenants, workmen or contractors. In order to deal with any emergency that may affect the Premises, the Owner must have keys to all locks to the Premises. The Tenants agree to supply the Owner with keys to all locks installed or changed by the Tenants. (Note to Tenants: Adding or changing locks without written consent of the Owner is a violation of this Agreement.)
  - 22. UTILITIES: The Owner shall pay for Gas, Electricity, Water, Sewer, and Refuse Collection. To the extent the Owner agrees to provide any utilities to the Tenants without charge, the Owner only agrees to provide a reasonable quantity of subject utility and the Tenants agree to pay for any excessive or unreasonable use of the subject utility. If any utility is rationed or quasi-rationed at any time during the term of this Agreement, it shall be deemed that any usage which results in a penalty or excess-use fee is excessive or unreasonable. The Tenants shall pay for the disposal of all trash, rubbish, garbage, and discarded items of large size, and all other material not ordinarily disposed of by regular refuse collection service.
  - 23. KEYS: The Tenants will receive keys to the front and rear doors of the premises along with a key to the shared mail box. These keys are for the sole use of the Tenants names in this Agreement and are not to be duplicated, given or loaned to any other person. At the time the Tenants vacate the apartment all keys are to be returned to the Owner. Failure to return all keys upon vacating will subject the Tenants to the cost of re-keying the locks to the Premises, such re-keying to be changed at the prevailing rate then charged by a licensed locksmith of the Owner's choice. If the Tenants lose any keys during their occupancy, the cost of replacement keys will be borne by the Tenants, as will the cost of re-keying should that become necessary.
  - 24. SAFETY EQUIPMENT: The Premises contain the following working safety equipment that has been provided by the Owner: (Check all that apply)



\_\_\_\_\_ Smoke detectors

C

- b. Carbon monoxide detectors
  - Electrical ground-fault interrupters

Inasmuch as the Owner has no control over the day-to-day operation of this equipment, the Owner warrants only that the equipment listed above was in working condition on the day the equipment was installed or on the date that the Tenants acquired possession of the Premises, whichever is later. Any safety equipment that is not listed in this Section does not form any part of the consideration supplied by the Owner to the Tenants under this agreement and is presumed to be non-working. The Owner does not make any warranty or representation, expressed or implied, as to the effectiveness, reliability, or continued operation of these or any other unlisted safety devices installed on the premises. It is the responsibility of the Tenants to properly operate and periodically test the operation of all equipment installed on the premises and to report any deficiencies, in writing, to the Owner. The Owner will not be liable for incidental or consequential damages that may result from improper use or faulty operation of these or other unlisted devices.

- 25. RENT WITHHOLDING: Any rental payment withheld by the Tenants under color of law shall be deposited forthwith in an interest-bearing account opened by the Tenants in the names of the Owner and the Tenants in an institution whose accounts are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). The Tenants shall forthwith notify the Owner of the location, account number and other particulars concerning the account. The parties agree that failure to open such account, deposit therein the withheld payments as the payments become due, and to notify the Owner of the location, account number, and other particulars concerning the account shall be conclusive proof that the withholding is in bad faith and said failure shall also be deemed a material breach of this Agreement.
- 26. LIMITATION OF ACTIONS AND CLAIMS: Any claim or action of any kind by Tenant against Owner or Owner's manager (including, but not limited to, any claims for wrongful eviction, breach of the covenant of quiet enjoyment, breach of the warranty of habitability, or violation of any rent control law) arising out of or related to this Lease shall be barred or waived unless the action, suit, administrative hearing or other proceeding is commenced within one hundred eighty (180) days after the occurrence of the matter giving rise to the action or claim. This limitation shall also apply to claims that might otherwise be asserted as a "set off," credit, cross-complaint, or defense in such action or claim or in the context of the proceeding brought by either Owner or Tenant. If any legal action or proceeding is brought by either party to enforce any part of this Lease, the prevailing party shall recover, in addition to all other relief, reasonable attorneys' fees not to exceed \$1,000, plus court costs.
- EFFECT OF WAIVER: The waiver by the Owner of any covenants or conditions herein contained shall not vitiate the same or any other covenants or conditions contained herein.
- 28. SECURITY DEPOSIT: At the time Tenants sign this Agreement, Tenants shall also pay Owner a security deposit in the amount provided in Section 5(b) above ("Security Deposit") as security for the faithful performance of Tenants' obligations under this Agreement. Owner shall have the right to commingle the Security Deposit with other funds of Owner. Owner may, at its option, deduct from the Security Deposit such amounts as are reasonably necessary (a) to remedy Tenants' defaults in the payment of Rent, utility charges or any other item for which Tenants is responsible under the Agreement, (b) to repair damage (other than ordinary wear and tear) to the Premises caused by Tenants, Tenants' Related Parties and/or visitors or pets, including but not limited to stains in carpet, counter damage, drywall repair, painting, drapes and plumbing system, (c) to clean the Premises upon

termination of the tenancy, and/or (d) to cover the cost of restoring, replacing or reclaiming any personal property provided to Tenants (such as refrigerators, stoves, garage door remote control devices, keys, and the like). The Security Deposit shall be refunded or applied as provided in California Civil Code Section 1950.5. In the event Owner uses any part of the Security Deposit during the tenancy, Tenants shall replenish the Security Deposit to its full amount within ten (10) days after Owner's written notice to Tenants of the deduction and Owner's demand that the Security Deposit be replenished in full.

29. ALTERATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS: Tenants shall make no upgrades to, alterations of or improvements to the Premises without obtaining Owner's prior written consent, including without limitation, painting, wallpapering, installing any other window covering, wall covering, permanent shelving and flooring, adding or changing any lock or locking device, bolt or latch on the Premises. In the event Owner consents to any addition or change of lock, Tenants shall provide Owner with a key to any such lock or device upon installation thereof. If Owner agrees to any such upgrade, alteration or improvement, Tenants acknowledges and agrees that upon Owner's request upon expiration of the tenancy, Tenants shall, prior to vacating the Premises, remove such upgrade, alteration or improvement and restore the Premises to the condition in which it existed prior to the installation of such upgrade, alteration or improvement. Tenants shall not, as a result of any upgrades, alterations or improvements installed by or on behalf of Tenants, create or allow any mechanics or other lien to be placed on the Premises. If for any reason such lien is so created or placed, Tenants shall, upon demand of Owner, clear the same in a manner acceptable to Owner and indemnify and save Owner and the Premises free and harmless from any liability for any damage, claim, or loss arising therefrom.

#### 30. OWNER'S LIABILITY; TENANTS' INDEMNITY:

- a. <u>Limitation on Liability</u>. To the greatest extent provided by law, Owner shall not be liable for any injury (including death) to any person caused by any use of the Premises by Tenants, Tenants' Related Parties, or arising from any other cause whatsoever, nor shall Owner be liable for any loss or damage to any personal property belonging to Tenants or located on the Premises, or other facility under the control of Owner. To the greatest extent allowed by law, Tenants hereby agrees to hold Owner harmless from all liability for any such injury, loss or damage.
- Indemnity. Tenants shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless Owner for any liability, b. damage, claims for personal injury and/or property damage, cost or expense (including reasonable attorneys' fees), whether incurred by or made against Owner, caused by the negligent, willful or intentional act or omission of Tenants. Tenants also agrees that Owner shall not be liable for matters (and this Agreement shall not be terminated by any interruption or interference with services or accommodations due Tenants) caused by strike, riot, orders or acts of public authorities, acts of other Tenants, accidents, interruption in or shortages of public utilities, the making of necessary repairs to the building of which the Premises are a part, or any other cause beyond Owner's control. Tenants shall also defend, indemnify and hold Owner harmless from and against any claims, costs and liabilities, including attorneys fees and costs, arising out of or in connection with (a) any storage, use and/or disposal of hazardous, toxic or radioactive matter (b) any damage or injury resulting from Tenants' negligent or improper installation, maintenance, operation or removal of any satellite dish. Tenants' obligations in this Section 30 shall survive the expiration and/or termination of this Agreement.

- 31. TENANTS INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS: Tenants shall maintain at all times during the Term of this Agreement, at Tenants' sole expense, a standard type of tenant's or Renter's Homeowners insurance policy, or its equivalent, issued by a licensed insurance company. Such policy shall provide limits of liability of (i) ended liability of (i) \$100,000 personal liability, and (ii) the greater of \$10,000 or the full replacement value of Tenants's personal Tenants's personal property, or greater amounts as may be needed as determined by Tenants. If Tenants elects to install elects to install a satellite dish as permitted by this Agreement, Tenants shall maintain public liability and property damage insurance with a single combined liability limit of \$100,000.00 and property damage occurring of not less than \$50,000.00 insuring against claims for bodily injury, death or property damage occurring from the installation from the installation, maintenance, operation and/or removal of the satellite dish. The policy shall name Owner as an additional insured. Tenants shall provide Owner with proof of such insurance to Owner's satisfaction before satisfaction before any satellite dish is installed. To the greatest extent allowed by law, Tenants hereby (a) releases Owner and Owner's Related Parties from any and all claims for damages or loss to Tenants' personal property (including any deductible and including loss caused by earthquake or other insurable event) and from any and all claims for personal liability, damages or loss in, on or about the Premises that are caused by or result from risks that are or would be insured under Tenants' insurance coverage, including, but not limited to, damage or loss caused by fire, theft, rain, water overflows and leakage, and (b) waives any and all rights of recovery and rights of subrogation against Owner in connection with any damage, claim or loss that is or would be covered by Tenants' insurance coverage.
  - 32. PARKING. Tenants shall have the right to park one (1) vehicles in designated parking spaces on the Premises. Parking is for licensed, operational vehicles only. Unauthorized vehicles, inoperative vehicles and improperly parked vehicles will be towed away at owner's expense. Tenants shall not store any personal property of any type other than authorized vehicles within the parking spaces.
  - 33. REGISTERED SEX OFFENDER DISCLOSURE NOTICE: The following notice is provided pursuant to Section 2079.10a of the California Civil Code. Notice: The California Department of Justice, sheriff's departments, police departments serving jurisdictions of 200,000 or more, and many other local law enforcement authorities, maintain for public access a data base of the locations of persons required to register pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 290.4 of the Penal Code. The database is updated on a quarterly basis and a source of information about the presence of these individuals in any neighborhood. The Department of Justice also maintains a Sex Offender Identification Line through which inquiries about individuals may be made. This is a "900" telephone service. Callers must have specific information about individuals they are checking. Information regarding neighborhoods is not available through the "900" telephone service.
    - 34. LEAD-BASED PAINT AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES: The Tenants are notified that building which house the Premises was constructed prior to 1978 and may contain traces of residue of lead based paint and other toxic substances commonly used in construction prior to that date. The Tenants are occupying premises at their own risk and the Owner assumes no responsibility for any health and/or emotional issues that a Tenant may develop as a consequence of living on the Premises.
    - 35. MOLD AND MILDEW: The possibility of hazards to health caused by mold and mildew has been ordered to be studied by the State Legislature. Mold and mildew can accumulate where there is excess moisture, inadequate ventilation and inadequate cleanliness. The Tenants acknowledge that, a) the Tenants have inspected the premises, and every part thereof; b) the Tenants have found no signs of mold or mildew; c) the Tenants shall keep the Premises clean, dry and well ventilated. The Tenants agree to promptly notify the Owner in writing of any dampness from leaks, overflows and any other water intrusion and of any malfunctions in the ventilation or heating systems. The Tenants shall be

liable for any injuries or damages that may result from any negligent performance of the foregoing

36. MODIFICATION AND LEGAL VALIDITY: Provisions in this Agreement are subject to modification only if modification is in writing. Where any provision of this Agreement is subject to different interpretations, one that would render the provision legal and enforceable and another that would render the provision illegal and unenforceable, the provision shall be interpreted in a manner that makes it legal and enforceable. Total or partial invalidity of one or more provisions of this Agreement shall not render the remainder of it invalid or unenforceable. No oral agreements have been entered into. Should any provision of this Agreement be or become in violation of the laws of the State of California, or any valid local ordinance, this Agreement shall be deemed automatically amended to be in compliance with such laws. In all instances where this Agreement gives the Owner discretion to consent or refuse to consent to some action or inaction, except where otherwise noted, the Owner may withhold such consent arbitrarily and unreasonably.

- 37. MATERIAL COVENANTS: Each covenant of this Agreement is material and violation in any respect shall be cause for termination of tenancy and eviction. Time is of the essence of this Agreement and each provision herein. Words used in the singular shall include the plural where the context requires and vice versa. All rights, powers, options and remedies given or granted to the Owner by this Agreement, or by law, are cumulative and no one of them is exclusive of the other.
- 38. NOTICES IN WRITING: The Owner shall not be considered notified of any condition until and unless the matter is reported in writing. If the Tenants allow any condition to continue on the Premises without notifying the Owner in writing, and damage is caused to the property because of that failure to report, then the Tenants may be held responsible for any injury and damage caused.
- 39. WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL: Recognizing that Jury Trials are both time consuming and expensive, the Owner and the Tenants hereby waive their right to a trial by jury on any matter arising out of this Agreement, or the use or the occupancy of the Premises herein.
- 40. ATTORNEYS' FEES: Except as provided for in Section 26 above, if a legal action is brought by either party to enforce any part of this Agreement, each party shall be responsible for their own attorney's fees and court costs.
- 41. WAIVER: A waiver of one provision of this agreement is not a waiver of any other provision of this agreement and a waiver of one act in violation of a provision of this Agreement is not a waiver of future acts in violation of that provision. Any permanent waivers must be signed and in writing by the Owner.
- 42. INTERPRETATION: Headings at the beginning of each section are solely for the convenience of the parties and are not a part of and shall not be used to interpret this Agreement. The singular form shall include the plural, and vice versa. In the event of any conflict between the terms and provisions of this Agreement and applicable California law, California law shall control, unless waived herein. If any provision of this Agreement, or its application to any person, place or circumstance, is held by an arbitrator or court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, unenforceable, or void, such provision shall be enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law, and the remainder of this Agreement and such provision(s), as applied to other persons, places and circumstances, shall remain in full force and effect.
- 43. ENTIRE AGREEMENT: This document, including all documents listed as Associated Documents, shall constitute the entire Agreement between the parties. Any breach of this Agreement will be considered a substantial breach of a material condition. This Agreement supersedes any and all oral or written representations or agreements that may have been made by either party prior to or on the date



Owner and Tenants execute this Agreement. Any modifications to this Agreement must be in writing signed by the Owner and the Tenants. The failure of the Tenants or their guests or invitees to comply with any term of this Agreement is grounds for termination of the tenancy.

44. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS: The following documents have been provided to the Tenants and their provisions are incorporated as part of this Agreement:

- a Lease Addendum
- b. Mold Addendum to Lease
- e Bedbug Addendum
- d. Lead Based Paint and Lead Based Paint Hazarda Disclosure
- e. Megan's Law Data Base Disclosure
- f. Condo Mile Plan
- g Disclosure Source Homeowner's Information Guides Booklet

### [SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

TENANT CERTIFICATION AND AGREEMENT: I, the undersigned Tenant, do hereby certify that I have read, understood, and agreed to abide by this Agreement and the incorporated Associated Documents.

Jun 23 2017 Date Jan 23 2017 Date 1/30/17

Tenant

Date

000098

Owner

11.

### Lease Addendum for 1534 Filbert Street, Oakland, CA, 94607

- 1. The Tenants shall be responsible for the monthly testing of all smoke alarms and CO detectors in their premises.
- 2. The Tenants shall not undertake to replace the batteries in any of the hard-wired smoke alarms nor to replace light bulbs in any of the overhead ceiling fixtures. Upon notification, the Owner will make any replacements as needed in a timely manner.
- The Tenants shall be responsible for the cost and installation of replacement filters for the furnace and for the kitchen drinking water faucet.
- 4. No waterbeds or other water-filled furniture shall be kept on the Premises
- 5. The free-standing appliances provided are stove, refrigerator, washer, and dryer.
- 6. The Tenants shall make use of the water-saving recirculating system when using hot water.
- The exterior common area gates, stairways, sidewalks, yard, and landscaped areas shall not be obstructed in any way. There shall be no ongoing storage of any materials in the exterior common areas.
- 8. The Tenants are required to have the carpets of the Premises professionally cleaned upon move out. The Tenants must provide to the Owner a receipt to verify that this was done. The Tenants' failure to have the carpets cleaned will result in a partial loss of the Security Deposit to cover the Owner's cost of doing so. Professional cleaning does not include the Tenants renting a machine and cleaning the carpets themselves.
- The Tenants shall not commit any waste, create a nuisance, or conduct any activity on the Premises that is in violation of any ordinance, code, statute or law of any governmental organization or permit such acts to occur.
- 10. All occupants of the buildings adjacent to the Premises shall be entitled to quiet enjoyment of the premises. The Tenants and their guests and invitees shall not use the Premises in such a way as to annoy, disturb, inconvenience or interfere with the quiet enjoyment and peace and safety of any occupants, neighbors or others with a right to be on the Premises. Musical instruments, stereos, radios, computers, or television sets or any other types of audio devices shall not be operated in a manner that might disturb other occupants.
- 11. In the event that the Premises are offered for sale during their occupancy the Tenants agree to complete an estoppel certificate in the form provided by Owner within ten (10) business days of the request of the Owner.
- 12. Rent checks are to be made out to Arun Gupta.
- 13. No pets.
- 14. You can hang and decorate as you see fit, but if anything breaks or repairs are needed that will come out of the deposit. Unless of course, you handle it.
- 15. Tenants are allowed one additional roommate if the following requirements are met: 2 months' notice is given to Owner, vetted by owner: roommate is added to the lease.

Jun 23 2017 Date 2017 Date Tenan Tenant 1/30/17



# EXHIBIT B

# BORNSTEINLAW

Daniel Marc Bornstein

Kathryn Quetel Daniel H. Cheung Liana Ayrapetyan

#### **IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUIRED**

August 2, 2021

Nan Eastep Chris Tuttle Kai Leshne Dexter Harris 1534 Filbert Street Oakland CA 94607

#### RE: 1534 Filbert Street, Oakland CA

Dear Ms. Eastep, Mr. Tuttle, Mr. Leshne, Mr. Harris:

I have been retained by the owner of the above-referenced property, Mr. Arun Gupta, to ensure your understanding and compliance with the attached Lease/Rental Agreement. Be advised, despite Ms. Eastep and Mr. Tuttle no longer being in privity of estate with Mr. Gupta, the lease remains in effect. Until a complete vacancy arises wherein the premises is left vacant, free of all occupants, the operative lease agreement is the one attached.

There is one exception: on April 20, 2021, my client agreed to accept \$2,840.00 as full payment towards monthly rent. Accordingly, for the duration of your occupancy and/or until Mr. Gupta and/or his successor(s) in interest takes steps to reimpose the contract lease rent, you rent each month shall be \$2,840.00

At this time, Mr. Gupta has received only \$1,750.00 for the July, 2021 rent, leaving a balance in the amount of \$ 1,090.00. Also, for August, 2021, Mr. Gupta has only received \$900.00, leaving a balance due and owing of \$1,940.00. In total, as of August 2, 2021, you owe \$3,030.00 in unpaid rent. My client will vigorously enforce his rights to timely receive all rent due and owing. On or before August 10, 2021, please kindly forward the remaining balance to him. Payment of this current debt will obviate the need to further pursue legal means to secure the funds.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and cooperation with this request.

incerely

# EXHIBIT C

# Sublease Agreement Form

This sublet agreement is for tenancy at 1534 Filbert Street, Oakland CA 94607. All initials signify agreement to the respective question. The final signature requires the uploading an image of Subtenant's signature. Submission constitutes a legal agreement between the Master Tenant and the Subtenant. Nan Eastep's email is <u>naneastep@gmail.com</u>. Phone number is 510-435-3890.

Names of the Parties to the agreement

This sublet agreement is between Master Tenant Nancy "Nan" Eastep and Subtenant (add your full legal name):

Kai Leshne

Dates of sublet

I understand and agree to the dates of my tenancy as beginning on May 1, 2021 and ending on July 31, 2021 (please initial).

KL

The rent amount per month is \$900 and will be paid by the second day of each of the months of May, June and July 2021 via Venmo to @Nan-Eastep (please initial).

KL

Security deposit and care of premises

1/3

No security deposit will be necessary. As Subtenant, I agree to examine the premises, including all fixtures and furnishings, and either acknowledge that they are in good condition and repair, and accept them in its current condition or email Master Tenant of any issues, including pictures of damaged items or surfaces. At the end of the term of the sublet, I agree to surrender and deliver possession of the Premises to the Master Tenant, including all appliances and fixtures and furnishings in as good a condition as they were at the commencement of the term, reasonable wear and tear excepted. As Subtenant, I agree that I will be liable to Master Tenant for any damage occurring to the premises and any damage to or loss of the contents thereof which are done by myself or my guests. (Please initial.)

KL

#### Furnishings

The room I will be occupying during the sublet is in northeast corner of the upstairs flat of the duplex, is fully furnished with a nightstand, a dresser, a rug and a bed that is (choose size):

KingQueenFull

Guests, pets, smoking and use of drugs and alcohol

As Subtenant, I agree to be the sole occupant of the room I am renting. I agree that any guests I have will not stay for more that 20 hours unless prior permission (minimum of 24 hours notice) is granted by the Master Tenant. I agree not to house a pet on the premises. I agree not to smoke on the property. I understand that moderate use of mood altering substances is allowed, but that substance abuse is not tolerated and will constitute the immediate termination of the sublet. (Please initial.)

KL

I understand and have been informed by the Master Tenant that the information in this form will be made available to the Landlord, Arun Gupta prior to May 1, 2021. I agree that I have been given his contact email, <u>1534filbert@gmail.com</u>, to have in the event of an emergency, or unresolvable legal issue or dispute during the term of my sublet. (Please initial.)

KL

#### Date and signature

I agree that in adding the date and my name to the signature section below constitutes my agreement to the terms of this sublet. (Please date and sign by uploading an image of your signature.)

Kai Leshne, 4/15/2021

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.



# EXHIBIT D

#### Notice of New Owner/Agent (California Civil Code Section 1962)

To: Kai Leshne

Resident(s) (tenants and subtenants) in possession and all others in possession of the premises designated by the number and street as

1534 Filbert Street, Oakland, California, 94607.

- Effective immediately, <u>Cedric Meriau and Heather White</u>, telephone number <u>415-361-1311</u>, shall be the Owner/Agent of unit in which you reside, listed above.
- Rent is due in advance on <u>1st</u> day of each and every month, at \$2,840.00 per month, with the January 2022 rent prorated for 21 days in the amount of \$1,923.81, payable to <u>Cedric Meriau</u> at <u>1536 Filbert St</u>, <u>Oakland CA 94607</u>.
- 3. Payments may be made in the form of personal check, cashier's check, or money order. Payments made in person may be delivered to Agent between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday to Friday. Your rent check may also be mailed to <u>Cedric Meriau and Heather White</u> at <u>1536 Filbert St</u>, <u>Oakland</u> <u>CA 94607</u>. If rent is mailed, rent must be mailed so that it is received on or before the due date and Kai Leshne bears the risk of loss in the mail.
- Owner/Agent is also the agent for service of process and for the purpose of receiving and receipting for all notices and demands, unless you are notified otherwise by Owner/Agent.

1-12-22 Date

1-12-22

Date

By Cedric Meriau



## **Notice of Tenant Protection Ordinance**

(O.M.C. 8.22.600 et seq.)

On November 5, 2014, the Oakland City Council adopted the Tenant Protection Ordinance (TPO), which prohibits various harassing behaviors against tenants by owners and their agents (for example, property managers and contractors) – thereby bolstering existing laws and leases that protect tenants. The TPO creates remedies that can be enforced by private civil rights of action.

Among other things, the Tenant Protection Ordinance prohibits conduct that may coerce a tenant to vacate a rental unit involuntarily. The following is only a summary of the illegal conduct; for a complete list, you are advised to review the attached copy of the Tenant Protection Ordinance or review Oakland Municipal Code 8.22.600.

Property owners and their agents must not, in bad faith, engage in any of the following conduct:

- 1. Disruption of services to the rental unit.
- 2. Fail to perform repairs and maintenance.
- 3. Fail to exercise due diligence when completing repairs (ex. unreasonable delays) or follow appropriate industry protocol.
- 4. Abuse the owner's right of access to the rental unit.
- 5. Remove personal property, furnishings, or any other items without the prior written consent of the tenant, except when authorized by law.
- 6. Threaten to report a tenant or their known associates to law enforcement based on their perceived or actual immigration status.
- 7. Influence a tenant to vacate through fraud, intimidation, or coercion.
- 8. Offer payments to a tenant to vacate more than once in six (6) months if the tenant has stated in writing that they don't want to receive such offers
- 9. Try to intimidate a tenant into accepting a buyout.

250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 5313 Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 238-3721



## CITY OF OAKLAND



Rent Adjustment Program

- 10. Threaten the tenant or their guests, by word or gesture, with physical harm.
- 11. Interfere with a tenant's right to quiet use and enjoyment of the rental unit.
- 12. Refuse to accept or acknowledge receipt of a tenant's lawful rent payment.
- 13. Refuse to cash a rent check for over thirty (30) days unless a written receipt for payment has been provided to the tenant.
- 14. Interfere with a tenant's right to privacy, including unnecessarily inquiring into a tenant's immigration status.
- 15. Unilaterally impose new material terms of tenancy.
- 16. Remove a housing service for purpose of causing the tenant to vacate.
- 17. Commit violations of certain state laws, including discrimination prohibited under the Unruh Civil Rights Act and illegal lockouts and utility shutoffs prohibited by other laws.
- 18. Misrepresent to a tenant that they are required to vacate their unit.

Note: A tenant who has experienced violations of the Tenant Protection Ordinance may bring a civil action in court against the property owners. Elderly, disabled, and/or catastrophically ill tenants have heightened protections under the TPO. Violators may be held liable for treble (three times) damages, including emotional distress. For violations related to repairs, tenants must first provide <u>fifteen (15) days' notice</u> of violation.

The TPO requires owners to post a notice of the TPO in rental units located in a building with an interior common area. The notice must be placed in at least one such common area in the building using the form prescribed by the City Staff.

If you are experiencing any of the conduct detailed above, you may contact the Rent Adjustment Program for more information, at (510) 238-3721 or rap@oaklandca.gov.

250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 5313 Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 238-3721





#### NOTICE TO TENANTS OF THE RESIDENTIAL RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM

- Oakland has a Rent Adjustment Program ("RAP") that limits rent increases (Chapter 8.22 of the Oakland Municipal Code) and covers most residential rental units built before 1983. For more information on which units are covered, contact the RAP office.
- Starting on February 1, 2017, an owner must petition the RAP for any rent increase that is more than the annual general rent increase ("CPI increase") or allowed "banked" rent increases. These include, but are not limited to, capital improvements and operating expense increases. For these types of rent increases, the owner may raise your rent only after a hearing officer has approved the increase. No annual rent increase may exceed the maximum increase which changes annually with a 10% cap. You have a right to contest the proposed rent increase by responding to the owner's petition.
- **Contesting a Rent Increase:** You can file a petition with the RAP to contest unlawful rent increases or decreased housing services. To contest a rent increase, you must file a petition (1) within ninety (90) days of the notice of rent increase if the owner also provided this Notice to Tenants with the notice of rent increase; or (2) within 120 days of the notice of rent increase if this Notice to Tenants was not given with the notice of rent increase. If the owner did not give this Notice to Tenants at the beginning of your tenancy, you must file a petition within ninety (90) days of first receiving this Notice to Tenants. Information. The petition forms are available from the website at <u>Rent Adjustment Program Petition and Response Forms</u>.
- If you contest a rent increase, you must pay your rent with the contested increase until you file a petition. If the increase is approved and you did not pay the increase, you will owe the amount of the increase retroactive to the effective date of increase.
- Oakland has eviction controls (the Just Cause for Eviction Ordinance and Regulations, O.M.C. 8.22) which limit the grounds for evictions in covered units. For more information contact the RAP office.
- Oakland charges owners a Rent Program Service Fee per unit per year. If the fee is paid on time, the owner is entitled to get half of the fee from you. Tenants in subsidized units are not required to pay the tenant portion of the fee.
- Oakland has a Tenant Protection Ordinance ("TPO") to deter harassing behaviors by landlords and to give tenants legal recourse in instances where they are subjected to harassing behavior by landlords (O.M.C. 8.22.600).
- The owner \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ is not permitted to set the initial rent on this unit without limitations (such as pursuant to the Costa-Hawkins Act). If the owner is not permitted to set the initial rent without limitation, the rent in effect when the prior tenant vacated was \_\_\_\_\_\_.

#### TENANTS' SMOKING POLICY DISCLOSURE

- Smoking (circle one) IS or IS 1 permitted in Unit 1534 Filbert, the unit you intend to rent.
- Smoking (circle one) IS or IS (0) permitted in other units of your building. (If both smoking and non-smoking units exist in tenant's building, attach a list of units in which smoking is permitted.)
- There (circle one) IS or IS (O) a designated outdoor smoking area. It is located at \_\_\_\_\_\_.

I received a copy of this notice on \_\_\_\_\_\_(Date) (Tenant's signature)

此份屋崙 (奧克蘭) 市租客權利通知書附有中文版本。請致電 (510) 238-3721 索取副本。 La Notificación del Derecho del Inquilino está disponible en español. Si desea una copia, llame al (510) 238-3721.





#### AVISO A LOS INQUILINOS DEL RESIDENTIAL RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM

- Oakland tiene un Programa de Ajustes en el Alquiler ("RAP") que limita los aumentos en el alquiler (Capítulo 8.22 del Código Municipal de Oakland) y cubre a la mayoría de las unidades residenciales en alquiler construidas antes de 1983. Para obtener más información sobre las viviendas cubiertas, contacte a la oficina del RAP.
- A partir del 1.º de febrero de 2017, un propietario debe presentar una petición ante el RAP para todo aumento en el alquiler que sea mayor que el aumento general anual en el alquiler ("aumento CPI") o para todo aumento del alquiler "guardado" que esté permitido. Estos incluyen, entre otros, mejoras de capital y aumentos en los gastos operativos. En lo que respecta a este tipo de aumentos, el propietario puede aumentar su alquiler sólo después de que un funcionario de audiencia haya autorizado el incremento. Ningún aumento anual en el alquiler podrá exceder el aumento máximo que cambia de manera anual con un 10 % de capitalización. Usted tiene derecho a disputar el aumento en el alquiler propuesto respondiendo a la petición del propietario.
- Cómo disputar un aumento en el alquiler: Puede presentar una petición ante el RAP para disputar aumentos ilícitos en el alquiler o la disminución de servicios en la vivienda. Para disputar el aumento en el alquiler, debe presentar una petición (1) en un plazo de (90) días a partir de la fecha del aviso de aumento en el alquiler si el propietario también proporcionó este Aviso a los Inquilinos con la notificación del aumento en el alquiler; o (2) en un plazo de 120 días a partir de la fecha de recepción del aviso de aumento en el alquiler si este Aviso a los Inquilinos no fue entregado con la notificación de aumento en el alquiler. Si el propietario no entregó este Aviso a los Inquilinos al inicio del periodo de arrendamiento, usted deberá presentar una solicitud en un plazo de (90) días a partir de la fecha en que recibió por primera vez este Aviso a los Inquilinos. Información. Encontrará los formularios de petición disponibles en el sitio web, donde dice <u>Rent Adjustment Program Petition and Response Forms</u> "Formularios de Petición y Respuesta del Programa de Ajustes en el Alquiler".
- Si usted disputa un aumento en el alquiler, debe pagar su alquiler con el aumento disputado hasta que presente la petición. Si el aumento es aprobado y usted no lo pagó, adeudará la suma del incremento retroactivo a la fecha de inicio de vigencia del aumento.
- Oakland tiene controles de desalojo (Ordenanza y Reglamentos de Desalojo por Causa Justa, O.M.C. 8.22) que limitan los motivos de desalojo en las viviendas cubiertas. Para obtener más información contacte a la oficina RAP.
- Oakland cobra a los propietarios una Tarifa de Servicio del Programa de Ajustes en el Alquiler por vivienda al año. Si la tarifa se paga a tiempo, el propietario tiene derecho a cobrar la mitad del costo de esta tarifa al inquilino. No se requiere que los inquilinos de viviendas subsidiadas paguen la parte de la tarifa que correspondería al inquilino.
- Oakland posee una Ordenanza de Protección al Inquilino (Tenant Protection Ordinance ,"TPO") para impedir el comportamiento abusivo por parte de los propietarios y para ofrecer a los inquilinos recursos legales en instancias donde hayan sido víctimas de comportamiento abusivo por parte de los propietarios (O.M.C. 8.22.600).
- El propietario \_\_\_\_\_\_ tiene \_\_\_\_\_ no tiene permitido establecer el alquiler inicial de esta unidad sin limitaciones (por ejemplo, de conformidad con la Ley Costa-Hawkins). Si el propietario no tiene permitido establecer el alquiler inicial sin limitaciones, el alquiler vigente cuando el inquilino anterior desalojó la vivienda era de \_\_\_\_\_\_.

#### INFORMACIÓN PARA LOS INQUILINOS SOBRE LAS POLÍTICAS PARA FUMADORES

Fumar (encierre en un círculo) ESTÁ o NO ESTÁ permitido en la Unidad \_\_\_\_\_\_, la unidad que





usted pretende alquilar.

- Fumar (encierre en un círculo) ESTÁ o NO ESTÁ permitido en otras unidades de su edificio. (Si hay disponibilidad de ambas unidades, para fumadores y no fumadores, en el edificio del inquilino, adjunte una lista de las unidades en donde se permite fumar).
- (Encierre en un círculo) HAY o NO HAY un área designada al aire libre para fumar. Se encuentra en

Recibí una copia de este aviso el \_

(Fecha)

(Firma del inquilino)

此份屋崙 (奧克蘭) 市租客權利通知書附有中文版本。請致電 (510) 238-3721 索取副本。 La Notificación del Derecho del Inquilino está disponible en español. Si desea una copia, llame al (510) 238-3721.



第1頁|共2頁

000113

#### 住宅租金調整計劃的租客通知書

- 屋崙 (奧克蘭)市的租金調整分部 (RAP) 旨在限制租金調漲 (屋崙 (奧克蘭)市政法規 8.22 章) · 且主要是針對建於 1983 年以前大多數的出租住宅單位。若要了解哪些單位在本計劃限制範圍內 · 請聯絡 RAP 辦事處。
- 從2017年2月1日起,如果租金調漲幅度超出一般租金年漲幅(「CPI 漲幅」)或允許的「調整存放」漲幅,業主就必須向 RAP 陳情。調漲原因可包括但不限於固定資產整修和營運支出增加。對於這些類型的租金調漲方案,業主必須在聽證官同意調漲後才能提高您的租金。任何租金年漲幅不得超過每年最變動且最多10%的漲幅。如果不同意建議的租金調幅,您有權對業主的陳情提出抗辯。
- 對租金調漲提出抗辯:您可以租金調漲違法或者住房服務縮為由,向 RAP 陳情抗辯。如果您要對租金調漲提出抗辩,(1) 且業主隨同這份「租客通知」一併提供租金調漲通知,則您必須在收到租金調漲通知後九十(90) 天內提出陳情;(2) 但業主未隨這份「租客通知」提供租金調漲通知,則您必須在收到租金調整通知後的 120 天內提出陳情。如果業主在租期一開始時沒有提供這份租客通知,您就必須在第一次收到這份租客通知後的九十(90) 天內提出請願。若需要請願書表格,可上網站 Rent Adjustment Program Petition and Response Forms (租金調整分部請願書和回應表格) 取得。
- 如果您對租金調漲有異議,在提出陳情之前,您仍必須支付所要抗辯的調漲租金。若調漲金額獲 准但您並未支付,您將積欠從調漲生效日期算起的調漲金額。
- 屋崙 (奧克蘭)市的驅逐管制規則 (屋崙 (奧克蘭)市政法規 8.22 中的「驅逐正當理由」)對所管制單位的驅逐理由設有限制。若要瞭解更多資訊,請聯絡 RAP 辦公室。
- 屋崙 (奧克蘭) 市政府每年會向業主收取每個出租單位的「租金分部服務費」(Rent Program Service Fee)。若業主準時支付這筆費用,就有權向您收取一半費用。受補助單位的租客無需支付該費用的租客部分。
- 屋崙 (奧克蘭) 市的租客保護法令 (Tenant Protection Ordinance, TPO) 旨在遏阻房東的騷擾行為,並 且在租客受房東騷擾的情況下賦予租客法律追索權 (屋崙 (奧克蘭) 市政法規 8.22.600)。
- 業主 \_\_\_\_ 得以 \_\_\_\_ 不得對本單位設下毫無限制的起租租金 (例如根據 Costa-Hawkins 法案規定)。如 果業主不得設下毫無限制的起租租金,則前任房客遷出後生效的租金是 。

#### 針對租客的吸煙政策聲明

- 住房單位 (您有意承租的單位)「允許」或「不允許」吸煙 (圈選一項)。
- 您所住建築物中的其他單位「允許」或「不允許」吸煙(圈選一項)。(若租客所住的建築物中同時 包含可吸煙和不可吸煙的單位,應附上一張可吸煙單位列表。)



本建築物「有」或「沒有」指定的戶外吸煙區 (圈選一項)。該吸煙區位於

我於\_\_\_\_\_收到本通知書 \_\_\_\_\_(日期) (租客簽名)

本份屋崙 (奧克蘭) 市租客權利通知書附有中文版本。請致電 (510) 238-3721 索取副本。

La Notificación del Derecho del Inquilino está disponible en español. Si desea una copia, llame al (510) 238-3721.

# EXHIBIT E

#### From: kai channels <<u>kai.channels888@gmail.com</u>> Subject: Re: Introduction to new Owners Date: January 23, 2022 at 12:05:02 PM PST To: Heather White <1534@filbert-st.com>

Hello Cedric & Heather,

I was completely unaware that the building had been sold until you messaged me. Attempting to raise my rent in our first interaction was not a good start to our relationship.

Arun Gupta has had a history of snake-like behavior so I wouldn't be surprised if he avoided informing you guys about the situation with this place before getting it off of his hands. My lawyer and I are preparing to take him to court for multiple things that he did during his ownership. The latest thing was him hiring people to clear out the garage without any supervision or my consent. In the process, the people he hired stole multiple items of mine, including my grandmother's ashes.

I am guessing by your attempt to increase my rent immediately that you are unaware of the situation with this property. It might have been wise to consult with me, the occupying tenant of the unit before making the purchase. I am sorry that you guys have gotten caught up with this house.

The rent on my unit, 1534 Filbert st, has been set at \$900/month since July 1st, 2021. Arun accepted & acknowledged every payment of rent from that month through January. I wouldn't be surprised if he didn't even inform you of what the actual rent on my unit has been set at.

I am also assuming by your letter that Arun took the rent I paid for January without informing you. I paid Arun \$900 on January 1st. I also have a security deposit of over \$3000 that has not been refunded.

As you may know by now, I have filed an illegal rent increase with the City of Oakland due to your attempt to raise my rent illegally.

As for the stuff in the garage, and on the deck, I am requesting at least 30 days to clear this stuff properly.

Best, Kai

On Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 3:14 PM Heather White <1534@filbert-st.com> wrote:

Dear Kai,

You may know by now that Arun Gupta has sold 1534-1536 Filbert. As the new owners we wanted to write you personally to introduce ourselves.

We're Cedric and Heather. You'll soon start to see us onsite with our two senior dogs Sparky and Honey (Honey answers mostly to "Moose" -but that's long story, lol). I, Heather, have lived in the East Bay my entire life. My mom grew up locally and my parents, now elderly, brought me permanently as a little girl. I've traveled for school and work, but this has always been home. Cedric is originally from France, fell in love with the San Francisco area years ago and eventually become a citizen here in Oakland at the Paramount Theatre.

We want you to know that we didn't buy this building to be investors, we want it to be our home. We want to work with you to make this a smooth transition, so please see the attached letter with information on how to pay the rent, etc.

We do need to ask you to please not leave anything in any of the common areas or on/in the garage. This means basically anywhere that is outside of the 1534 unit. In particular, this also includes the area above the garage, which has furniture set up on it like a deck. We know that Arun asked all the tenants to remove those personal items, and for safety reasons we need to have that area cleared off. The stairs up to the garage roof is for authorized and necessary rooftop maintenance access only. The garage structure needs repairs that risk damaging anything left inside, so please remove your remaining belongings by the end of January. We expect to start work inside the garage in early February.

We'd also like to replace the faucet on the kitchen sink in the upper unit. Please let us know when there's a good time to do that. Evenings and weekends are best for us. Over the coming weeks we'll be making a few repairs to fences, adding security locks to the gates and security cameras on the gate and downstairs unit doors. As soon as we do that we'll be sure to provide you with a key to both gates.

Please reply by emailing us at <u>1534@Filbert-St.com</u> as soon as you receive this so we know you got it OK. If ever you need to reach us feel free to email any time.

We wish you a happy New Year and look forward to meeting you soon,

Heather & Cedric

See attachment:

# EXHIBIT F



1939 Harrison Street, Suite 460, Oakland, CA 94612 Tel 510-625-0100 625 Market Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105 Tel 415-421-0100 www.friedwilliams.com

> Matthew P. Quiring mquiring@friedwilliams.com Respond to Oakland Office

January 26, 2022

Via Certified, Regular and Electronic Mail Mr. Kai Leshne 1534 Filbert Street Oakland, CA 94607 kai.channels888@gmail.com

Re: Your tenancy

Dear Mr. Leshne,

We are the attorneys for your landlords, Heather White and Cedric Meriau. This letter responds on their behalf to your mail dated January 23, 2022 in response to the new owner notice mailed to you on January 12, 2022. If you are currently represented by an attorney, please forward this letter to them, and please provide me with their contact information for future correspondence.

The purpose of the notice you received was, as stated, to fulfill the requirements for Civil Code Section 1962, following the purchase of the 1534-1536 Filbert Street. The owners obviously disagree that this constitutes any kind of illegal rent increase and are surprised that you would draw that conclusion based on your stated belief that they have been misinformed about the terms of your tenancy.

As you are currently the sole permitted occupant of 1534 Filbert, i.e. the upper unit, the owners were merely conveying the known terms of that unit to you, which is that the rent for that entire upper unit is \$2,840.00 per month, since it appeared from the presence of your personal belongings that you were occupying the entire upper unit. Based on your comments, and the contents of the rent board petition wherein you allege that your rent is \$900 per month, the owners now presume that you are not claiming occupancy of the entire unit, but rather a portion of it.

If so, then this may well be a misunderstanding that can now be resolved. And certainly, as you suggest, if there had been communication prior to the sale, such misunderstanding could have been avoided. However, the owners were unable to have any meaningful communication with you when they met you personally at the property to view the upper unit prior to sale. The music in the unit was turned to a volume that made casual conversation impossible, you expressed hostility to the owners' real estate agent, and then you retreated into the music studio in your closet. From this experience, the owners reasonably inferred that you preferred not to be disturbed.



Mr. Kai Lshne

January 26, 2022 Page 2

If you would rather have this dispute resolved at the rent board, the owners will be happy to participate. However, now that we are in correspondence, that may not be necessary, and we can clear the air right away. Please advise if you are claiming possession of the enter upper unit at \$2,840.00, or only a bedroom at \$900, and we can proceed accordingly.

Regarding the items you are currently storing on the garage roof and inside the garage itself, the owners will agree in good faith to a deadline of February 11, 2022 for you to remove those items, 30 days from the owners' notice to you.

Sincerely,

Fried, Williams & Grice Conner LLP

Matthew P. Quiring Attorney for Owners

Heather White and Cedric Meriau



#### **CITY OF OAKLAND RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM** 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 5313 Oakland, CA 94612-0243

For Rent Adjustment Program date stamp.

CITY OF OAKLAND

Case No. T22-0024

# **PROOF OF SERVICE**

# NOTE: YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SERVE A COPY OF YOUR PETITION OR RESPONSE (PLUS ANY ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS) ON THE OPPOSING PARTIES.

- Use this PROOF OF SERVICE form to indicate the date and manner in which service took place, as well as the person(s) served.
- Provide a <u>copy</u> of this PROOF OF SERVICE form to the opposing parties together with the document(s) served.
- File the completed PROOF OF SERVICE form with the Rent Adjustment Program together with the document you are filing and any attachments you are serving.
- Please number sequentially all additional documents provided to the RAP.

(510) 238-3721 CA Relay Service 711

www.oaklandca.gov/RAP

# PETITIONS FILED WITHOUT A PROOF OF SERVICE WILL BE CONSIDERED INCOMPLETE AND MAY BE DISMISSED.

I served a copy of:

Respondent's Submission of Evidence

(insert name of document served) And Additional Documents

and (*write number of attached pages*) <u>39</u> attached pages (*not counting the Petition or Response served or the Proof of Service*) to each opposing party, whose name(s) and address(es) are listed below, by one of the following means (*check one*):

- a. United States mail. I enclosed the document(s) in a sealed envelope or package addressed to the person(s) listed below and at the address(es) below and deposited the sealed envelope with the United States Postal Service, with the postage fully prepaid.
- b. Deposited it with a commercial carrier, using a service at least as expeditious as first class mail, with all postage or charges fully prepaid, addressed to each opposing party as listed below.
- □ c. Personal Service. (1) By Hand Delivery: I personally delivered the document(s) to the person(s) at the address(es) listed below; or (2) I left the document(s) at the address(es) with some person not younger than 18 years of age.

#### PERSON(S) SERVED:

Name	Kai Leshne	
Address 1534 Filbert Street		
City, State, Zip	Oakland, CA 94607	

City of Oakland Rent Adjustment Program Proof of Service Form 10.21.2020 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and the documents were served on  $\frac{4}{13}/2022$  (insert date served).

Marena Perez-Ratto PRINT YOUR NAME

Marena Perez-Ratto SIGNATURE

4/13/2022

DATE



DALZIEL BUILDING • 250 FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA, SUITE 5313 • OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612-2034

Housing and Community Development Department Rent Adjustment Program TEL (510) 238-3721 FAX (510) 238-6181 CA Relay Service 711

### **ORDER OF DISMISSAL**

CASE NOMBER. 122-0024, Lesine V. Meriau	CASE NUMBER:	T22-0024, Leshne v. Meriau
---	--------------	----------------------------

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1534 Filbert St., Oakland, CA

**PARTIES:** 

Kai Leshne, Tenant Cedric Meriau, Owner Heather White, Owner Angie Sandoval, Owner Representative

## **Background**

The parties in this case agreed to participate in a mediation.

On March 16, 2022, a Notice of Remote Mediation/Hearing and a Zoom Invitation for RAP Mediation were served on the parties, with a proof of service, setting the mediation for April 20, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., and, in the event the mediation is not successful, a hearing date was set for April 27, 2022.

The Notice of Remote Mediation/Hearing states as follows:

#### Failure to Appear for Mediation

If the petitioner fails to appear at the Mediation, the Hearing Officer may either conduct an immediate Hearing and render a decision without the participation of the petitioner or dismiss the petition.

No notices were returned to the Rent Adjustment Program (RAP) office as undeliverable.

The mediation came on regularly on April 20, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., as scheduled. The owners and owners' representative promptly appeared. The tenant petitioner did not appear.

The Hearing Officer waited until 10:25 am for the petitioner to appear. The petitioner did not appear, did not contact the RAP office, and did not submit any written request for postponement.

## **Dismissal**

As set forth in the Notice of Remote Mediation/Hearing, the Hearing Officer can dismiss the petition for the petitioner's failure to appear at the Mediation.

In addition, the RAP Regulations also state that, if a petitioner fails to appear at a properly noticed mediation, the Hearing Officer may, in the Hearing Officer's discretion, dismiss the case.<sup>1</sup>

Due to the tenant petitioner's failure to appear at the Mediation, the tenant petition is hereby dismissed.

## **ORDER**

1. The tenant's petition T22-0024 is dismissed.

2. The Hearing scheduled for April 27, 2022, is cancelled.

<u>Right to Appeal</u>: This is the final decision of the Rent Adjustment Program. Either party may appeal by filing a completed RAP appeal form that must be received within 20 days after service of the decision. The date of service is shown on the attached Proof of Service.

Dated: April 20, 2022

Linda Moroz

Linda M. Moroz Hearing Officer Rent Adjustment Program

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> RAP Regulations §8.22.100(B)(2)(e)(i)

## **PROOF OF SERVICE BY ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Case: T22-0024, Leshne v. Meriau

I, the undersigned, state that I am a citizen of the United States and am employed in the City of Oakland and County of Alameda; that I am over the age of eighteen (18) years and not a party to the within cause; and that my business address is Rent Adjustment Program, 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 5313, Oakland, California 94612. My electronic service address is: <u>blothlen@oaklandca.gov</u>.

Today, I electronically served the following: **Order of Dismissal** 

I electronically served the document(s) listed above to: Kai Leshne <u>kaiod.management@gmail.com</u> Cedric Meriau <u>1534@filbert-st.com</u> Matthew Quiring <u>mquiring@friedwilliams.com</u> Angie Sandoval <u>asandoval@friedwilliams.com</u> Marena Perez-Ratto <u>mperez@friedwilliams.com</u>

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date: April 22, 2022

Brittni Lothlen

Brittni Lothlen Legal Administrative Assistant Oakland Rent Adjustment Program



## CITY OF OAKLAND RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 5313

Oakland, CA 94612-0243 (510) 238-3721 CA Relay Service 711 www.oaklandca.gov/RAP



# APPEAL

Appellant's Name			
Kai Leshne	🗆 Owner 🛛 Tenant		
Property Address (Include Unit Number)			
1534 Filbert St, Oakland CA 94607			
Appellant's Mailing Address (For receipt of notices)	Case Number		
	T22-0024		
1534 Filbert St, Oakland CA 94607	Date of Decision appealed		
	April 20, 2022		
Name of Representative (if any)	Representative's Mailing Address (For notices)		
DUANE DEJOIE	P.O. Box 231005 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523		

Please select your ground(s) for appeal from the list below. As part of the appeal, an explanation must be provided responding to each ground for which you are appealing. Each ground for appeal listed below includes directions as to what should be included in the explanation.

1) There are math/clerical errors that require the Hearing Decision to be updated. (Please clearly explain the math/clerical errors.)

2) Appealing the decision for one of the grounds below (required):

- a) The decision is inconsistent with OMC Chapter 8.22, Rent Board Regulations, or prior decisions of the Board. (In your explanation, you must identify the Ordinance section, Regulation or prior Board decision(s) and describe how the description is inconsistent.)
- b) The decision is inconsistent with decisions issued by other Hearing Officers. (In your explanation, you must identify the prior inconsistent decision and explain how the decision is inconsistent.)
- c) The decision raises a new policy issue that has not been decided by the Board. (In your explanation, you must provide a detailed statement of the issue and why the issue should be decided in your favor.)
- d) The decision violates federal, state, or local law. (In your explanation, you must provide a detailed statement as to what law is violated.)

- f) I was denied a sufficient opportunity to present my claim or respond to the petitioner's claim. (In your explanation, you must describe how you were denied the chance to defend your claims and what evidence you would have presented. Note that a hearing is not required in every case. Staff may issue a decision without a hearing if sufficient facts to make the decision are not in dispute.)
- **g) D** The decision denies the Owner a fair return on the Owner's investment. (You may appeal on this ground only when your underlying petition was based on a fair return claim. You must specifically state why you have been denied a fair return and attach the calculations supporting your claim.)
- h) Other. (In your explanation, you must attach a detailed explanation of your grounds for appeal.)

Supporting documents (in addition to this form) must *not* exceed 25 pages, and must be received by the Rent Adjustment Program, along with a proof of service on the opposing party, within 15 days of the filing of this document. Only the first 25 pages of submissions from each party will be considered by the Board, subject to Regulations 8.22.010(A)(4). *Please number attached pages consecutively. Number of pages attached:* <u>\_25</u>.

• You must serve a copy of your appeal on the opposing parties, or your appeal may be dismissed. • I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that on <u>May 6th</u>, 20 <u>22</u>, I placed a copy of this form, and all attached pages, in the United States mail or deposited it with a commercial carrier, using a service at least as expeditious as first-class mail, with all postage or charges fully prepaid, addressed to each opposing party as follows:

Cedric Merieau	
1536 Filbert St	
Oakland, CA 94607	
	1536 Filbert St

9/11 8-1	05/06/2022
pu derhe	

SIGNATURE of APPELLANT or DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE

DATE

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

This Appeal must be received by the Rent Adjustment Program, 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 5313, Oakland, California 94612, not later than 5:00 P.M. on the 20th calendar day after the date the decision was mailed to you as shown on the proof of service attached to the decision. If the last day to file is a weekend or holiday, the time to file the document is extended to the next business day.

- Appeals filed late without good cause will be dismissed.
- You must provide all the information required, or your appeal cannot be processed and may be dismissed.
- Any response to the appeal by the responding party must be received by the Rent Adjustment Program, along with a proof of service on appealing party, within 15 days of service of the service of the appeal if the party was personally served. If the responding party was served the appeal by mail, the party must file the response within 20 days of the date the appeal was mailed to them.
- There is no form for the response, but the entire response is limited to 25 pages or less.
- The Board will not consider new claims. All claims, except jurisdictional issues, must have been made in the petition, response, or at the hearing.
- The Board will not consider new evidence at the appeal hearing without specific approval.
- You must sign and date this form or your appeal will not be processed.
- The entire case record is available to the Board, but sections of audio recordings that you want the Board to review must be pre-designated to Rent Adjustment Staff.

KAI LESHNE 1534 FILBERT ST OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94607 TELEPHONE : 707-732-4913 EMAIL : kai.leshne@gmail.com

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM CITY OF OAKLAND CASE NO. : T22-0024

PETITIONER'S APPEAL ; SUBMISSION OF TANGIBLE EVIDENCE

## **APPEAL STATEMENT**

Dear The City Of Oakland

My evidence was never heard. I received no physical correspondence providing notice of the date and time of a mediation or arbitration. Please note the change of mailing address to a more secure post office box, as mail sent to my residence is often misdelivered.

For mailing correspondence, please send to % Duane Dejoie, P.O. Box 231005 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

For email correspondence, please email kai.leshne@gmail.com

Sincerely, Kai Leshne

## SUMMARY OF PETITIONER'S CONTENTIONS

• THAT A NEW OWNER TAKES REAL PROPERTY WITH OBLIGATION TO HONOR PRE-EXISTING RENTAL AGREEMENTS IS WELL ESTABLISHED IN CALIFORNIA LANDLORD-TENANT LAW.

A MONTH-MONTH TENANCY WAS CREATED FOR ENTIRE UNIT AT RATE SET BY PREVIOUS OWNER AS EVIDENCED BY PAYMENTS TENDERED AND ACCEPTED BEGINNING JULY 2021 WHICH AGREEMENT REMAINS EFFECTIVE AND COGNIZABLE.

## SUMMARY OF PETITION BACKGROUND

On May 1st, Kai Leshne ("Petitioner") was added to the pre-existing lease for the premises. Thereafter, upon notice of intention to sell the property, all other previous tenants listed on the lease then in effect vacated the premises, leaving Petitioner as the sole occupant from July 1, 2021 onwards. The Landlord and Petitioner formed an agreement that the petitioner would occupy the entire premises in exchange for a new rental sum of \$900. Petitioner made timely payments at this negotiated amount from July 1st, 2021 through January, 2022. On January 1, 2022, the petitioner tendered his regular monthly rent check to the previous landlord which was accepted and negotiated.

The Respondents took ownership sometime during the month of January, 2022. On January 12, 2022, Respondents presented Petitioner with an unlawful rent increase, failing to acknowledge that Petitioner had already satisfied his rental payment obligation on January 1, 2022, and purported to set a new rental rate of \$2,840 for the petitioner's unit.

## PETITIONER ENTERED INTO A VALID AND ENFORCEABLE NEW CONTRACT WITH LANDLORD

Petitioner asserts that under California law it is well-settled that, as here, when a new owner acquires real property the pre-existing leases are transferred to the new owner.

Formation of a valid and enforceable lease requires no particular words, form, or language to create an oral or written lease. However, the words used must evidence the landlord's and tenant's intent to create a landlord-tenant relationship (which intent is apparent from either the parties' acts or deeds, or the language of a written agreement);

As a contract, a written lease is construed according to the intent of the parties, as gathered from the language of the lease and the performance of the parties under the lease, and in accordance with the rules of interpretation of contracts.

In the case of an oral contract, the terms are construed based on the acts and deeds of the parties in execution of the obligations of the formed contract. In other words, performance of mutual obligations by the parties confirms the existence of the contract the parties intended to create and put into effect.

Here, the intent of the parties to form a new rental agreement for the premises is confirmed by the mutual performance of the parties to the agreement.

To wit, the tenant paid rent to the previous Landlord in sequential and timely performance of his contractual duty. In turn, the Landlord accepted the tendered rental payments also in conformance with the various duties that are attendant to such agreement, including warranty of habitability, ensuring tenant's quiet enjoyment, etc.

To the extent that the parties mutually agree to modify the lease with respect to fully performed lease obligations, such modifications become executed modifications of the lease.

### **CONCLUSION**

Accordingly, Petitioner asserts that when Respondents took ownership of the premises any and all obligations attendant to ownership which were then in effect were transferred to Respondents. Such obligations include but are not limited to honoring the rental agreement that was in place prior to the sale of the property.

## PETITIONER'S PERSONAL STATEMENT + EVIDENCE (EXHIBITS)

Beginning May 1st, 2021 I, Kai Leshne, was on a sub-lease paying \$900 under the previous master tenant, Nan Eastep.

Upon notice of the previous owner's desire to sell the property, the previous master tenant Nan Eastep surrendered her lease at the end of June, 2021. The other subletter, Alexander Harris, moved out shortly after Nan's announcement to us via email on May 19th, 2021. *Exhibit A* 

Thereafter, the previous owner, Arun Gupta, requested my rent to be paid directly to him beginning in the month of July, 2021, establishing a new agreement with me for the entire unit. My tenancy from July 1st onwards is clearly independent of my sub-lease under Nan Eastep's abandoned lease. *Exhibit A*.

I paid the previous owner as requested, \$900 for the entire unit each month from July 1st, 2021 onwards. All of my rental payments for the entire unit were honored and negotiated by the previous owner, in accord with the agreement established July 1, 2021. *Exhibit B* 

On August 27th, 2021 the previous owner, Arun Gupta, attempted to buy me out of my "residential tenancy at 1534 Filbert St., Oakland, CA". The previous owner and I signed a "Move-Out Negotiations Disclosure" form. After going back and forth on terms, I did not accept the previous owner's final buyout terms, which had a proposed move-out date of October 31st, 2021. During the course of these negotiations or in the drafting of the buyout agreement there was no intimation that my "residential tenancy" was of only a portion of the entire unit. The buyout agreement drafted by the previous owner, Arun Gupta, confirms the fact that I occupy the entire unit at 1534 Filbert Street, Oakland, CA. *Exhibit C*.

A transfer of ownership took place on January 12, 2022, which is when I received a notice in the mail from the new owners claiming my rent owed to them totals \$2840 per month, instead of the \$900 per month I had been paying to occupy the entire unit from July 1, 2021 onwards. *Exhibit D*.

I had already paid my \$900 of rent for the month of January, 2022 to the previous owner, Arun Gupta. On January 12, 2021 I filled out a Tenant Estoppel form after being requested to do so by the previous owner's broker, Rachna Bhatnaga, following the sale of the property. *Exhibit E* 

In attempts to remove me from my unit, the new owners and their legal representation have harassed me continuously since purchasing the property. They have attempted to raise my rent by over three times (3x) the amount that I had been paying for the entire unit under the previous owner. They have also sent me several questionable notices, including a complaint regarding noise that I make through the course of daily living such as walking and talking on the phone.

The owners are also harassing me about utilities. Utilities such as gas and electricity were fully covered under my agreement with the previous owner. They seem to be unaware of this fact. Additionally, I have never used an "unreasonable amount" of gas or electricity since moving into my unit last year. *Exhibit F* 

In further attempts to harass and remove me from my unit, the current owners have provided misleading evidence to sway the decision of this hearing. I recently received a large packet from the new owners titled "*Respondent's Submission to Tangible Evidence*". Directly below this paragraph is my response to the "Exhibits" provided within the respondent's submission. My above stated facts, supported by the evidence that I have provided in my own exhibits, nullifies

any attempts from the respondents to connect my previous sub-lease under Nan Eastep to my direct tenancy with Arun Gupta, which commenced July 1st, 2021.

#### **RESPONDENTS SUBMISSIONS**

#### **RESPONDENT'S EXHIBIT A & EXHIBIT C:**

The previous owner, Arun Gupted never provided this tenancy agreement (respondent's Exhibit A) to me. I never received or agreed to this supposed lease's terms through action, verbal agreement, or written agreement. I am assuming that the lease shown in Respondent's Exhibit A was a lease previously held by Chris Tuttle, and Nan Eastep, since these are the tenants listed on the first page of the rental agreement in the section "TENANTS".

The lease agreement (respondent's exhibit A) that the respondent's have submitted, as well as my sub-lease agreement under Nan Eastep (respondent's Exhibit C) is irrelevant to my petition. The irrelevancy of Exhibit C is supported by the fact that Nan Eastep surrendered the premises in the month of June, 2021. The fact that I remained in the unit, and was offered a buyout is itself proof that a new agreement had been made directly with the previous owner, Arun Gupta. In addition to Nan's actions and words, the surrender of Nan's tenancy was clearly acknowledged and accepted by the previous owner, Arun Gupta.

Further evidence of a new and separate agreement for the entire unit having been made with Gupta is found in the proposed buyout agreement from Gupta which, referring to "the residential tenancy of Kai Leshne at 1534 Filbert Street, Oakland, CA ", acknowledges and confirms the existence of of a new and separate agreement between us for the entire unit...

**RESPONDENT'S EXHIBIT B:** The relevance of the letter from Bornstein Law dated August 2, 2021 (respondent's Exhibit B) is questionable, as all tenants listed other than myself had already surrendered the premises prior to the date this letter was sent. What makes this piece of evidence even more puzzling is that I have never lived with or met the person "Chris Tuttle", who is mentioned in this letter (respondent's exhibit A).

**RESPONDENT'S EXHIBIT D:** Exhibit D is proof of the current owner's attempt to illegally adjust my rent.

**RESPONDENT'S EXHIBIT E:** Exhibit E is my response to the owner's first point of contact with me, where I clarified the situation further despite having already stated what I was paying for the entire unit in my Tenant Estoppel requested by the previous owner's property representative (broker), Rachna Bhatnagar.

**RESPONDENT'S EXHIBIT F:** Exhibit F, is an attempt by the current owners to manipulate me into acknowledging a new rental price for my unit. This can be seen as harassment as I already had made clear in both my official tenant estoppel, and my initial email to them that rent on the entire unit is \$900 per month.

Additionally, the notice to remove my items from the garage, and garage roof can be deemed as an unlawful breach of my agreement with the previous owner, wherein I was granted access to all common areas on the property. Common areas include the garage space and the rooftop of the garage, which has acted as a patio/outdoor lounge area on the property since I moved in. This mutual understanding between me and the previous owner can be seen in my own evidence (*Exhibit G*), where the previous owner asked me to mark which belongings in the garage were mine, to further clarify what items belonged to Nan Eastep's before he inspected the unit following Nan's surrender of the premises in June, 2021.

Since purchasing the property, the new owners have continuously harassed me about the garage common space, requesting me to remove all items so that they can do "renovations". I have seen no evidence of renovations or work done on this part of the property. All I have seen is the current owners using the garage space to park and charge their Tesla SUV. Since their initial notice, they have fully taken over this common space by changing the locks on the garage, thus removing my access from the space, and my belongings that are still within.

The evidence provided by the Respondents, and the current owner's position on the rent that I have been paying for my unit since July 1st, 2021 seems to be a matter between the current owner and the previous owner. If the previous owner misrepresented the true rental sum to the current owners, stating that the rent on my unit is \$2840 per month prior to the sale of the property, that is a matter between the previous owner, Arun Gupta, and the new owners. I wish for my illegal rent increase petition, the statements herein, and the evidence that I have provided to be fully acknowledged by the City of Oakland. I also wish for the harassment by the current owners to cease immediately.

Sincerely, Kai Leshne

## **PETITIONER'S EVIDENCE**

## **EXHIBIT A**

### Introductions Inbox \*



nan eastep <naneastep@gmail.com> to Arun, Dexter, me = May 19, 2021, 6:28 PM 🔬 🦘

相

Kai and Dex,

I put in my 30 days notice with Arun Gupta, the landlord at 1534 Filbert Street. He asked that I introduce you to him in an email so he can communicate with you directly.

Arun,

Meet Kai and Dex, the subletters.

You all can take it from here without me.

Peace.

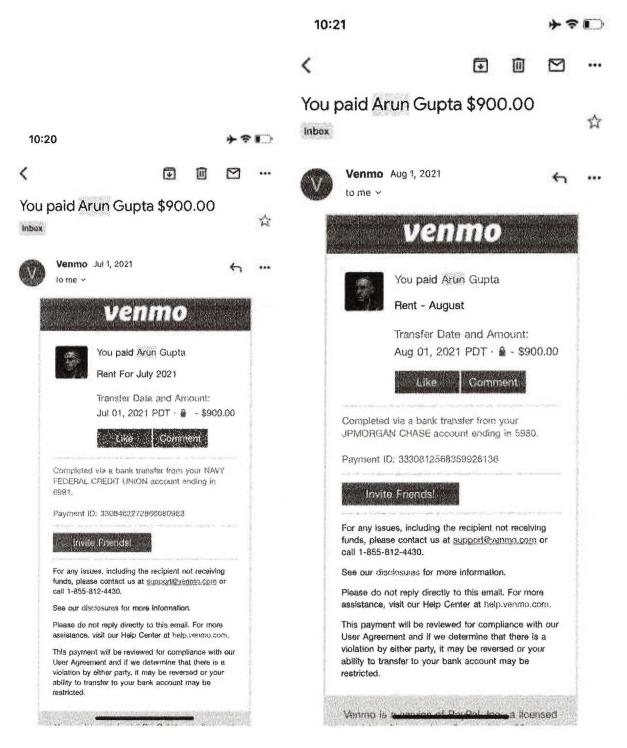
Nan

Nan Eastep

000135

0:23		+ ? P	10:29	
	•		<	• • •
On May 25, 2021, 2:- 				

## **EXHIBIT B**



10:21 · ? [] ٦ 0 2 .... 10:22 You paid Arun Gupta \$900.00 < 会 Inbox Venmo Sep 5, 2021 5 .... to me ~ venmo You paid Arun Gupta Rent - September Transfer Date and Amount: Sep 05, 2021 PDT · 8 - \$900.00 Like Gomment Completed via a bank transfer from your NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION account anding in 8991. Payment ID: 3356531374482784432 Invite Friends! For any issues, including the recipient not receiving funds, please contact us at support@venno.com or call 1-855-812-4430. See our disclosures for more information. Please do not reply directly to this email. For more assistance, visit our Help Center at help.vermo.com. This payment will be reviewed for compliance with our User Agreement and If we determine that there is a

<

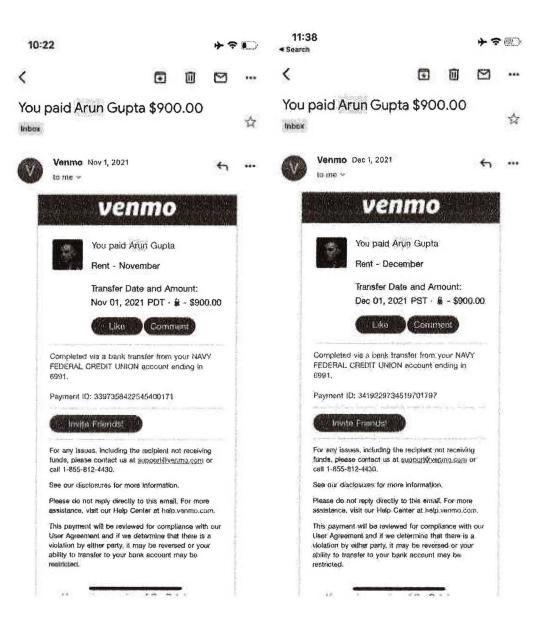
violation by either party, it may be reversed or your ability to transfer to your bank account may be restricted.

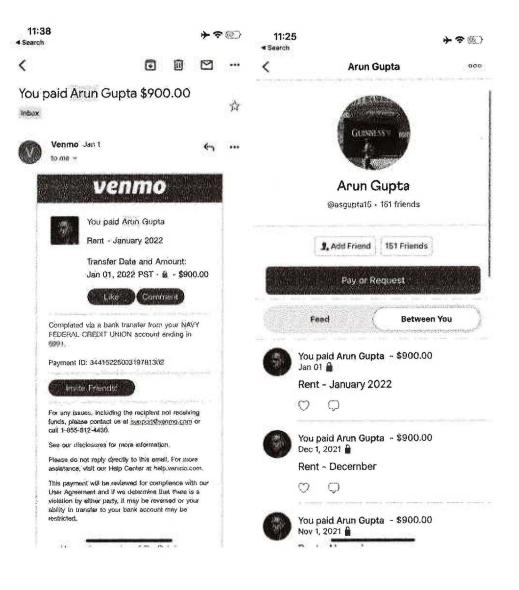
-

S. (\* 1999)

(I) M M .... You paid Arun Gupta \$900.00 公 Inbox Venmo Oct 1, 2021 6 .... to me 🗸 12211110 You paid Arun Gupla Rent - October Transfer Date and Amount: Oct 01, 2021 PDT · இ - \$900.00 Comment Completed via a bank transfer from your NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION account ending in 6991. Payment ID: 3374835150922899597 Invite Friends! For any issues, including the recipient not receiving funds, please contact us at support@verupo.com or call 1-855-812-4430. See our disclosures for more information. Please do not reply directly to this email. For more assistance, visit our Help Center at help venmo.com. This payment will be reviewed for compliance with our User Agreement and if we determine that there is a violation by either party, it may be reversed or your ability to transfer to your bank account may be restricted. 110

-





11:25 Search		**@)				
<	Arun Gupta	000				
	Feed Between Y	ou	11:25 4 Search		+	<b>♥</b> @D
2700			<	Arun Gup	ta	000
	You paid Arun Gupta ~ \$900.00 Dec 1, 2021 🔓		0%800	Feed	Between You	$\supset$
	Rent - December			$\sim \sim$		_
	0 0			You paid Arun Gupta Sep 5, 2021 🚔	- \$900.00	
	You paid Arun Gupta - \$900.00			Rent - September		
	Nov 1, 2021			Q Q		
	Rent - November		-	New second Among Outsta	£000.00	
	0 0			You paid Arun Gupta Aug 1, 2021 🚆	- 2200.00	
			200	Rent - August		
	You paid Arun Gupta - \$900.00 Oct 1, 2021			φ		_
	Rent - October		0	You paid Arun Gupta	- \$900.00	
	O Q		diam'r	Jul 1, 2021 🔒		
-				Rent For July 2021		
	You paid Arun Gupta - \$900.00 Sep 5, 2021 🛔	1		0 Q		
1.252	Rent - September					
	0					
0	You paid Arun Gupta ~ \$900.00 Aug 1, 2021 🔒					
19-20-20	Rent - August					
	0 0					
	-					

## EXHIBIT C



CITY OF OAKLAND RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 5313 Oakland, CA 94612-0243 TEL (510) 238-3721 FAX (510) 238-6181 TDD (510) 238-3254

The following people will be conducting Move Out Negotiations on behalf of the owner. (If the owner is an entity, provide the names of all people within that entity who will be conducting the Move Out Negotiations.)

1.	2.
Print Name	Print Name
3.	4.
Print Name	Print Name

Each tenant must sign this three-page Pre-Move Out Negotiations Disclosure Form below and write the date the owner provided the tenant with the disclosure form as required by TMOO. The owner must also sign and write the date the owner provided the tenant with the disclosure form as required by TMOO. The owner is not required to file a copy of the Disclosure Form with the Rent Adjustment Program. The owner is required to retain a copy of each signed Disclosure Form for five years.

Kai Leshne	Arun Gupta		
Tenant's Name	Owner's Name		
Tenant's Signature 8/27/2021	Owner's Signature 8/27/2021		
Date the owner provided tenant with the disclosure form (Tenant)	Date the owner provided tenant with the disclosure form (Owner)		

For elderly, disabled, or catastrophically ill tenants. Owners who fail to comply with the requirements of Oakland's Tenant Move Out Agreement Ordinance (O.M.C. 8.22.700, et seq.) may be subject to more significant penalties if the tenant is elderly, disabled, or catastrophically ill. As defined in the Ordinance, elderly tenants are sixty (60) years of age or older. Tenants are disabled if they are disabled under Section 12926 of the California Government Code. Tenants are catastrophically ill if they are both disabled under Section 12926 of the California Government Code and suffering from a life threatening illness, as certified by their primary care physician. Do you believe that you are elderly, disabled, or catastrophically ill as those terms are defined above? (initial next to the appropriate line)

Yes No X I don't know Prefer not to say \_\_\_\_\_

Owner Pre-Move Out Negotiation Disclosure Form (rev. 7/2021)

Re: 1534 FILBERT STREET, OAKLAND, CA 94607 ARUN GUPTA, Landlord And KAI LESHNE, Tenant.

#### MOVE OUT AGREEMENT, SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, RELEASE, AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE Voluntary Termination of Single Tenancy

Oakland Municipal Code Article VII of Chapter 8.22

This Move Out Agreement, Settlement Agreement, Release, and Covenant Not to Sue ("Agreement") is entered into by and between <u>Anun Gupta</u> (hereinafter "landlord") and <u>Kai</u>. Leshne (hereinafter "tenant"):

#### DEFINITIONS AND RECITALS

- WHEREAS, the parties wish and hereby intend to resolve any potential disputes between and among the parties which have arisen or may arise regarding the residential tenancy of <u>Kai</u> <u>Leshne</u> at <u>1534 Filbert Street</u>, <u>Oakland</u>, <u>CA 94607</u>, a residential unit owned by landlord (hereinafter "subject premises").
- 2. WHEREAS tenant was residing peacefully at the subject premises and have been residing therein at all times relevant hereto and are in good standing under the operative rental agreement. No eviction notice has been served, and no eviction action has been initiated.
- WHEREAS landlord has been represented by Daniel M. Bornstein of Bornstein Law, 507 Polk Street #310, San Francisco, California 94102, telephone (415) 409-7611 (attorney). Tenant has not been advised by landlord or by attorney.
- 4. WHEREAS, tenant understands that tenant is under no obligation to enter into any settlement agreement and vacate the subject premises, and that tenant is freely entering into this Agreement of tenant's own volition and without coercion. Whereas the parties have asserted claims against each other and/or may have claims against each other, and the bases for said claims have been disputed, continue to be disputed, and denied by the respective party against whom the claims were brought.
- 5. WHEREAS, except that which is specifically excluded herein, the parties to this Agreement wish and hereby intend to resolve, terminate and forever settle all other actual or potential disputes or legal causes of action (known or unknown), which currently exist or may exist between them as a result of any set of facts in existence immediately prior to the execution of this Agreement by said parties and which were or could have been the basis for any legal action, whether in law, equity or otherwise, which could have been commenced prior to the date of execution of this Agreement.
- 6. WHEREAS, the liability for all such claims is denied by all parties, and this final Settlement thereof shall never be treated as an admission of liability or responsibility at any time for any purpose.
- "Party" or "parties" means or refers to any party executing this Agreement, and any of their successors, assigns, heirs, executors, administrators or insurance carriers.

Page 1 of 7

#### MOVE OUT AGREEMENT, SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, RELEASE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE (Voluntary Termination of Tenancy)

- 8. Whenever the singular is used in this Agreement, it includes the plural. Whenever the masculine gender is used, it includes the feminine or neuter gender. Whenever the word "complaint" is used, it includes any and all amended complaints, amendments to complaints, cross-complaints in intervention, amended complaints in intervention, and amendments to complaints in intervention. Whenever the word "lien" is used, it includes any and all liens of any type and kind, including but not limited to any mechanic's lien and those provided by law.
- 9. WHEREAS, tenant desires to negotiate a surrender of possession of the subject premises, freely, voluntarily, without coercion and with full knowledge of his rights under California Law and the Oakland Rent Stabilization and Arbitration Ordinance, and hereby freely, voluntarily, and without coercion, waives those rights, subject to the provisions of paragraph 35, herein.
- 10. For good and valuable consideration, including, but not limited to, payment and/or rent waivers to described herein, tenant <u>Kai Leshne</u> hereby voluntarily surrender possession of and permanently terminates her tenancy and current and future right of occupancy, if any, at the subject premises, <u>1534 Filbert Street</u>, <u>Oakland</u>, <u>CA 94607</u>, no later than 5:00 p.m., <u>October 31<sup>st</sup></u>, <u>2021</u>, leaving the premises in clean condition, free of all occupants, free of all personal possessions, and delivering all keys to landlord or landlord's agents. Upon tenant's timely surrender of subject premises landlord shall deliver one check to <u>Kai Leshne</u>, made payable to <u>Kai Leshne</u> in the amount of <u>fifteen thousand dollars</u> (\$15,000.00). The total payments pursuant to this covenant totals <u>fifteen thousand dollars</u> (\$15,000.00). The parties acknowledge and agree that said payment shall satisfy all payment obligations of landlord as provided by the Oakland Rent Stabilization and Arbitration Ordinance.
- RENT: Tenant's rent shall be waived for the period commencing <u>September 1<sup>n</sup>, 2021</u>, through and including <u>October 31<sup>n</sup> 2021</u>.
- 12. SECURITY DEPOSIT: Nan Eastep's security deposit shall be accounted for according to law.
- 13. LETTER OF REFERENCE: Landlord agrees to provide a neutral letter of reference to tenant, which will include the period of time tenant resided in the unit and his monthly rent.
- 14. RELEASE: With the exceptions noted herein and subject to the provisions of paragraph 35 herein, the parties and their heirs, successors, and assigns, do hereby forever, finally, fully and completely release, relieve, acquit, remise and discharge one another and one another's agents, partners, trustees, officers, attorneys, directors, property managers, employees, independent contractors, and all others associated with the parties and/or acting on behalf of the parties from any and all claims, liens, debts, liabilities, demands, obligations, promises, acts, agreements, costs, expenses (including, without limitation, attorneys' fees), damages, injuries, suits, actions commenced prior to, and causes of action of whatever kind or nature, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, or contingent or fixed as a result of any set of facts in existence immediately prior to the date of execution of this Agreement by said parties and which are or which could have been the basis for any legal action, whether in law, equity or otherwise, which could have been filed on the date of execution of this Agreement.

Page 2 of 7

- 15. COVENANT NOT TO SUE: With the exceptions noted herein, for good, valuable and other consideration described herein, the parties covenant never to institute any action, arbitration or other legal proceeding, including but not limited to, any matters before the Oakland Residential Rent Stabilization and Arbitration Board against any other party, person or entity arising from or related to the matters alleged in Paragraphs 1-12 of this Agreement and the subject property. The parties unconditionally, fully and finally release and discharge each other from any and all duties, claims, rights, complaints, charges, injuries, damages, costs, losses, expenses, taxes, attorneys' fees, debts, demands, actions, obligations, liabilities, and causes of action, of any and every kind, nature, and character whatsoever, whether arising out of contract, tort, statute, settlement, equity or otherwise, whether known or unknown, whether foreseen or unforeseen, whether fixed, liquidated, or contingent, which the parties ever had, now have, or may in the future claim to have had against the other (and each of them) based on any act or omission concerning any matter, cause, or thing directly or indirectly which were raised or could have been raised against each other, from the beginning of time to the day this Agreement is fully executed.
- 16. SECTION 1542 WAIVER: With respect to the matters released herein, the parties hereto expressly waive any and all rights, except those expressly reserved, they may have under Section 1542 of the Civil Code of the State of California, which provides as follows:

A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT THE CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY.

- 17. The parties hereto acknowledge they may hereafter discover claims presently unknown or unsuspected, or facts in addition to or different from those that are known or believed to be true, as to the matters released herein. Nevertheless, it is the intention of the parties, through this Agreement, to fully, finally and forever release all such matters and all claims related thereto that do now exist, may exist or heretofore have existed. In furtherance of such intention, the release herein given shall be and remain in effect as a full and complete release of such matters, notwithstanding the discovery or existence of any additional or different claims or facts related thereto by the parties hereto.
- WARRANTY OF NON-ASSIGNMENT: Each party warrants said party has not assigned, sold, hypothecated or transferred any rights said party may have against any other party.
- 19. WARRANTY OF AUTHORIZATION: Each person executing this Agreement warrants he or she is authorized to execute the Agreement on behalf of the person, partnership, joint venture, corporation, unincorporated association, estate, or governmental entity for which he or she signs and that all necessary resolutions and authorizations have been obtained prior to execution of this Agreement.
- 20. BINDING AGREEMENT: The Agreement benefits and is binding upon each party and his/her heirs, legatees, transferees, parents, subsidiaries, successors and assigns. This Agreement shall

Page 3 of 7

bind and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors, heirs, agents, independent contractors, employees, officers, directors and assigns. No change in the law which may occur between the time of execution of this agreement and by the time either party is under a duty to perform under this Agreement shall impact the parties' obligations arising from and out of this agreement.

- 21. INTEGRATION; MODIFICATION; SEVERABILITY; SAVINGS CLAUSE: This Agreement supersedes all prior negotiations and agreements between the parties and is their full and final agreement with respect to its subject matter. This Agreement may not be modified unless by written agreement signed by all parties. In the event that any portion of this Agreement shall be found void or voidable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be stricken and this Agreement reformed to as closely approximate, as the law permits, the intent of stricken portion or portions. The terms of this Agreement may not be contradicted by evidence of any prior agreement(s) or contemporaneous oral agreement(s). The parties further intend that this Agreement constitutes the complete and exclusive statement of its terms and that no extrinsic evidence whatsoever may be introduced in any judicial or arbitration proceeding, if any, involving this Agreement.
- 22. ATTORNEYS' FEES: In any action to enforce the terms of this Agreement by either party, the prevailing party shall be awarded, in addition to any other compensation or award, its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.
- 23. AUTHORSHIP OF AGREEMENT: Each party acknowledges the drafting of this Agreement was the product of negotiation; no party is the author of the Agreement; and this Agreement shall not be construed against any party on the ground such party authored or drafted this Agreement. No party shall be held liable or responsible for any word(s), phrase(s), and/or number(s) that have been included or excluded from this Agreement.
- 24. CONTROLLING LAW/IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENT: This Agreement shall be construed and shall be enforced pursuant to the laws of the State of California. The Alameda County Superior Court shall have jurisdiction with regard to disputes in implementation of this Agreement.
- 25. ADVICE OF COUNSEL: The parties hereto represent and warrant all the waivers, warrantics, representations and covenants set forth in this Agreement are made after consultation with legal counsel of each party's choosing and with an understanding of their significance and consequence, and they are reasonable and a benefit to the parties. In the alternative, each party has been provided the opportunity to obtain such counsel and expressly waives said opportunity and he or she understands the consequences of executing this Agreement. Thus, each party acknowledges he or she has been represented by counsel or knowingly and voluntarily waives his or her opportunity to obtain counsel.
- 26. DEFENSE OF SUIT: Each party hereto agrees that this Agreement may be pled by any party as a full and complete defense to and may be used as the basis for an injunction against any action, suit, arbitration, or other proceeding which may be instituted, prosecuted, or attempted by another party, or any person, firm, corporation, or organization on that party's behalf, wherein the claim concerns any facts, claims or matters released by this Agreement. If a party ever claims, asserts, or brings an action in any forum alleging or asserting that this Agreement or any terms contained herein violate any local, county, state or federal ordinances, codes, Page 4 of 7

regulations, statutes, or laws, or are a violation of public policy or regulation, then said party shall indemnify the other for bringing such an action or claim and for all consequences visited upon the other party as a result thereof, including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, whether or not the initiating party is deemed the prevailing party.

27. Except as provided in paragraph 35 below, this Agreement hereby serves as tenant's non-rescindable notice of termination of tenancy which landlord, by this document, hereby accepts and acknowledges. Should tenant fail to timely vacate the subject premises on or before 5:00pm p.m. on <u>October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021</u>, tenant understands and acknowledges that a lawsuit shall be immediately filed to effect his summary removal therefrom. Initials:

(KL)

- 28. This Agreement is freely and voluntarily entered into by the parties. The parties hereto represent, declare, admit and warrant that in executing this Agreement they relied solely upon their own judgment, belief, and knowledge and the advice and recommendations of their own independently selected counsel, if so selected and relied upon, concerning the nature, extent and duration of their rights and claims. The parties also acknowledge that they and their respective counsels, if so selected and relied upon, have had a full, complete and uninterrupted opportunity to make whatever investigation or inquiry they deem necessary, appropriate or desirable in connection with the subject matter and terms of this Agreement prior to its execution. In executing this Agreement, no party hereto relied upon or has been influenced to any extent whatsoever in executing the same by any representation or statements covering any matter made by another party hereto or by any person representing any other party hereto, save the representations, warranties and statements contained herein. This Agreement shall bind and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors, heirs, agents, independent contractors, attorneys, insurance carriers, employees, officers, directors and assigns.
- 29. Any and all personal possessions or other personal property remaining on the premises after tenant vacates, are hereby declared abandoned and of no value. Landlord may dispose of said property as landlord sees fit. The parties agree that the provisions of CC Sec. 1980-1991 have been complied with.
- 30. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, and when each party has signed and delivered at least one such counterpart, each counterpart shall be deemed an original, and taken together shall constitute one and the same agreement, which shall be binding and effective as to all parties. Faxed signatures and scanned digital copies shall be fully honored as if they were original inked signatures.
- 31. CONFIDENTIALITY AND NON-DISPARAGEMENT: Landlord and tenant agree that they will not publicize, disclose, permit or authorize the publication or disclosure of the contents of this Agreement, the amount of the settlement or the facts or opinions of the parties' relationship or their dealings and/or either parties' claims against the other, for 45 days after all parties have signed the agreement or the fully executed agreement is filed with the Oakland Rent Adjustment Program, which ever date is sooner, without the prior express written consent of the other. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, the parties are not prohibited from making disclosures to their accountants, attorneys, or governmental taxing authorities and are further authorized to make any disclosures occasioned pursuant to service of legal process such as Page 5 of 7

service of subpoena, provided that the parties use their best efforts to ensure that the persons who receive said disclosures maintain their confidentiality. The provisions of this paragraph shall survive the termination or satisfaction of this Agreement.

- 32. The undersigned acknowledge they have read this Agreement, understand each and every term and all its terms together. Each and every term and all the terms of this Agreement together are reasonable, and each party hereto signs of said party's own free will.
- 33. Tenant has been apprised of and acknowledge the following by initialing after each paragraph:
  - a. You have a right not to enter into a Move Out agreement. \_\_\_\_\_\_

  - c. You may choose to consult with an attorney and/or a tenants' rights organization before signing this agreement. \_\_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Owners who fail to comply with the requirements of Oakland's Tenant Move Out Agreement Ordinance (O.M.C. 8.22.700, et seq.) may be subject to more significant penalties if the tenant is elderly, disabled, or catastrophically ill. As defined in the Ordinance, elderly tenants are (60) years of age or older. Tenants are disabled if they are disabled under Section 12926 of the California Government Code. Tenants are catastrophically ill if they are both disabled under 12926 of the California Government Code and suffering from a lifethreatening illness, as certified by their primary care physician.

Do you <u>Kai Leshne</u> believe you are elderly, disabled, or catastrophically ill as those terms are defined above? Yes <u>No</u> I don't know I prefer not to say <u>finitals</u>

- 34. The following question shall be answered by Owner under penalty of perjury:
  - a. Owners who recover possession of a rental unit pursuant to Sections 8.22.360 A.8 (owner move-back), A.9 (owner or relative occupancy) A.10 (repairs), and A.11 (taking the property off the rental market) of the Oakland Municipal Code must comply with certain requirements. In the 180 days preceding execution of this agreement, did you (the owner), or any of your agents or representatives either a) issue a notice terminating tenancy to any of the tenants who are parties to this agreement or b) otherwise communicate orally or in writing to any of those tenants that you intended to recover possession of the unit under any of these O.M.C. Sections? \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_No. If so, which section?
- 35. CANCELLATION: You, the tenant, may cancel this agreement in writing, including via email, at any time up to and including the twenty-fifth (25<sup>th</sup>) day after all parties have signed this agreement, unless you, any other tenants who Page 6 of 7

signed the agreement, and your landlord agree in writing to a shorter rescission period of not less than fifteen (15) days. However, rescission is not effective if, you have moved out. To cancel this agreement, send notification of your intent to rescind to the Owner by any means through which you have agreed to communicate. If you have not agreed to a particular mode of communication, either personally serve the Owner with the notice or send the notice by registered first class mail to the last known address of the property owner. If the document is returned undelivered, use reasonable means to notify the Owner of the rescission.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

(KL) {initials]

Kai Leshne	Dated: 2021

Arun Gupta

Page 7 of 7

## EXHIBIT D

### Notice of New Owner/Agent (California Civil Code Section 1962)

### To: Kai Leshne

Resident(s) (tenants and subtenants) in possession and all others in possession of the premises designated by the number and street as

1534 Filbert Street, Oakland, California, 94607.

- Effective immediately, <u>Cedric Meriau and Heather White</u>, telephone number <u>415-361-1311</u>, shall be the Owner/Agent of unit in which you reside, listed above.
- Rent is due in advance on <u>1st</u> day of each and every month, at <u>\$2.840.00</u> per month, with the January 2022 rent prorated for 21 days in the amount of <u>\$1.923.81</u> payable to <u>Cedric Meriau</u> at <u>1536 Filbert St</u>, <u>Oakland CA 94607</u>.
- 3. Payments may be made in the form of personal check, cashier's check, or money order. Payments made in person may be delivered to Agent between the hours of 9:00 A M, and 5:00 P.M., Monday to Friday. Your rent check may also be mailed to <u>Cedric Meriau and Heather White at 1536 Filbert St. Oakland CA 94607</u>. If rent is mailed, rent must be mailed so that it is received on or before the due date and Kai Leshne bears the risk of loss in the mail.
- Owner/Agent is also the agent for service of process and for the purpose of receiving and receipting for all notices and demands, unless you are notified otherwise by Owner/Agent.

1-12-27 Date 1-12-22

By Cedric Merian

Date

# **EXHIBIT E**

DocuSign Envelope ID: 5578D547-958A-430D-AD85-7EA2A7F50971

.

\$	CALIFORN ASSOCIATIO OF REALTO	DN TEN	ANT ESTOPPEL CERTIFICATE (C.A.R. Form TEC, Revised 4/11)
Tenont	Kai Leshne		
Promises:	1534-1538 Filbert St. O.	ikland, CA 94607	
1. LEASE A. ([] B. Oath C. Nan D. Nan E. Cun F. Sec G. Exp H. Nun J. Why J. Why XIL Oth K. White 2. The Ter except 1	TERMS: If checked) A copy of the o of the Lease: JU 19 1 ne of the current Landlord ne of the current Tenant- trent monthly bese rent: S unity depect: \$ 3450 kation date of current ten nber and Location of Park- nber and Location of Park- nber and Location of Stor h pays utilities services: andlord [] Tenant; Garde or:N/A > owns appliances: Sto rowave [] Landlord [] To rowave [] Landlord [	Lease is attached herets st, 2021 Arun Gupta Kat Leshne 900 m Indefinite (M ing Spaces: N/A spespecesi/A Water: [Xlandlord ] Te mer: [Xlandlord ] Te mant; Other:N/A riginal Lease remains #	, peid through: February 1st, 2022 Other deposits: \$ 0 onth To Month) Fenant; Electric: [X]Landlord []Tenant; Gas: [X]Landlord []Tenant; Weste Disposal: ant; Sewer: [X]Landlord []Tenant; Other:N/A []Landlord []Tenant;
<ol> <li>Tenant I the Lease in accorn</li> <li>All oblig defense</li> <li>Tenant</li> </ol>	s the sclual occupant and se. Any construction, built dance with the plans and ations of Landlord under s, off-sets or counterclaim	I is in possession of the 1-out, improvements, all specifications described the Lease have been fi is to the payment of rent	ngs between Landlord and Tenant with respect to the Premises, except as set forth above. Leased Premises. Tenant has not assigned, transferred or hypothecated its interest under erations, or additions to the Premises required under the Lease have been fully completed in the Lease. My performed and Landlord is not in default under any term of the Lease. Tenant has no or other amounts due from Tenant to Landlord under the Lease. Int, rebates, rent abatements, or rent concessions of any kind, except as follows:
<ol> <li>Tenant I Lease; a</li> <li>The corr</li> <li>The period</li> <li>Tenant I</li> <li>Tenant I</li> <li>in mater</li> </ol>	epresents that Tenant: (a ind (c) has not received a ect address for notices to son signing below represe understands that: (a) e let fal refiance on this Estopp	<ul> <li>is not in default of the ny notice of default under Tenant is the Premises ints that he/she is duly a ther may make a loan si sel Centificate, and/or (b)</li> </ul>	bankruptcy or reorganization under federal bankruptcy laws or similar state laws, performance of any obligations under the Lease; (b) has not committed any breach of the in the Lease, which has not been cured. above unless otherwise shown below. uthorized by Tenant to execute this Statement in Tenant's behalf. acured in whole or part by the Premises, and that if Lender does so, Lender's action will be a buyer may acquire the Premises, and that if Lender does so, Lender's action will be i a buyer may acquire the Premises or the building in which the Premises is located, and if i reliance on this Estoppel Certificate.
Date: 1/12	/2022	tai lestine	
		Tanani <sup>bulkalasin</sup>	
		Tenani	
		<b>θ</b> γ	Tèle
Receipt Ack	rowledged	Landlord or Manager	
J-0167.		Ву	Title

© 1990-2011, California Association of REALTORS®, Inc. THIS FORM HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® (C.A.R.). NO REPRESENTATION IS MADE AS TO THE LEGAL VALIDITY OR ACCURACY OF ANY PROVISION IN MAY SPECIFIC TRANSACTION. A REAL ESTATE BROKER IS THE PERSON QUALIFIED TO ADVISE ON REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS. IF YOU DESIRE LEGAL OR TAX ADVICE, CONSULT AN APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL

- -

Published and Distributed by: REAL ESTATE BUSINESS SERVICES, LLC. a subsidiary of the Celfornia Association of REALTORS® S25 South Virgil Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90020

TEC REVISED 4/11 (PAGE 1 OF 1)

### TENANT ESTOPPEL CERTIFICATE (TEC PAGE 1 OF 1)

VXI, REAL ESTATE, 1684 Decote Road # 1	58 Unian City CA \$4587	Phone: \$10,706;1442	Fex 510.240,7423	15	3.36 Filber
Bachna Bhatnegar	Produced with Lone Wolf Transactions (zipForm E	dilion) 717 N Herwood St, Suite 2200, Dallas, TX 76201	worw.twoil.com		

=

## EXHIBIT F

Fried, Williams & Grice Connera

1939 Harrisse Street, Suite 460; Oakland, CA 94612 Tel 510-625-0100 625 Market Street, 4<sup>a</sup> Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105 Tel 415-421-0100 www.friedWilliams.com

> Matthew P. Quiring mouring a friedwilliams.com Respond to Oakland Office

April 5, 2022

Via Certified, Regular and Electronic Mail Mr. Kai Leshne 1534 Filbert Street Oakland, CA 94607 kai.channels888@gmail.com

Re: Your tenancy - April Update

Dear Mr. Leshne,

This letter follows our February 16, 2022 letter and my March 3, 2022 email to you concerning your storage of personal belongings in the garage, excessive noise, and other matters. To date, we have not received a direct response from you on any of these issues. The owners believe that mutual engagement will lead to a more harmonious environment for everyone, and make these monthly updates no longer necessary. Until then, please see as follows:

First, as for February and March, the owners have received \$900.00 from you, tendered as rent for April 2022. As with those prior payments, the owners will accept this as partial payment towards your rent, reserving all rights to claim the balance at a future date, pending resolution of that petition.

Second, the personal property you have stored in the garage remain. As you know, your use of the garage for storage or any other purpose is not included in your rental agreement, and your continued storage is a nuisance. These items were to be removed by February 11, 2022 after your requested extension. As previously mentioned, this unauthorized storage represents an ongoing breach of your rental agreement. Please immediately remove these items from the garage and store them appropriately.

Third, the owners appreciate the somewhat reduced volume of music and other noise from your unit. However, the music and other sounds still carry between the two units and should be reduced further. The owners understand that you may be using your unit to work on various music projects, but unfortunately, the premises was constructed as a residence, and not as a recording studio, so please take those limitations into account. This also includes ceasing the slamming of doors or stomping and/or heavy treading on the floors and stairway, which cause disruptive vibrations to carry through the building.



Mr. Kai Leshne

April 5, 2022 Page 2

Fourth, the owners note that although you are the sole occupant in the upper unit, your portion of the gas bill surpasses the the owner's lower unit by as much as 50%. Although we have been in the winter season, the owners also often observe the windows of your unit open to the air. The owners are concerned that you may be using an excessive or unreasonable amount of gas for heating, so please be conscientious about your use of energy. It would be far less wasteful to keep the windows shut to preserve the heat whenever you use the furnace. Accordingly, the owners reserve the right to demand reimbursement for any excessive or unreasonable utility use.

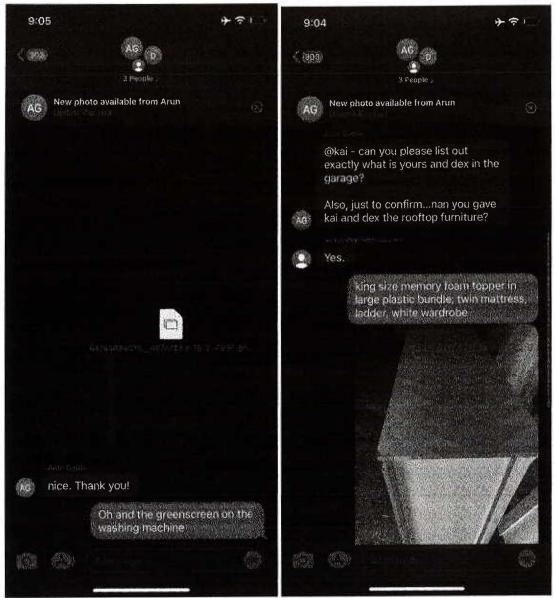
Sincerely,

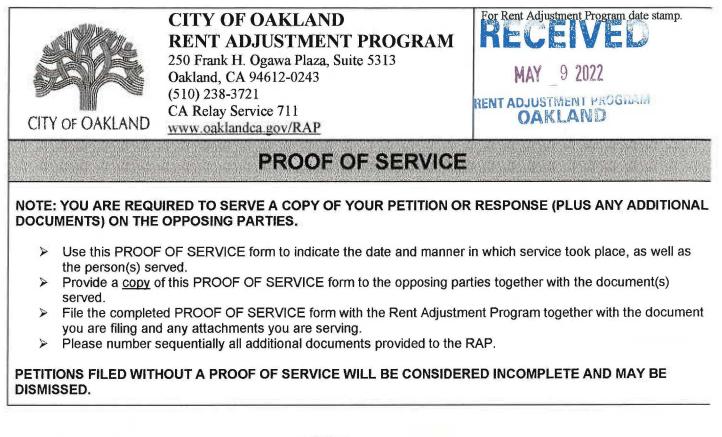
Fried, Williams & Grice Conner LLP

Matthew P. Quiring Attomey for Owners

Heather White and Cedric Meriau

# **EXHIBIT G**





I served a copy of:

APPEAL

(insert name of document served) ☑ And Additional Documents

and (*write number of attached pages*) **25** attached pages (*not counting the Petition or Response served or the Proof of Service*) to each opposing party, whose name(s) and address(es) are listed below, by one of the following means (*check one*):

a. United States mail. I enclosed the document(s) in a sealed envelope or package addressed to the person(s) listed below and at the address(es) below and deposited the sealed envelope with the United States Postal Service, with the postage fully prepaid.

- b. Deposited it with a commercial carrier, using a service at least as expeditious as first class mail, with all postage or charges fully prepaid, addressed to each opposing party as listed below.
- c. Personal Service. (1) By Hand Delivery: I personally delivered the document(s) to the person(s) at the address(es) listed below; or (2) I left the document(s) at the address(es) with some person not younger than 18 years of age.

### PERSON(S) SERVED:

Name	Cedric Merieau	
Address	1536 Filbert St	
City, State, Zip	Oakland, CA, 94607	

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and the documents were served on \_/\_/ (insert date served).

KAI LESHNE PRINT YOUR NAME

SIGNATURE

05/06/2022 DATE

CITY OF OAKLAND Rent Adjustment Program



### MEMORANDUM

Date:	June 17, 2022
То:	Members of the Housing, Rent Residential & Relocation Board (HRRRB)
From:	Kent Qian, Deputy City Attorney
Re:	Appeal Summary in T22-0024 Leshne v. Meriau
Appeal Hearing Date:	June 23, 2022
Property Address:	1534 Filbert Street, Oakland, CA

### BACKGROUND

The tenant filed a petition contesting a rent increase, and the tenant agreed to have the case mediated by RAP. The owner responded to the petition and also agreed to mediation. The hearing officer dismissed the petition because the tenant failed to appear at the scheduled mediation.

## **GROUNDS FOR APPEAL**

The tenant appealed the dismissal. The tenant argues that the tenant never received the notice for the mediation hearing, and that mail sent to the residence is often misdelivered. The tenant also asks for future correspondence to be delivered to a PO Box.

## **ISSUES**

1. Does the tenant's proferred reason for non-appearance at the mediation constitute good cause for failing to appear at the mediation?

## APPLICABLE LAW AND PAST BOARD DECISIONS

Ordinance and regulation

- 1. O.M.C. 8.22.110 Hearing procedures.
- A. Hearing Officer. A hearing shall be set before a Hearing Officer to decide the issues in the petition.
- B. Hearings.
  - 1. All hearings on petitions shall be open to the public and recorded;
  - 2. Any party to a hearing may be assisted by a representative who may be an attorney or any other person. A party must designate his or her representative in writing.
- C. Notification and Consolidation. Rent Adjustment Program staff shall notify the owner and tenant in writing of the time and place set for hearing. Representatives of parties shall also be notified of hearings, provided that the Rent Adjustment Program has been notified in writing of a party's designation of a representative at least ten days prior to the notice of the hearing being sent. Disputes involving more than one covered unit in any single building may be consolidated for hearing.
- D. Time of Hearing and Decision.
  - 1. The Hearing Officer shall have the goal of hearing the matter within sixty (60) days of the original petition's filing date.
  - 2. The Hearing Officer shall have a goal of rendering a decision within sixty (60) days after the conclusion of the hearing or the close of the record, whichever is later. The decision shall be issued in writing.
  - 3. The decision of the examiner shall be based entirely on evidence placed into the record.
- E. A Hearing Officer may order a rent adjustment as restitution for any overcharges or undercharges due, subject to guidelines set out in the regulations.
- F. Administrative Decisions.
  - 1. Notwithstanding the acceptance of a petition or response by the Rent Adjustment Program, if any of the following conditions exist, a hearing may not be scheduled and a Hearing Officer may issue a decision without a hearing:
    - a. The petition or response forms have not been properly completed or submitted;
    - b. The petition or response forms have not been filed in a timely manner;
    - c. The required prerequisites to filing a petition or response have not been met;
    - d. A certificate of exemption was previously issued and is not challenged by the tenant; or
    - e. The petition and response forms raise no genuine dispute as to any material fact, and the petition may be decided as a matter of law.

- 2. A notice regarding the parties' appeal rights will accompany any decision issued administratively. Appeals are governed by Section 8.22.120.
- G. Should the petitioner fail to appear at the designated hearing, the Hearing Officer may dismiss the petition.
- 2. Reg 8.22.100.b.2.e (MEDIATION OF RENT DISPUTES)
- e. Absence Of Parties

i. If a petitioner fails to appear at a properly noticed mediation, the Hearing Officer may, in the Hearing Officer's discretion, dismiss the case.

ii. If a respondent fails to appear, the Hearing Officer will refer the matter to the Rent Adjustment Program for administrative review or hearing on the petition, whichever is appropriate.

## Past Board Decisions

1. T18-0172 Embaye v. Amin T18-0183 Embaye v. Amin

Board reversed Hearing Decision dismissing tenant's petition for failure to appear at Hearing based on tenant's assertion on appeal that he had moved out of the unit and did not receive notice of the Hearing and remanded for a Hearing on the merits. Subsequent hearing dismissed when tenant failed to appear.

2. T03-0135 Scott v. Lipscomb T03-0148

Board affirmed Administrative Dismissal where tenant did not appear at time set for Mediation even though he appeared later that day at time set for Hearing because Notice of Mediation stated that petition would be dismissed if petitioner failed to appear for mediation.

3. T05-0252 Helmantoler v. Jonsson

Board remanded case to determine whether petitioner had good cause for her failure to appear at hearing when petitioner claimed she did not receive the notice of hearing.

## 4. L15-0074 Ghahyaz v. Tenants

Board remanded case to determine if owner had good cause for non-appearance - owner claimed he did not receive notice of hearing.