

EVICTION DEFENSE PROJECT

*Oregon Law Center, Legal Aid Services of Oregon,
and Center for Nonprofit Legal Services*

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WHAT DOES EDP DO?



Provides legal help to low-income tenants facing eviction (must have a court notice)



Provides referrals to rent assistance providers (subject to limitations created by the providers)



EVICTIION DEFENSE PROJECT IMPACT



OVER 20,000 HOUSEHOLDS
SERVED SINCE START IN 2021



POSITIVE RESULT IN 98% OF
CASES



ONGOING DATA ANALYSIS OF
EVICTIION COURT OUTCOMES
AND STATEWIDE TRENDS

STATEWIDE FINDINGS

When a tenant has a lawyer, they remain in their home in the majority of cases. When a tenant doesn't have a lawyer, they are more likely than not to lose their home.

When a tenant doesn't have a lawyer (regardless of whether the landlord has a lawyer), they are four times more likely to be involuntarily displaced than if they did have a lawyer.

Tenant default rates plummet to almost zero when a tenant has a lawyer.

When both the landlord and the tenant have a lawyer, the tenant is more likely to win at trial than the landlord.

When a tenant has a lawyer, they are almost four times as likely to get a move-out date of longer than 1 month than they are without a lawyer. Without a lawyer, tenants are twice as likely to have to agree to a very short move-out of less than 30 days.

WHO SHOULD CALL EDP?

- **Tenants with open eviction cases in court, seeking rent assistance and/or legal help**
 - **Tenants in Multnomah County with termination notices, but no court case yet**
 - **Documentation status does not affect eligibility**
- * EDP cannot take all cases, but can refer to other organizations who offer free legal assistance, or sometimes connect callers to resources or general procedural information.

Plaintiff (Landlord or Agent) _____ Case No: _____
v. _____ RESIDENTIAL EVICTION COMPLAINT
Defendant (Tenant or Occupant) _____ Filing fee at [ORS 105.120](#)

| PLAINTIFF-LANDLORD: | DEFENDANT-TENANT: |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Name _____ | Name _____ |
| Name _____ | Name _____ |
| Street _____ | Street (do not use a P.O. Box) _____ |
| City/State/ZIP _____ | City/State/ZIP _____ |

1. Defendant-Tenants are in possession of the dwelling unit, premises, or rental property described above or located at:

| | | | |
|-------|------|-------|-----|
| _____ | City | State | ZIP |
|-------|------|-------|-----|

2. IF NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN, A COPY IS ATTACHED

24-hour notice for **domestic violence, sexual assault, or a crime**, or a **seriously outrageous act, or unlawful occupant.** ([ORS 90.326 or 90.402](#))

24-hour or 48-hour notice for **violation of a drug or alcohol program.** ([ORS 90.368](#))

24-hour notice for **perpetrating domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking.**


WILL TENANTS GET RENT ASSISTANCE OR A LAWYER OR BOTH?

RENT ASSISTANCE REFERRALS

- EDP serves as the central intake line for the OHCS rent assistance program, Eviction Prevention Rapid Response (EPRR)
- EPRR is available in a limited amount each month and typically runs out within the first week or two
- When EPRR is open, EDP can open an application for a tenant and then EPRR does all the processing and follow-up. EDP has no role in deciding which tenants get rent assistance and how much is available.

LEGAL HELP

- Legal information and self-help materials always provided
- Callers will be screened for income eligibility and legal defenses
- Usually, tenants with a nonpayment case with defense will not get an attorney. Tenants with a case with a defense will either get phone advice or attorney rep, depending on program capacity.
- Over-income callers or callers otherwise turned away will be given options for other legal help.



INTAKE
OPTIONS
TO
REACH
EDP

- Phone/Voicemail:
 - Main Intake Line: 888-585-9638
 - Intake hours currently M-Th 9am-1pm
 - Leave a voicemail with county, case number and DOB
- Email: evictiondefense@oregonlawcenter.org
- Online Form:
 - <https://oregonlawcenter.org/eviction-defense-project/>

QUESTIONS?

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