



Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A Preserving Affordable Housing Program Eviction Prevention During the COVID-19 Pandemic

If you have specific questions about your case or thinking about starting a case for emergency action, please contact Brooklyn A at (718) 487-2300 or info@bka.org or reach out directly to your advocate if you are a current client.

Frequently Asked Questions

I have heard there is a moratorium on eviction. What does that mean?

Governor Andrew Cuomo placed a 90-day moratorium on evictions lasting until at least June 20, 2020. This means that a marshal is unable to evict anyone from their homes.

Do I need to pay rent during the COVID-19 pandemic?

You are still obligated to pay rent, even during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, if you cannot pay your rent, your landlord is unable to start an eviction action against you to legally evict you from your home because the courts are closed and are not taking any new cases. However, you should reach out to your landlord sooner rather than later to let them know of any hardship you are facing and try to work out an agreement with them about future rent.

What do I do if I need repairs in my apartment during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Any time you need repairs done, notify your landlord in writing about what needs to be done and your availability to give them access to your apartment to make the repairs. However, you should not allow access to your apartment unless the repair is an emergency, try to comply with the social distancing mandate from the governor. You can also call 311 to report conditions at your apartment. If your landlord fails to make these repairs, you have legal recourse. During the COVID-19 pandemic, you may file an emergency action for repairs only if the repairs include C violations, no heat and no hot water cases, vacates, access for heat and hot water, and other major emergencies, lead cases with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and/or violations for lead remediation.

Do I have to go to court for my housing court appearance?

Any upcoming court appearances are being adjourned to a date after the city's official shelter-in-place order is lifted. You can track your case online on the website below. There you can see what date your case was adjourned to <https://iapps.courts.state.ny.us/webcivilLocal/LCMain> The court will send you a post card of your future date as well.

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