

DON'T SELF EVICT!

WHAT TO DO IF YOU GET AN EVICTION NOTICE

01 RECEIVING AN EVICTION NOTICE DOES NOT MEAN YOU MUST LEAVE YOUR HOME IMMEDIATELY

An eviction notice is only the first step in the eviction process. It is illegal for your landlord to try to remove you or your belongings from your home. Only the Sheriff can enforce eviction orders, and only when they come from a judge.

02 WHAT IS AN EVICTION NOTICE?

A signed, written notice delivered by the landlord to the tenant or anyone 13 years or older who lives at the property. The notice can also be sent by certified mail with a signed return receipt. The notice must include the reason for the eviction as well as a date for the tenant to correct the issue or move out by.

03 TYPES OF EVICTION NOTICES

- 5-day notice:** Either for nonpayment or serious illegal activity within the premises.
- 10-day notice:** Violating terms of lease or rental agreements.
- 7/30/60 notice:** At-will lease termination, based on length of tenant stay.
- 90-day notice:** Foreclosure of unit.

04 WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE LOCKED OUT OR ILLEGALLY EVICTED

- A.** Lockouts are always illegal everywhere in Illinois. Landlords cannot change the locks, shut off utilities, remove doors or windows, remove appliances, or do anything else that interferes with the tenant's use of the apartment.
- B.** Call an attorney or housing organization if you have been illegally locked out. (*see our resources for options*). In an emergency, call 911.
- C.** If you are undocumented, remember you are not required to answer any questions regarding your country of origin or citizenship status.

05 PROTECTIONS AGAINST USE OF IMMIGRATION STATUS TO EVICT

In the state of Illinois it is illegal for a landlord to threaten to call immigration enforcement or the police, or otherwise use a tenant's immigration status in order to evict them from their rental unit.

Chicago Specific Protections

Violations should be reported to the Chicago Police Department. Call 311 for assistance. The City of Chicago can fine the landlord between \$200 to \$500 for each day the lockout occurs.

Cook County Specific Protections

You can sue your landlord for up to two months' rent or twice the damages & costs sustained, whichever is greater. In areas outside of the City of Chicago, violations should be made to the Cook County Sheriff's Office at 773-674-4357.

RESOURCES

Resources for Evictions and Lockouts

EVICTIION HELP ILLINOIS

<https://evictionhelpillinois.org/>
855-631-0811

COOK COUNTY LEGAL AID FOR HOUSING AND DEBT

<https://www.cookcountylegalaid.org/>
855-956-5763

CATHOLIC CHARITIES LEGAL ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT

<https://www.catholiccharities.net/Default.aspx>
312-948-6821

RENTERVENTION

<https://rentervention.com/learn/page/3/>
312-347-7600

METROPOLITAN TENANTS ORGANIZATION

<http://www.tenants-rights.org/>
773-292-4988

UNIVERSITY YMCA NEW AMERICAN WELCOME CENTER

<https://universityymca.org/welcome/>
217-417-5897

NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY RESOURCES

<https://northsidecommunityresources.org>
773-338-7722 ext. 26

UPTOWN PEOPLE'S LAW CENTER

<https://uplcchicago.org>
773-769-1411