

LANDLORD AND TENANT RELATIONSHIPS (EXCERPT)
Act 348 of 1972

554.609 Itemized list of damages; check or money order; contents of notice of damages.

Sec. 9. In case of damage to the rental unit or other obligation against the security deposit, the landlord shall mail to the tenant, within 30 days after the termination of occupancy, an itemized list of damages claimed for which the security deposit may be used as provided in section 7, including the estimated cost of repair of each property damaged item and the amounts and bases on which he intends to assess the tenant. The list shall be accompanied by a check or money order for the difference between the damages claimed and the amount of the security deposit held by the landlord and shall not include any damages that were claimed on a previous termination inventory checklist prior to the tenant's occupancy of the rental unit. The notice of damages shall include the following statement in 12 point boldface type which shall be at least 4 points larger than the body of the notice: "You must respond to this notice by mail within 7 days after receipt of same, otherwise you will forfeit the amount claimed for damages."

History: 1972, Act 348, Eff. Apr. 1, 1973.

Popular name: Landlord-Tenant Act

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554.610 Effect of noncompliance with notice of damages requirement.

Sec. 10. Failure by the landlord to comply with the notice of damages requirement within the 30 days after the termination of occupancy, constitutes agreement by the landlord that no damages are due and he shall remit to the tenant immediately the full security deposit.

History: 1972, Act 348, Eff. Apr. 1, 1973.

Popular name: Landlord-Tenant Act

LANDLORD AND TENANT RELATIONSHIPS (EXCERPT)
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554.611 Notice of forwarding address; effect of noncompliance.

Sec. 11. The tenant shall notify the landlord in writing at the address given under section 4 within 4 days after termination of his occupancy of an address at which communications pursuant to this act may be received. Failure to comply with this requirement relieves the landlord of the requirement of notice of damages but does not prejudice a tenant's subsequent claim for the security deposit.

History: 1972, Act 348, Eff. Apr. 1, 1973.

Popular name: Landlord-Tenant Act

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554.612 Response to notice of damages.

Sec. 12. If a landlord claims damages to a rental unit and gives notice of damages as required, the tenant upon receipt of the list of damages shall respond by ordinary mail to the address provided by the landlord as required by section 3 within 7 days, indicating in detail his agreement or disagreement to the damage charges listed. For the purposes of this section the date of mailing shall be considered the date of the tenant's response.

History: 1972, Act 348, Eff. Apr. 1, 1973.

Popular name: Landlord-Tenant Act

LANDLORD AND TENANT RELATIONSHIPS (EXCERPT)
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554.613 Action for damages; retention of security deposit; waiver.

Sec. 13. (1) Within 45 days after termination of the occupancy and not thereafter the landlord may commence an action in a court of competent jurisdiction for a money judgment for damages which he has claimed or in lieu thereof return the balance of the security deposit held by him to the tenant or any amount mutually agreed upon in writing by the parties. A landlord shall not be entitled to retain any portion of a security deposit for damages claimed unless he has first obtained a money judgment for the disputed amount or filed with the court satisfactory proof of an inability to obtain service on the tenant or unless:

- (a) The tenant has failed to provide a forwarding address as required by section 11.
- (b) The tenant has failed to respond to the notice of damages as required by section 12.
- (c) The parties have agreed in writing to the disposition of the balance of the deposit claimed by the landlord.
- (d) The amount claimed is entirely based upon accrued and unpaid rent equal to the actual rent for any full rental period or portion thereof during which the tenant has had actual or constructive possession of the premises.

(2) This section does not prejudice a landlord's right to retain any security deposit funds as satisfaction or partial satisfaction of a money judgment obtained pursuant to summary proceedings filed pursuant to chapter 57 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended, being sections 600.5701 to 600.5759 of the Compiled Laws of 1948 or other proceedings at law. Failure of the landlord to comply fully with this section constitutes waiver of all claimed damages and makes him liable to the tenant for double the amount of the security deposit retained.

History: 1972, Act 348, Eff. Apr. 1, 1973.

Popular name: Landlord-Tenant Act