

**Proposed Rent Board Regulations concerning the Owner Move-In Eviction Process and Procedures for public review and comment.**

**To submit written comments, please email to Rent Board Clerk Cynthia Shaw at [cynthia\\_shaw@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:cynthia_shaw@ci.richmond.ca.us) or by mail, addressed to Richmond Rent Program, Attn: Cynthia Shaw, 440 Civic Center Plaza, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Richmond, CA 94804, no later than 5 PM on Thursday, September 10, 2020, to allow for transmission to the Rent Boardmembers at or before their Regular Meeting on Wednesday, September 16, 2020.**

**1009. Owner Move-In Eviction Pursuant Richmond Municipal Code Section  
11.100.050(a)(6)**

- A. Purpose of Regulation. Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6), permits the eviction of a Tenant where a Landlord who seeks to recover possession of a Rental Unit in good faith for use and occupancy as a Primary Residence for themselves, or for an enumerated qualifying relative. In response to community members' inquiries regarding the application of Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6), the purpose of this Regulation is to clarify those circumstances whereby the usage of Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6) is appropriate, and to aid the courts in interpreting the provisions of Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6).
- B. Definition of Natural Person for Purposes of this Regulation.
1. Only a Natural Person who has at least a 50 percent ownership interest in a Property shall be considered a Landlord.
  2. No corporation, partnership, limited partnership, trust company, as defined in California Financial Code, Section 107, real estate investment trust, as defined in Section 856 of the Internal Revenue Code, or association shall be considered a Natural Person.
- C. Number of Allowable Evictions Under Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6).

A "Landlord" as defined in Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6), may, in good faith, evict a Tenant from a Rental Unit for the use and occupancy as a Primary Residence for themselves or for their spouse, children, parents, or grandparents.

1. A Landlord that meets the definition espoused in Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6) shall only be permitted to perform one Owner Move-In eviction on the Property for either themselves, their spouse, children, parents, or grandparents.
2. Notwithstanding Regulation 1009(C)(1), a Landlord who has already performed an Owner Move-In for either themselves, their spouse, children, parents, or grandparents, may perform an additional Owner Move-In on the same Property if there is a demonstrated need for a Reasonable Accommodation based on a qualifying Disability as defined by Government Code Section 12955.3
3. The Landlord or enumerated relative must intend to occupy the Rental Unit as their Primary Residence as defined in Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.030(h). A Landlord shall only have one Primary Residence.
4. If any Landlord as defined by Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6) or enumerated relative already occupies one unit on a property, no eviction pursuant to Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6), may take place unless there is a demonstrated need for a Reasonable Accommodation based on a qualifying Disability as defined by Government Code Section 12955.3

5. No eviction pursuant to Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6) is permitted if a vacancy exists on the Property, unless there is a demonstrated need for a Reasonable Accommodation based on a qualifying Disability as defined by Government Code Section 12955.3

D. Good Faith Requirements.

This subsection illustrates, but does not exhaust, the factors that a Superior Court may consider as relevant evidence in determining whether the Landlord is acting or acted in good faith under Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6)(D).

1. A Landlord is not acting in good faith if the Landlord or enumerated relative for whom a Tenant has been evicted does not intend to move into the unit within 90 days of the date that the tenant vacates the unit and/or does not intend to thereafter occupy the Rental Unit for at least Thirty-Six (36) consecutive months as their Primary Residence.
2. Where proof is presented that an ownership interest was granted for the primary purpose of qualifying a person as a Landlord for purposes of eviction under Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6), the Landlord is not proceeding in good faith.
3. Where the same Landlord attempts to concurrently perform two evictions pursuant to Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6), that Landlord is not proceeding in good faith.
4. A Landlord who has served a notice of termination of tenancy under Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6) is not proceeding in good faith if the Landlord has other vacant Rental Units on the property where the Tenant currently resides, from the date of the notice to quit until the date of judgment of an Unlawful Detainer, unless there exists a demonstrated Reasonable Accommodation. A vacant unit shall include any Rental Unit for which the Landlord has received notice that a Tenant intends to vacate, a Rental Unit where the Landlord has obtained a Writ of Possession-Real Property, and any Rental unit which is otherwise vacant and not currently rented.
5. The court, in making a determination regarding the presence or absence of Good Faith in an eviction, should consider, along with any other factors deemed relevant: whether the Tenant has recently reported violations of Richmond Municipal Code Chapter 11.100, Richmond Rent Board Regulations, and/or Richmond Rent Board Orders to the Rent Program/Rent Board; whether the Landlord has vacant Rental Units in other residential rental properties in the City of Richmond; whether the Landlord has previously attempted to evict these or other Tenants pursuant to Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6); whether the Tenant being evicted is paying a low Rent in relation to other units on the property; whether the eviction is an attempt to move the tenant into a higher priced Rental Unit; and any additional relevant information.

6. In making a determination as to whether a wrongful eviction has occurred, the Superior Court should consider a Landlord's failure to comply with any of the provisions set forth in Regulation 1010, as evidence that the contested Owner Move-In was not performed in Good faith.
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- E. Failure to Occupy the Rental Unit. If the individual specified in the notice terminating tenancy pursuant to Richmond Regulation 11.100.050(a)(6), decides they no longer want to occupy the Rental Unit as their Primary Residence, the Landlord shall immediately offer the Rental Unit back to the Tenant who vacated the Rental Unit. In addition to any other remedies obligated under the City of Richmond Relocation Ordinance, any payment made pursuant to the City of Richmond Relocation Ordinance need not be returned.

PROPOSED

## 1010. Post-Owner Move-In Eviction Requirements

- A. Purpose of Regulation. The purpose of Regulation 1010 is to establish reporting requirements for those Landlords who perform evictions pursuant to Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6), so that the Rent Board may adequately discharge its duties under Richmond Municipal Code Chapter 11.100, and effectively monitor the grounds for eviction.
- B. Certifications to Rent Program Required for Eviction or Tenant Vacating Pursuant to Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6) (Owner or Relative Move In).
1. Initial certification following vacancy by Tenant. A Landlord who evicts a Tenant pursuant to Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6) or where a Tenant vacates following a notice terminating tenancy, whether or not the notice is withdrawn, or other communications stating or otherwise implying that the Landlord seeks recovery of possession of the Rental Unit for purposes of moving into the Rental Unit, must submit to the Rent Program a completed certificate within thirty (30) days of the Tenant's vacating of the unit. This certificate shall be provided by the Rent Program via a Rent Program form and must include the amount of the Tenant's rent on the date the Tenant vacated.
  2. Statement of Occupancy. The Landlord or the designated qualifying relative must move into the Rental Unit within ninety (90) days of the Tenant's vacating of the Rental Unit. Within thirty (30) days of the Landlord or the Landlord's qualifying relative's commencing occupancy of the Rental Unit as a Primary Residence, the Landlord must file, on a Rent Program Form, a Statement of Occupancy attesting to their occupancy in addition to any evidence of occupancy as required by the Rent Program Form.
  3. Continued Occupancy Certification. Following a Landlord or qualifying relative occupying a unit pursuant to Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6), the Landlord must submit a certificate that the Landlord or the Landlord's qualifying relative continues to reside or not reside in the unit as a Primary Residence. The Landlord or the Landlord's qualifying relative must attach proof of residence in the Rental Unit, including but not limited to a copy of a valid California Driver's License or another government-issued form of identification showing the address of the Rental Unit. This certification must be provided every twelve (12) months from the initial move-in date for thirty-six (36) months following that move-in date. If the Landlord fails to provide the Statement of Occupancy to the Rent Program, fails to move into the Rental, or fails to occupy the Rental Unit for thirty-six (36) months, the Rent Program shall make all reasonable efforts to provide the displaced Tenant with such information and inform the displaced Tenant of their rights under Richmond Municipal Code Chapter 11.100.

C. Right of First Refusal Pursuant to Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6).

1. Right of First Refusal. Upon service of a notice of termination of tenancy pursuant to Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(a)(6), or other communications stating or otherwise implying that the Landlord seeks recovery of possession of the Rental Unit for purposes of moving into the Rental Unit, the Landlord shall provide the Tenant a Rent Program form, or its equivalent, describing the Tenant's right to return to the Rental Unit if the Rental Unit is ever re-rented. Additionally, the Rent Program form, or its equivalent, shall instruct the Tenant to indicate whether they would be interested in re-renting the Rental Unit at the same Rent plus all applicable Annual General Adjustments, subject to Regulation 602, if the Rental Unit is offered for Rent. The Tenant shall provide the Landlord, in writing, their interest to return to the Rental Unit if it is ever offered for Rent and shall provide the Rent Program with a copy of the said written notice.
2. Contact information. The Tenant shall inform the Landlord and the Rent Program of their most current address or contact information so as to permit the Landlord to reoffer the Tenant the Rental Unit if it ever should be offered for Rent.
3. Change of Address Form or other Contact Information: The Rent Program shall make available for access a blank change of address/contact information form that the displaced Tenant can use to keep the Rent Program and the Landlord apprised of any future changes of address or contact information. Change of address/contact information form shall contain a statement informing the Tenant that failure to update the Landlord and/or the Rent Program with the most up to date contact information may result in a forfeiture of their right of first refusal.
4. Maintenance of Tenant Address or other Contact Information. The Landlord shall, and the Rent Program may, maintain the Tenant's contact information until a time of which the Tenant's right of first refusal has either vested or been extinguished. Although the Rent Program may choose to maintain the contact information of the Tenant, it in no way assumes liability for a Landlord's failure to reoffer the Rental Unit to the displaced Tenant, as the Landlord shall have the sole responsibility of meeting their obligation to reoffer a Rental Unit for Rent pursuant to Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100.050(c), and these Regulations.
5. Reoffering the Rental Unit for Rent. It shall be the sole responsibility of the Landlord to reoffer the Rental Unit for Rent if it is ever returned to the rental market. In the event that the Landlord offers the Rental Unit for Rent, the Landlord shall inform the Rent Program of their intent to offer the Rental Unit for Rent and send the displaced Tenant a written offer to re-rent the Rental Unit at no more than the same Rent the Tenant was paying at the time of service of the notice of termination plus any applicable Annual General Adjustments subject to the provisions of Richmond Regulation 602. The Landlord shall provide a copy of the written offer letter to the Rent Program within five (5) days from the date the Landlord sent the offer to the Tenant. If the Landlord does not have the displaced Tenant's contact information, the Landlord shall request the Rent Program provide the Landlord with the Tenant's contact information. In such an event, the

Rent Program shall seek the written permission of the displaced Tenant to release their contact information to the Landlord. If the displaced Tenant elects not to provide the sought after permission, the Rent Program shall serve as the intermediary, and assist the Landlord in providing the displaced Tenant with the Landlord's written offer for re-renting the Rental Unit to the displaced Tenant.

6. Failure to Respond to Landlord's Offering to Re-Rent the Rental Unit. The Tenant shall have thirty-days (30), plus any applicable time provided under California Code of Civil Procedure 1013(a), as amended,, to respond in writing to the Landlord's written offer for re-renting the Rental Unit. Upon responding in writing to the Landlord's offer, the Tenant shall file a copy of their written response with the Rent Program. A Tenant's failure to timely respond to a Landlord's offer to re-rent the Rental Unit that fully adheres to the provisions of Regulation 1010, shall extinguish the Right of First Refusal.

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