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## **COVID-19: Evictions Information**

Governor Cuomo issued a moratorium on all evictions. No evictions can occur within the State of New York until at least August 20, 2020. You have rights as a tenant and should be aware of the rights and protections that exist under the law.

**Q: What if I had a court date for an eviction proceeding?**

**A:** All court dates have been adjourned until May at the earliest. If you would like to check the status of a court date you can do so by calling Southampton Justice Court at (631) 702-2990. No matter what your court date is though, you cannot be evicted before August 20, 2020.

**Q: What if I already received notification from the Sheriff's Office that I am being evicted?**

**A:** Even if you received a 14-day notice from the Sheriff, you will not be evicted until at least August 20, 2020.

**Q: What if I am unable to pay my rent because I am currently out of work?**

**A:** Many families are facing difficult choices because of current situation. Even though evictions are suspended, your rent is still due. You can contact Suffolk County Department of Social Services at (631) 854-9100 to see if you may be eligible for emergency assistance. If you cannot pay your rent, your landlord will not be able to start an eviction proceeding until the courts re-open, and will not be able to complete an eviction until at least August 20, 2020.

**Q: My landlord has threatened to change my locks or shut off my utilities. What can I do?**

**A:** In N.Y. it is a crime for a landlord to lock someone out of their home, or to turn off the utilities or remove someone's property to force them out. The only legal evictions are conducted by the Sheriff's Office and the Sheriff is not conducting evictions until August 2020. If you have been illegally evicted, call the police immediately. For additional assistance you can also contact Nassau Suffolk Law Services at (631) 232-2400.

**Q: My apartment is unsafe because the owner refuses to correct problems or address maintenance issues. What can I do?**

**A:** The Department of Health will still take reports about serious living condition issues. You can call (631) 854-4000 or contact Southampton Town Code Enforcement at (631) 702-1700.

For additional information and more details visit <https://www.nslawservices.org/covid-19>.

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