

HFC Committee

From: Dianne E. Shimizu
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2020 1:14 PM
To: HFC Committee
Subject: HFC-66, Evictions during COVID-19 Pandemic

Please consider the following email in connection with item 66 on the HFC agenda.

From: Lois L. Whitney <Lois.Whitney@mauicounty.us>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 12:21 PM
To: Alice L. Lee <Alice.Lee@mauicounty.us>
Cc: Dianne E. Shimizu <Dianne.Shimizu@mauicounty.us>
Subject: From constituent: Help needed (tenants not paying rent)

Aloha Chair,
Ms. Gibo asked that this be forwarded to you and Member Kama.
She is a long-time Realtor; she also owns a taxi business.
Mahalo,
Lois

Lois L. Whitney

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Office of Councilmember Tasha Kama
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----- Forwarded message -----

I know it's State, but the moratorium on evictions must be lifted. There will be such a back log in court cases. People are getting double or triple what they usually make and not paying rent. *Several people we picked up said they are going on vacation before the \$600 ends instead of paying their rent.*

My trigger was talking with someone who owns a business, their home and a rental. Their tenant did not pay rent for 3 months. They got their mortgage deferred. August everything kicks in again. She said that she was happy the tenant was willing to leave. Not all are like that. They are not putting up their house for sale. If things don't work out, they will lose their rental investment, their home and probably their business. Property owners should not have to choose.

There are already a spike in bankruptcies. Then eviction and then foreclosures. Talk about a court back log.

My situation is that my tenant's lease was ending on June 16. HUD stopped paying on the 16th. Tenant did not move out and now has not paid June and July. Owner is trying to move back to Maui and occupy the unit with her daughter. She is on Kauai waiting. Tenant already said that we cannot evict her. She is right. We were waiting for Aug 1. Every day is costing the Owner money and days away from her daughter. Her daughter is with her Dad. Not a good situation. Now she will be stuck until Sept. 1 to file and then until the Courts can get the case in.

Closing businesses, bankruptcies, foreclosure and people losing homes. If we can get the irresponsible tenants out, there are responsible ones that need a place to live. We all need to do our part. It seems that the small businesses and the home owners are not being considered in any of the programs.

I was told that the County met with an Agency about this situation and did not get a positive response. Pouring more money out for irresponsible people will only hurt everyone more.

I do have a few good Owners. They are older and don't have mortgages on the rentals. They have given various rent reductions. These grateful tenants have paid their rent even with the difficulty. I also have one who decided to move out of State. You think there's more?

Happy Sunday and thanks for always listening.

Claire Gibo

Wailuku