

NEWS

Treasurer and Tax Collector Keith Knox

437 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

March 30, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector and Director of Department of Consumer and Business Affairs Advise Landlords of Potential Relief From Impact of County Tenant Protections

Si desea obtener información adicional sobre este aviso o si necesita la información traducida en español, por favor llame al 1(213) 974-2111 entre las 8:00 a.m. y 5:00 p.m. Tiempo Pacífico, de lunes a viernes, excluyendo los días festivos del Condado de Los Ángeles.

KEITH KNOX, Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector, and Rafael Carbajal, Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs, as directed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, are partnering to reach out to landlords who have been impacted economically by the County's Tenant Protections. "Landlords who have not been able to collect rent may not be in a position to meet their property tax obligations," Mr. Knox advised, "Under State law, my office has the authority to consider requests under these circumstances to cancel penalties, costs, interest and fees associated with late property tax payments."

Mr. Knox further said, "After the April 11, 2022 delinquency date, landlords who were unable to pay their property taxes on time for reasons related to the County's Tenant Protections may submit a request for penalty cancellation on our website at https://ttc.lacounty.gov/penalty-cancellation-request-2."

In addition to the Tax Collector's authority to cancel late payment penalties, costs, interest and fees, the County strongly encourages landlords who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to apply for emergency rental assistance from the CA COVID-19 Rent Relief Program. The program is designed to help income-eligible households pay rent and utilities for both future and owed payments. This valuable resource has been available to landlords and renters in Los Angeles County and across California, who have faced enormous financial pressure from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in job losses, housing instability, and homelessness.

Those in need of assistance with unpaid rent and utilities owed from April 1, 2020, through March 31, 2022, should visit https://housing.ca.gov. For additional information, including eligibility and application help, landlords should call the **CA COVID-19 Rent Relief Call Center** at (833) 430-2122. Income-eligible applicants may qualify regardless of immigration status and will not be required to show proof of citizenship.

The deadline to apply for these funds is March 31, 2022.

Mr. Carbajal added, "Emergency rental assistance programs provide much needed relief for landlords, who have owed back rent, and low-income tenants, who are behind on their rent and utility payments, from the months of April 1, 2020, through March 31, 2022. These rental assistance programs have helped prevent unnecessary housing displacements and ensure our most vulnerable residents have remained protected throughout the pandemic. Tenants who apply for rental assistance may be entitled to special eviction protections under State law, and program funds provide landlords 100 percent of the tenant's rent obligation for approved months of rental assistance."

Los Angeles County landlords, who are experiencing pandemic-related hardships or have fallen behind on their housing payments, may be eligible for the Los Angeles County Mortgage Relief Program. The program will provide grants of up to \$30,000 for qualified landlords, plus expanded foreclosure prevention counseling services, and benefits single-family landlords with four or fewer units living in communities highly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Landlords can apply for the Los Angeles County Mortgage Relief Program by calling (888) 895-2647 or visiting https://nhslacounty.org/programs-and-services/mortgagereliefprogram.

Additionally, the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs' Foreclosure Prevention Unit counselors are available to help landlords with 15 or fewer units avoid foreclosure and facilitate communication with lenders. Landlords may contact (800) 593-8222 or visit https://dcba.lacounty.gov/foreclosure-prevention to learn more about eligibility or other foreclosure avoidance options.

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