



2000 Center Street, Suite 400  
Berkeley, CA 94704  
(510) 981-RENT (7368)  
[rent@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:rent@berkeleyca.gov)  
[rentboard.berkeleyca.gov/](http://rentboard.berkeleyca.gov/)

# The Rent Board Review

August 2025

Housing News You Can Use from  
the Berkeley Rent Board!

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## Measure BB changed your rights & responsibilities as tenants and landlords. Here are some highlights:

### ✓ Eviction for Just Cause

Eviction for nonpayment of rent is no longer permitted for rental debt of less than one month's Fair Market for a unit of equivalent size.

### ✓ Tenant Right to Organize

Tenants now have an enforceable right to organize if you live in a property that contains 10+ units or a property with 1 - 9 units managed by a property management company.

### ✓ Government-Subsidized Rental Properties Are Now Covered by the Rent Ordinance

Section 8, Shelter Plus Care, and other government-owned or -subsidized rental units are now fully or partially covered by the Rent Ordinance and owe annual registration fees.

You can learn more about the changes Measure BB created for tenants and landlords at [rentboard.berkeleyca.gov/MeasureBB](http://rentboard.berkeleyca.gov/MeasureBB)

## Learn More About Your Rights at Our Webinars!



### Measure BB: What Landlords Need to Know

Monday, August 18, 1:00 - 2:30pm  
Register Here: [bit.ly/MBBLandlords](http://bit.ly/MBBLandlords)



### Measure BB: What Tenants Need to Know

Wednesday, August 20, 6:00 - 7:30pm  
Register Here: [bit.ly/MBBTenants](http://bit.ly/MBBTenants)



# Berkeley Reaffirms Sanctuary City Status

## WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE IN A SANCTUARY CITY:

### FOR TENANTS

If you are a tenant, regardless of your immigration status, **you have the right to live in your home free from harassment, coercion, or threats of deportation.** Your landlord cannot ask about your immigration status or use it to deny housing, raise your rent, or attempt to evict you.

### FOR LANDLORDS

**Property owners and managers must comply with all local and state laws,** including refraining from inquiries into immigration status, avoiding discriminatory practices, and respecting tenants' legal rights. Failure to comply may result in legal action, financial penalties, and injunctions.

## Agency News: New Petition Filing Rules



The Berkeley Rent Board offers a Petitions and Hearings Process for tenants and landlords in fully covered units. **New filing rules went into effect June 16, 2025,** that include file size limits, PDF format requirements for email filing, and instructions on how to state claims. If you will be filing a petition soon, you can learn more about the Petition Process at [rentboard.berkeleyca.gov/services/rent-adjustment-petitions](https://rentboard.berkeleyca.gov/services/rent-adjustment-petitions).



## Top 3 Annual Reminders for Landlords

**1** Complete your Rental Housing Safety Program (RHSP) self-certification inspection.

**2** Calculate and pay annual interest on tenants' security deposits, as required by Berkeley's Rent Stabilization Ordinance.

**3** Review any new state or local compliance requirements, including updated tenant notices and disclosure obligations.

Our friends at BPOA (Berkeley Property Owners Association) put together this list of the top three things property owners should be thinking about every year. BPOA offers education, resources, and a community network tailored to the needs of Berkeley's rental housing providers. To learn how to implement these and other essential compliance practices, visit BPOA at [www.bpoa.org](http://www.bpoa.org).

# Switch to Email! Get The Rent Board Review delivered to your inbox quarterly!

Sign up for Rent Board updates and never miss important changes to Berkeley's rental laws. Stay informed about your rights, responsibilities, and available resources!

[bit.ly/RSBmailinglists](https://bit.ly/RSBmailinglists)



The Berkeley Rent Board is here to support a fair and thriving rental community. Whether you're a tenant, landlord, or property manager, we offer resources, education, and guidance to help you understand your rights and responsibilities under Berkeley's Rent Ordinance. This newsletter is one way we keep you informed as part of our ongoing commitment to transparency, equity, and public service.

## Upcoming Events



Whether you're renting, owning, or just curious, we're here to help! Get your questions answered and pick up free resources at our upcoming events:

### AUGUST 20, 10 - 11 AM Landlord Welcome Orientation

An in-person offering for new landlords at the Berkeley Rent Board offices on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 10 - 11am. Learn more at [bit.ly/LandlordWelcome](https://bit.ly/LandlordWelcome)

### SEPTEMBER 14 Solano Stroll

Drop by our table!

### OCTOBER 18<sup>th</sup> Harvest Festival

Drop by our table!



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