

**Department of Housing and Community Development** 

## **TENANT FORECLOSURE RIGHTS**

Under D.C. law, foreclosure of the landlord is not a reason for eviction. If you are a tenant, and the landlord is in foreclosure, **you do not have to leave.** You have the right to stay and pay rent to the new owner.

If you have been told that your home is in foreclosure, there are some things you can do to protect yourself. For example:

• Let the new owner know you are there. If you have gotten notice from a bank or from the bank's lawyer about the foreclosure, make sure they know you are a tenant.

We are enclosing a sample form that you can fill out and send in. You can send this form to whoever sent you the notice about the foreclosure. To be safe, **send the form certified mail** so you can prove it was received.

- Find out where you should start sending your rent. If your home has a new owner, including a bank, you should start sending your rent to the new owner. Try to contact the bank or its attorney and ask for an address where you can pay rent.
- **Contact a lawyer for advice.** If you have questions about what your rights are, you should talk to a lawyer right away. Some people who can help are:

Legal Aid Society: 628-1161 DC Law Students in Court: 638-4798 Bread for the City: 265-2400 Neighborhood Legal Services: 682-2700

You can also contact the D.C. Office of Tenant Advocate at (202) 719-6560.

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> Adrian M. Fenty, Mayor Leila Finucane Edmonds, Director

## NOTICE OF TENANCY

<u>Tenants:</u> You can mail this form to any person who has sent you a notice about foreclosure. This might be an attorney, a bank, or a new owner of the property.

To whom it may concern:

I recently got notice about foreclosure of this property. I am a tenant in the property. I wish to continue my tenancy, as the DC Office of the Tenant Advocate informs me is my right under District law. My contact information is:

Name:
Address:
Phone number:
Date I moved in:
My rent is:

Please contact me to let me know where I should send my rent. Thank you.

Signature of tenant

Date