

URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 392-U

**AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF YUCAIPA ADOPTING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS
RELATED TO RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL TENANT
EVICTIONS AND DECLARING THE URGENCY THEREOF**

WHEREAS, international, national, state, and local health and governmental authorities are responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus named “coronavirus disease 2019,” abbreviated COVID-19, (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California declared a state of emergency to make additional resources available, formalize emergency actions already underway across multiple state agencies and departments, and help the state prepare for broader spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States of America declared a national emergency and announced that the federal government would make emergency funding available to assist state and local governments in preventing the spread of and addressing the effects of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Health Officer of the County of San Bernardino adopted a new order that places a prohibition on certain types of public gatherings until 11:59 p.m. on April 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2020-16 proclaiming the existence of a local emergency pursuant to Government Code Section 8630 to set forth applicable powers, functions and duties of the City’s Director of Disaster Services (the City Manager), and the City’s Disaster Council to ensure an effective response to the novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-33-20 to implement directives developed by the State Public Health Officer that require all individuals living in the State of California to stay at their place of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of the federal critical infrastructure and other essential sectors; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the City Council approved extending the local emergency declaration from April 6, 2020 until April 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the California Department of Public Health, and the San Bernardino County Health Officer have all issued recommendations and/or orders including but not limited to social distancing, staying home if sick, canceling or postponing large group events, working from home, and other precautions to protect public health and prevent transmission of this communicable virus; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the public health emergency and the precautions recommended by health authorities, tenants in Yucaipa have experienced or expect soon to experience sudden and unexpected income loss; and

WHEREAS, these public health orders impact daily life in the community as well as the economic health of City businesses; and

WHEREAS, loss of revenue as a result of COVID-19 may inhibit residents and City businesses from fulfilling their financial obligations, including the payment of rent; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-28-20, pursuant to his emergency powers under Government Code Sections 8567 and 8571, that suspended any provision of state law that would preempt or otherwise restrict the City's exercise of its police power to impose substantive limitations on residential or commercial evictions based on nonpayment of rent arising out of a substantial decrease in household or business income caused by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, further economic impacts are anticipated, leaving commercial and residential tenants vulnerable to eviction; and

WHEREAS, during this local emergency, and in the interest of protecting the public health and preventing transmission of COVID-19, it is essential to avoid unnecessary housing displacement, to protect the City's affordable housing stock, and to prevent housed individuals from falling into homelessness; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of public peace, health, and safety, as affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, it is necessary for the City Council to exercise its authority to issue these regulations related to the protection of the public peace, health, and safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUCAIPA DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Temporary Moratorium on Evictions. A temporary moratorium on eviction for non-payment of rent by residential or commercial tenants impacted by the COVID-19 crisis is imposed as follows:

A. Until the period of local emergency declared in response to COVID-19 is concluded, or until May 31, 2020, whichever date is sooner, no landlord shall endeavor to evict a residential or commercial tenant under the following circumstances:

1. The basis for the eviction is nonpayment of rent, or a foreclosure, arising out of a substantial decrease in household or business income (including, but not limited to, a substantial decrease in household income caused by layoffs or a reduction in the number of compensable hours of work, or a substantial decrease in business income caused by a reduction in opening hours or consumer demand), or substantial out-of-pocket medical expenses; and

2. The decrease in household or business income or the out-of-pocket medical expenses described in subsection (1) was caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, or by any local, state, or federal government response to COVID-19, and is documented.

B. A landlord who knows that a tenant cannot pay some or all of the rent temporarily for the reasons set forth above shall not do any of the following:

1. Initiate a cause of action for judicial foreclosure pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 725a *et seq.*;

2. Initiate a cause of action for unlawful detainer pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 1161 *et seq.*;

3. Initiate any other statutory cause of action that could be used to evict or otherwise eject a residential or commercial tenant or occupant of residential real property;

4. Serve a notice to terminate tenancy pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 1161 *et seq.*, to evict for nonpayment of rent; or

5. Otherwise seek to evict for nonpayment of rent.

C. A landlord knows of a tenant's inability to pay rent within the meaning of this Urgency Ordinance if the tenant, within 30 days after the date that rent is due, notifies the landlord in writing of lost income and inability to pay full rent due to the circumstances set forth in Section 1.A., and provides documentation to support the claim.

D. For purposes of this Urgency Ordinance, "in writing" includes email or text communications to a landlord or the landlord's representative with whom the tenant has previously corresponded by email or text. Any medical or financial information provided to the landlord shall be held in confidence, and only used for evaluating the tenant's claim.

E. Nothing in this Urgency Ordinance shall relieve the tenant of liability for the unpaid rent, which the landlord may seek after expiration of the local emergency and the tenant must pay within six months of the expiration of the local emergency. Six months after the end of the emergency if the rent is unpaid, a landlord may charge or collect a late fee for rent that is delayed for the reasons stated in this Urgency Ordinance; or a landlord may seek rent that is delayed for the reasons stated in this Urgency Ordinance through eviction or other appropriate legal process.

F. This Urgency Ordinance applies to evictions and unlawful detainer actions served or filed on or after the date on which a local emergency was proclaimed to exist within the City of Yucaipa.

SECTION 2. Violations.

A. This Urgency Ordinance shall be punishable as set forth in Chapter 1.12 of the Yucaipa Municipal Code. Nothing in this Urgency Ordinance shall be construed to diminish or supersede the provisions of Penal Code Section 396.

B. This Urgency Ordinance grants a defense in the event that an unlawful detainer action is commenced in violation of this Urgency Ordinance.

SECTION 3. Term. This Urgency Ordinance shall remain in effect for the period of local emergency declared in response to COVID-19 within the City, or until May 31, 2020, whichever date is sooner.

SECTION 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance is adopted as an urgency ordinance for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety within the meaning of Government Code Section 36937(b), and therefore shall be passed immediately upon its introduction and shall become effective at midnight tonight, April 27, 2020 upon its adoption by a minimum 4/5 vote of the City Council.

SECTION 5. Uncodified. This Urgency Ordinance shall not be codified.

SECTION 6. Severability. The City Council declares that, should any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Urgency Ordinance for any reason be held invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Urgency Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this Urgency Ordinance and each section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 7. Certification and Publication. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Urgency Ordinance and shall cause it to be published in the manner required by law.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 27th day of April, 2020.



DAVID AVILA, MAYOR

ATTEST:



JENNIFER CRAWFORD, CITY CLERK

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-28-20

WHEREAS on March 4, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS despite sustained efforts, the virus remains a threat, and further efforts to control the spread of the virus to reduce and minimize the risk of infection and otherwise mitigate the effects of COVID-19 are needed; and

WHEREAS the economic impacts of COVID-19 have been significant, and could threaten to undermine Californians' housing security and the stability of California businesses; and

WHEREAS many Californians are experiencing substantial losses of income as a result of business closures, the loss of hours or wages, or layoffs related to COVID-19, hindering their ability to keep up with their rents, mortgages, and utility bills; and

WHEREAS Californians who are most vulnerable to COVID-19, those 65 years and older, and those with underlying health issues, are advised to self-quarantine, self-isolate, or otherwise remain in their homes to reduce the transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS because homelessness can exacerbate vulnerability to COVID-19, California must take measures to preserve and increase housing security for Californians to protect public health; and

WHEREAS local jurisdictions, based on their particular needs, may therefore determine that additional measures to promote housing security and stability are necessary to protect public health or to mitigate the economic impacts of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS local jurisdictions may also determine, based on their particular needs, that promoting stability amongst commercial tenancies is also conducive to public health, such as by allowing commercial establishments to decide whether and how to remain open based on public health concerns rather than economic pressures, or to mitigate the economic impacts of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS in addition to these public health benefits, state and local policies to promote social distancing, self-quarantine, and self-isolation require that people be able to access basic utilities—including water, gas, electricity, and telecommunications—at their homes, so that Californians can work from home, receive public health information, and otherwise adhere to policies of social distancing, self-quarantine, and self-isolation, if needed; and

WHEREAS many utility providers, public and private, covering electricity, gas, water, and sewer, have voluntarily announced moratoriums on service disconnections and late fees for non-payment in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS many telecommunication companies, including internet and cell phone providers, have voluntarily announced moratoriums on service disconnections and late fees for non-payment in response to COVID-19;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes of the State of California, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567 and 8571, do hereby issue the following order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1) The time limitation set forth in Penal Code section 396, subdivision (f), concerning protections against residential eviction, is hereby waived. Those protections shall be in effect through May 31, 2020.
- 2) Any provision of state law that would preempt or otherwise restrict a local government's exercise of its police power to impose substantive limitations on residential or commercial evictions as described in subparagraphs (i) and (ii) below—including, but not limited to, any such provision of Civil Code sections 1940 et seq., or 1954.25 et seq.—is hereby suspended to the extent that it would preempt or otherwise restrict such exercise. This paragraph 2 shall only apply to the imposition of limitations on evictions when:
 - (i) The basis for the eviction is nonpayment of rent, or a foreclosure, arising out of a substantial decrease in household or business income (including, but not limited to, a substantial decrease in household income caused by layoffs or a reduction in the number of compensable hours of work, or a substantial decrease in business income caused by a reduction in opening hours or consumer demand), or substantial out-of-pocket medical expenses; and
 - (ii) The decrease in household or business income or the out-of-pocket medical expenses described in subparagraph (i) was caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, or by any local, state, or federal government response to COVID-19, and is documented.

The statutory cause of action for judicial foreclosure, Code of Civil Procedure section 725a et seq.; the statutory cause of action for unlawful detainer, Code of Civil Procedure section 1161 et seq., and any other statutory cause of action that could be used to evict or otherwise eject a residential or commercial tenant or occupant of residential real property after foreclosure is suspended only as applied to any tenancy, or residential real property and any

occupation thereof, to which a local government has imposed a limitation on eviction pursuant to this paragraph 2, and only to the extent of the limitation imposed by the local government.

Nothing in this Order shall relieve a tenant of the obligation to pay rent, nor restrict a landlord's ability to recover rent due.

The protections in this paragraph 2 shall be in effect through May 31, 2020, unless extended.

- 3) All public housing authorities are requested to extend deadlines for housing assistance recipients or applicants to deliver records or documents related to their eligibility for programs, to the extent that those deadlines are within the discretion of the housing authority.
- 4) The Department of Business Oversight, in consultation with the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency, shall engage with financial institutions to identify tools to be used to afford Californians relief from the threat of residential foreclosure and displacement, and to otherwise promote housing security and stability during this state of emergency, in furtherance of the objectives of this Order.
- 5) Financial institutions holding home or commercial mortgages, including banks, credit unions, government-sponsored enterprises, and institutional investors, are requested to implement an immediate moratorium on foreclosures and related evictions when the foreclosure or foreclosure-related eviction arises out of a substantial decrease in household or business income, or substantial out-of-pocket medical expenses, which were caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, or by any local, state, or federal government response to COVID-19.
- 6) The California Public Utilities Commission is requested to monitor measures undertaken by public and private utility providers to implement customer service protections for critical utilities, including but not limited to electric, gas, water, internet, landline telephone, and cell phone service, in response to COVID-19, and on a weekly basis publicly report these measures.

Nothing in this Order shall be construed to invalidate any limitation on eviction enacted by a local jurisdiction between March 4, 2020 and this date.

Nothing in this Order shall in any way restrict state or local authority to order any quarantine, isolation, or other public health measure that may compel an individual to remain physically present in a particular residential real property.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-37-20

WHEREAS on March 4, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS in a short period of time, COVID-19 has rapidly spread throughout California, necessitating stringent public health emergency orders as well as guidance from federal, state, and local public health officials; and

WHEREAS on March 16, 2020, I issued Executive Order N-28-20, suspending state law limitations on local jurisdictions that impose restrictions on evictions; and

WHEREAS on March 19, 2020, I issued Executive Order N-33-20, ordering all residents to immediately heed the Order of the State Public Health Officer for all residents, unless exempted, to stay home or at their place of residence; and

WHEREAS many Californians are experiencing or will experience substantial losses of income as a result of business closures, the loss of hours or wages, or layoffs related to COVID-19, hindering their ability to keep up with their rent, and leaving them vulnerable to eviction; and

WHEREAS minimizing evictions during this period is critical to reducing the spread of COVID-19 in vulnerable populations by allowing all residents to stay home or at their place of residence in compliance with Executive Order N-33-20; and

WHEREAS Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye issued advisory guidance on March 20, 2020 for superior courts to suspend most civil trials and hearings for at least 60 days, and on March 23, 2020, suspended all jury trials for a period of 60 days, and extended by 60 days the time period for the holding of a civil trial; and

WHEREAS on March 25, 2020 the Department of Business Oversight secured support from national banks, state banks and credit unions for temporary delays in mortgage payments and foreclosure sales and evictions for homeowners who have economic impacts from COVID-19 with the objective of maximizing consistency and minimizing hurdles potentially faced by borrowers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes of the State of California, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567 and 8571, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1) The deadline specified in Code of Civil Procedure section 1167 shall be extended for a period of 60 days for any tenant who is served, while

this Order is in effect, with a complaint that seeks to evict the tenant from a residence or dwelling unit for nonpayment of rent and who satisfies all of the following requirements:

- a. Prior to the date of this Order, the tenant paid rent due to the landlord pursuant to an agreement.
 - b. The tenant notifies the landlord in writing before the rent is due, or within a reasonable period of time afterwards not to exceed 7 days, that the tenant needs to delay all or some payment of rent because of an inability to pay the full amount due to reasons related to COVID-19, including but not limited to the following:
 - (i) The tenant was unavailable to work because the tenant was sick with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 or caring for a household or family member who was sick with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19;
 - (ii) The tenant experienced a lay-off, loss of hours, or other income reduction resulting from COVID-19, the state of emergency, or related government response; or
 - (iii) The tenant needed to miss work to care for a child whose school was closed in response to COVID-19.
 - c. The tenant retains verifiable documentation, such as termination notices, payroll checks, pay stubs, bank statements, medical bills, or signed letters or statements from an employer or supervisor explaining the tenant's changed financial circumstances, to support the tenant's assertion of an inability to pay. This documentation may be provided to the landlord no later than the time upon payment of back-due rent.
- 2) No writ may be enforced while this Order is in effect to evict a tenant from a residence or dwelling unit for nonpayment of rent who satisfies the requirements of subparagraphs (a)-(c) of paragraph 1.
 - 3) The protections in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be in effect through May 31, 2020.

Nothing in this Order shall prevent a tenant who is able to pay all or some of the rent due from paying that rent in a timely manner or relieve a tenant of liability for unpaid rent.

Nothing in this Order shall in any way restrict state or local governmental authority to order any quarantine, isolation, or other public health measure that may compel an individual to remain physically present in a particular residential property.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order supersedes Executive Order N-28-20 to the extent that there is any conflict with that Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 27th day of March 2020.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State