

# **Help Prevent a Nevada Eviction Crisis** Nevada Residential Rental Evictions Resume on October 15, 2020 CDC Moratorium Continues through December 31, 2020

Mass evictions are looming nationwide. Join the effort to mediate positive outcomes for Nevadans.

# Apply on the link at the end of this overview.

# How you can help

- We need trained/experienced mediators to keep tenants safely housed during COVID19.
- We also need trained/certified interpreters.
- Select courts may utilize mediators in support of onsite mediations.

## Who is qualified to mediate

- Applicants must have completed 40 hours of mediation training.
- o 10 hours of mediation or co-mediation experience are required.

# What you will do

- o Mediate agreements between tenants and landlords to divert evictions from the courts and keep people in their homes during the COVID19 pandemic.
- o Training will be provided. Attorneys will earn CLE.
- o Interpreters will also be needed. Interpreters will earn training CEU.

# How mediation will help

- The goals are to keep Nevadans housed and get landlords paid by proactively sharing information on rental assistance, stalled unemployment claims, the opportunity to mediate, legal resources, etc.
- o Dedicated rental assistance personnel and DETR adjudicators will be made available to provide information that may lead to an agreement.
- There is \$60 million in CARES Act funding earmarked for Nevada rental assistance.

#### Where help is needed

- o Help is needed statewide in Nevada.
- Most mediations will be conducted telephonically or virtually depending on the capacity of the participants so you can help from anywhere in the state.

#### The status of evictions in Nevada

- o Residential rental evictions can resume in Nevada on October 15, 2020.
- o Nevada State Treasurer projects 135,109 evictions may occur after moratorium ends
- o Guinn Center: 45% of renters had slight or no confidence in ability to pay rent.
- o In Nevada 45% are renters.
- Leaders throughout Nevada believe we can avoid the worst of this crisis, with your help.

- Nevada Senate bill SB1 was designed to proactively avoid the worst outcomes
  - o Passed out of the Senate 18-3 and out of the Assembly 38-4. The Governor has signed.
  - o Official bill link.

#### What's the process

- o The time allowed for mediation will be +/- 2 hours with some going longer.
- Mediators will have some front/back end work.
- The process begins upon the filing of a Landlord Answer to the Tenant Complaint of eviction.
- o The hearing would then be set out 30-days with the eviction stay.
- The clerk of court will give the case to Home Means Nevada/The Renter Connect.
- Home Means Nevada will assign participating mediators on a rotating list within 2 working days.
- The mediator can telephonically or virtually mediate an agreement and report the results. In-person mediations are limited and not preferred due to COVID-19.
- o The mediator may involve an interpreter, if needed.<sup>1</sup>
- Mediators will submit any agreement(s) to the court(s) at least 2 judicial days in advance of the hearing.
- Mediated agreements vacate the hearing.
- Sample agreements available from:
  - The Nevada Attorney General (Lease Addendum and Promissory Note)
  - Nevada Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission (rule-based)

# Compensation

- Mediator invoices MUST include at least one (1) attestation to the parties being affected by COVID-19.
- o Mediators will be paid a flat rate of \$200 per mediation.
- Mediators will be paid a flat rate of \$50 per mediation that cannot be set after two (2) good faith attempts.
- o Interpreters will be compensated at \$25 per hour.
- Mediators and interpreters will be paid through the Administrative Office of the Courts.
  Mediators will submit invoices electronically for payment through electronic funds transfer (EFT).

# **APPLY NOW!**

Join in to help prevent evictions. We have resources for success.

Court appoints continue on a rolling basis.

<sup>1</sup>Interpreter resources: Mediators may access interpreters if required. Most courts have court interpreters they use. <u>List of Administrative Office of the Court certified interpreters</u>. Note the "Quick Links" for other interpreter resources. Be sure to review "Courtroom Resources". Many links may help with information about how to work with interpreters.