# ARE YOU A SUBURBAN RENTER IN COOK COUNTY?



# RTLO: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The **Cook County Residential Tenant Landlord Ordinance (RTLO)** gives rights and protections to renters in the Cook County suburbs (outside of Evanston and Mount Prospect, which have their own ordinances).

As of June 1, 2021:

# **LANDLORDS CANNOT:**



## LOCK YOU OUT WITHOUT A COURT ORDER - effective as of January 28, 2021

A lockout is when a landlord changes or removes locks, removes doors/windows, eliminates essential services such as electricity or other utilities, or threatens any of those actions.



# CHARGE REALLY HIGH LATE RENT FEES, MOVE-IN FEES, OR SECURITY DEPOSITS

Late fees are capped at \$10 for the first \$1,000. It must be clear what move-in fees cover. Security deposits cannot be more than 1.5 times the monthly rent amount and must be returned to you within 30 days after the lease ends.

# **LANDLORDS MUST:**



#### MAKE REPAIRS & PROVIDE ESSENTIAL UTILITES

Your landlord must maintain the building or property and make repairs within 14 days. Your landlord must also provide essential utilities such as heat, running hot water, electricity, gas, and plumbing.



#### GIVE 2 DAYS' NOTICE BEFORE ENTERING YOUR UNIT

Unless there is an emergency or repairs that require immediate access.



## GIVE 60 DAYS' NOTICE WHEN NOT RENEWING YOUR LEASE

### IS YOUR UNIT COVERED?

Almost all rental units are included (including mobile homes & subsidized units). There are some exceptions, including:

- Units in owner-occupied buildings with 6 or fewer units
- A single family home or condominium if:
  - The owner is only renting that one rental property and
  - o The owner or an immediate family member has lived in the home within the year



