

TENANT TIP SHEET

"My Landlord is Threatening to Evict Me"

YOUR RIGHT



Under the Residential Tenancies Act (RTA), you cannot be evicted from your rental unit without an order from the Landlord & Tenant Board. Any other type of eviction is **ILLEGAL**.

WHAT TO DO

If your landlord has asked you to leave: verbally, through an e-mail, text, or in writing, you should reply in a letter to your landlord stating your position. Be sure to keep a copy of the letter for your own records. For example:



*Dear Landlord,
Please be advised that I am a tenant under the Residential Tenancies Act. The notice you gave me to vacate the premises is not lawful. I do not intend to vacate the premises.
Sincerely,
Tenant*

IF THE LANDLORD CHANGES THE LOCKS OR REMOVES YOUR PROPERTY FROM YOUR RENTAL UNIT ILLEGALLY

1. Report this to the police immediately.

For emergencies: (E.g. someone's safety is in danger) Call 9-1-1

For non-emergencies:

- 519-653-7700 (For Kitchener, Waterloo & Cambridge)
- 519-570-3000 (For other areas in Waterloo Region)

You will want to get the name of the contacts who responds to the call, as well as the "Occurrence Number." Usually the police will give you a business card with this information. This will help you to get a copy of the police report later.



2. Call and report the illegal eviction to the Rental Housing Enforcement Unit (RHEU) of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. They will respond to complaints from tenants and landlords about alleged offences under the RTA.

- Toll Free Phone Number: 1-888-772-9277
- Website: ontario.ca/rentaloffences

Be sure to write down the Case Number, name and contact information for the Compliance/Customer Service Officer that takes your complaint at the RHEU.

3. Get **free** legal advice to see if your unit is covered under the RTA and how to enforce your right by contacting:



Waterloo Region
Community Legal Services

450 Frederick St. #101, Kitchener ON N2H 2P5

Phone: 519-743-0254 or Online Contact Form found at: www.wrcls.ca

