

City of Santa Rosa



Legislation Details

File #: 20-0334 **Version:** 1 **Name:** COVID-19 Eviction Defense Ord
Type: CC- Consent - Motion **Status:** Agenda Ready
File created: 3/26/2020 **In control:** City Council
On agenda: 3/31/2020 **Final action:**
Title: REPORT - SONOMA COUNTY COVID-19 EVICTION DEFENSE ORDINANCE

BACKGROUND: On March 24, 2020, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, acting in its capacity as both the Board of Supervisors and the Board of Commissioners of the Sonoma County Community Development Commission, unanimously adopted an ordinance providing an avenue for relief from evictions for tenants suffering from substantial loss of income or medical expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic or any local, state, or federal government response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The ordinance establishes an affirmative defense, which may be used in court as protection against eviction, for tenants who can demonstrate, though documentation or other objectively verifiable means, that their failure to pay rent results from a substantial loss of income or substantial out-of-pocket medical expenses associated with the COVID-19 pandemic or any local, state, or federal government response to the COVID 19 pandemic. The ordinance does not relieve the tenant of the obligation to pay rent, nor does it restrict a landlord's ability to recover rent due. The Ordinance provides a sixty-day period after the termination of the local Public Health Emergency for payment of all unpaid rent.

The Urgency Ordinance became effective upon adoption and it applies throughout the County, in both incorporated and unincorporated areas. No action is required or requested of the Council at this time.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended by the City Attorney that Council receive a report on the provisions and operation of the Urgency Ordinance of the County of Sonoma and the Sonoma County Community Development Commission Establishing an Affirmative Defense to Eviction Arising from Income Loss or Substantial Medical Expenses Related to COVID 19. No action by Council is requested at this time.

Sponsors:

Indexes: Not a Project

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. Staff Report, 2. Attachment 1 - COVID-19 Eviction Defense Ord, 3. Attachment 2 - Executive Order N-28-20, 4. Attachment 3 - Executive Order N-33-20, 5. Attachment 4 - Order C19-03, 6. Presentation, 7. Presentation (Revised 03.31.2020)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
3/31/2020	1	City Council		