



BRIAN E. FROSH, MARYLAND ATTORNEY GENERAL

CONSUMER ALERT

Consumer Alert – CDC Extends Protections for Residential Tenants Facing Eviction in Communities with Substantial or High Levels of COVID-19 Transmission

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a new order temporarily halting residential evictions in certain counties due to the recent surge in COVID-19 cases and the rise of the Delta variant. The CDC's new order is scheduled to expire on October 3, 2021, providing some targeted and limited protections that will extend beyond those contained in the Maryland Executive Order limiting residential evictions for non-payment of rent, which is set to expire on August 15, 2021. A previous order from the CDC preventing evictions expired on July 31, 2021.

Because residential evictions can result in homelessness and an increase in shared living spaces, which in turn puts individuals at higher risk for contracting COVID-19, the new CDC order specifically targets counties that currently have a substantial or high level of community transmission. Although a majority of Maryland counties and Baltimore City currently meet this benchmark, not all do, meaning that the CDC's order will not apply to all Marylanders facing eviction. And because the applicability of the order is tied to community transmission levels, it is possible that who is covered by the order could change over time.

If you are a tenant who is currently behind on your rent, there are resources available to help you avoid eviction. Most of these resources, however, are available only while you are still living in your rental home, so **if you are or may be facing eviction, it is extremely important that you seek help before simply moving out.**

For example, you may qualify for **rental assistance**, which is funding that is available to tenants and landlords to help cover rent and other housing costs that are already owed and/or will be owed. To find your local rental assistance program, visit the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's [Help for Renters website](#).

You may also have a legal defense to eviction either under the CDC order, the Governor’s Executive Order, or some other legal protection. There are several free and low-cost **legal assistance** organizations throughout the State that may be able to provide you with legal advice and/or representation if you qualify for their services. This alert contains contact information for those organizations listed by county. If you plan on representing yourself in court, the Maryland Court Self-Help Center may be able to help you prepare your case. You can call 410-260-1392, visit the [Help Center’s website](#), or visit one of the walk-in District Court Help Centers located [across the State](#). More general information about eviction cases is also available on the Maryland Courts’ [website](#).

Finally, if you receive a notice of a court hearing, it is important that you appear on the date and time listed. This is your only opportunity to present any evidence or defend yourself against the eviction. If you fail to respond to the court or appear for court hearings, it is unlikely that you will be able to take advantage of the resources described above, and you will be at substantial risk of eviction.

Nonprofit Legal Services Organizations

These organizations may be able to provide legal advice or representation for tenants

Allegany County

Allegany Law Foundation
301-722-3390
alleganylaw.com

Maryland Legal Aid
301-777-7474
mdlalab.org

Anne Arundel County

Community Legal Services
240-391-6370
clspgc.org

Maryland Legal Aid
410-972-2700
mdlalab.org

Baltimore City

Disability Rights Maryland (If eviction is related to disability)
410-727-6352
disabilityrightsmd.org

Homeless Persons Representation Project (Public/Subsidized Housing)

410-685-6859
hprplaw.org

Maryland Legal Aid
410-972-7750
mdlalab.org

Pro Bono Resource Center
443-703-3053
probonomd.org

Public Justice Center
410-625-9409
publicjustice.org

St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center
410-366-8550 x249
stambros.org

Baltimore County

Maryland Legal Aid
410-427-1800
mdlalab.org
Pro Bono Resource Center
443-703-3053
probonomd.org

St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center
410-366-8550 x249
stambros.org

Caroline County

Maryland Legal Aid
410-763-9676
mdlalab.org

Mid-Shore Pro Bono
410-690-8128
midshoreprobono.org

Carroll County

Maryland Legal Aid
301-694-7414
mdlalab.org

Calvert County

Maryland Legal Aid
301-932-6661
mdlalab.org

Cecil County

Maryland Legal Aid
410-836-8202
mdlalab.org

Charles County

Maryland Legal Aid
301-932-6661
mdlalab.org

Dorchester County

Maryland Legal Aid
410-546-5511
mdlalab.org

Mid-Shore Pro Bono
410-690-8128
midshoreprobono.org

Frederick County

Maryland Legal Aid
301-694-7414
mdlalab.org

Garrett County

Maryland Legal Aid
301-777-7474
mdlalab.org

Harford County

Maryland Legal Aid
410-836-8202
mdlalab.org

Howard County

Maryland Legal Aid
410-972-2700
mdlabor.org

Kent County

Maryland Legal Aid
410-763-9676
mdlabor.org

Mid-Shore Pro Bono
410-690-8128
midshoreprobono.org

Montgomery County

Maryland Legal Aid
240-314-0373
mdlabor.org

Montgomery County
Bar Foundation

301-424-7651
barmont.org

**Prince George's
County**

Community Legal
Services
240-391-6370
clspgc.org

Maryland Legal Aid
301-560-2100
mdlabor.org

Queen Anne's County

Maryland Legal Aid
410-763-9676
mdlabor.org

Mid-Shore Pro Bono
410-690-8128
midshoreprobono.org

St. Mary's County

Maryland Legal Aid
301-932-6661
mdlabor.org

Somerset County

Maryland Legal Aid
410-546-5511
mdlabor.org

Talbot County

Maryland Legal Aid
410-763-9676
mdlabor.org

Mid-Shore Pro Bono
410-690-8128
midshoreprobono.org

Washington County

Maryland Legal Aid
301-694-7414
mdlabor.org

Wicomico County

Maryland Legal Aid
410-546-5511
mdlabor.org

Mid-Shore Pro Bono
410-690-8128
midshoreprobono.org

Worcester County

Maryland Legal Aid
410-546-5511
mdlabor.org