

**NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT REGARDING THE CITY OF HARTFORD'S
PROVISION OF EMERGENCY AND TEMPORARY HOUSING TO
HARTFORD RESIDENTS DISPLACED BY CODE ENFORCEMENT
ACTIVITIES**

IF YOU ARE A HARTFORD RESIDENT WHO IS CURRENTLY RESIDING IN THE CITY OF HARTFORD'S EMERGENCY AND TEMPORARY HOUSING FACILITIES, OR HAVE BEEN DISPLACED FROM YOUR LAWFUL RESIDENCE BY CITY OF HARTFORD CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES, PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY, AS IT AFFECTS YOUR RIGHTS TO EMERGENCY AND TEMPORARY HOUSING UNDER THE CONNECTICUT UNIFORM RELOCATION ASSISTANCE ACT (URAA).

In March of 2016, the Honorable Judge Glenn A. Woods, in the case known as *Serrano et al. v. Gaitor et al.*, Docket No. CV-H-8104-519, entered an order regarding the City of Hartford's obligations, under the URAA (Connecticut General Statutes Section 8-266 and following) to provide emergency and temporary housing to Hartford residents who are displaced by the City of Hartford's code enforcement activities.

Judge Woods later clarified this decision in February 2017, applying certain monetary limits to the City of Hartford's obligations. The parties in this case, plaintiffs represented by Greater Hartford Legal Aid, Inc. (GHLA) and the City of Hartford, have reached a proposed agreement regarding the City's provision of emergency and temporary housing to displaced Hartford residents, and have submitted that agreement to Judge Woods for approval.

A summary of this proposed agreement is provided below. **If you have concerns or objections to this agreement, you can call GHLA at (860) 541-5000 and ask to speak to Cecil J. Thomas or David A. Pels, the attorneys for the plaintiffs. You can also come to a hearing, scheduled for September 15, 2017 at Hartford Housing Court, and ask that the Judge hear your concerns or objections.** Hartford Housing Court is located at 80 Washington Street in Hartford, Connecticut, and the number of the Court is (860) 756-7920.

You can obtain a copy of the proposed agreement at the offices of GHLA (999 Asylum Avenue, 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT 06105), the City of Hartford Department of Health and Human Services (131 Coventry Street, Hartford, CT 06112) or by visiting the City of Hartford's website at www.hartford.gov and searching for "relocation assistance benefits."

SUMMARY OF THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT

- Effective from the Court's approval of this proposed agreement until December 31, 2021, all Hartford residents who are displaced as a result of code enforcement activities will receive a guaranteed 90 days of emergency and temporary housing, in hotel facilities chosen by the City of Hartford. Displaced Hartford residents will have 14 days from the time they are displaced to accept the emergency/temporary housing that is offered.
- If, during that 90-day period, the City of Hartford has not identified two decent, safe and sanitary permanent replacement dwellings that satisfy the requirements of the URAA, the displaced Hartford resident will receive one final additional 30-day extension of the hotel stay.
- The City of Hartford will make good faith efforts to identify and offer hotel or other temporary housing facilities which are decent, safe, sanitary, family-friendly, accessible to public transportation, at a reasonable cost, and located in or near central Hartford.

If you are currently residing in the City of Hartford's emergency/temporary housing facilities (the Super 8, Travel Inn, or Flamingo Inn), your rights to continued hotel stays are as follows:

- If you have been residing in the hotel for 1-90 days as of the Court's approval of this agreement: You will receive the balance of the 90 day period, plus 30 additional days if the City has not identified two decent, safe and sanitary permanent replacement dwellings that are available to you.
- If you have been residing in the hotel for 91-180 days as of the Court's approval of this agreement: you will receive 30 additional days.
- If you have been residing in the hotel for more than 180 days: you will receive 15 additional days.

The provision of emergency and temporary housing will not affect any other rights you may have under the URAA, including your rights to: reimbursement or payment for moving expenses; financial assistance of up to \$4,000.00 for rent, security deposit, or for a down payment to secure a permanent replacement dwelling; storage of your personal property if needed while you are displaced; and advisory assistance to help you find a place to live and to minimize hardships while you are displaced.

If you have questions or concerns about this notice, the proposed agreement, or your rights under the URAA, please call GHLA at (860) 541-5000 and ask to speak with Attorney Cecil J. Thomas or Attorney David A. Pels.