



MY LANDLORD IS TRYING TO KICK ME OUT, NOW WHAT?

Due to the recent outbreak of the COVID-19, many courts have continued eviction hearings. There are still some courts having evictions. Using the court is the only legal way to evict someone. Some landlords may try to evict tenants without a court order or by turning off utilities.

There are things that you can do if it happens to you.



Your landlord cannot force you out without going to court

Your landlord must first give you a written notice to leave.

Your landlord must file a lawsuit against you asking that the court order you to move out.

If a lawsuit is filed, you must receive a summons from the court, a copy of the complaint, and a notice of your hearing date

The court would next hold a hearing where you would have the opportunity to appear and offer defenses

Only after all of this could the court issue an order removing you from the home



Self-help eviction - anything your landlord does to force you out of your home without a court order

Using force or the threat of force to remove you from the home

Asking the police to remove you without a court order

Changing the locks to your home while you are away

Moving your personal belongings out to the curb

Shutting off your utilities.



To stop a self-help eviction by your landlord

Call local law enforcement right away

Tell the officer that you rent your home and give the officer your landlord's name

Tell the officer you have not gone to court

Talk to an attorney



What you can do if your landlord has already forced you out illegally

You can ask for an emergency order allowing you back into your home

You can file a claim for damages against the landlord

If your landlord is trying to kick you out without a court order call legal aid for help.

The Legal Aid Society of Columbus and Southeastern Ohio Legal Services provide free legal services for low-income Ohioans and seniors.

Call for an intake

614.241.2001 (Central Ohio)

1-888-301-2411 (Delaware, Marion, Morrow and Union counties)

800.686.3669 (Southeastern Ohio)

www.ohiolegalhelp.org also has legal resources that may help you.

Legal Aid does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or age in admission, treatment, or participation in its programs, services and activities, or in employment.



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