



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON
BLDG 237, B AVE, P.O. Box 105021
FORT IRWIN, CA 92310-5001

AMIM-NTG-ZA

1 September 2021

MEMORANUM FOR Military Tenants of Privatized Housing under the Army's Residential Communities Initiative (RCI) at Fort Irwin, CA

SUBJECT: Tenant Informal Dispute Resolution Procedures (Fort Irwin, CA)

1. Tenants are required to attempt to resolve disputes informally through the process identified in the addendum to the tenant's lease or an informal dispute resolution process as follows.
2. The informal dispute resolution process is a measured approach intended to resolve disputes at the garrison level. The process will address both lease disputes and disputes that fall outside the specific parameters of the lease document (i.e., personal property claims). The tenant is responsible for initiating the informal dispute resolution process by submitting a request form containing relevant administrative information (Encl).
3. The Military Housing Office (MHO) will provide the request form and is available to assist tenants in completing the form. If eligible, tenants may also utilize a legal assistance attorney to prepare the document. A copy of the completed request form will be provided to the landlord or landlord's designated representative.
4. Within 3 business days, the garrison commander will review the request and determine additional information from the parties or an inspection of the premises will be required. Within 5 business days the garrison commander will convene a meeting with the parties. The parties may bring a representative to the meeting. The garrison commander will have discretion to conduct the mediation as s/he sees fit, e.g., joint sessions or a private caucus, in order to best accommodate the parties and resolve the matter. The individuals attending the session will have full authority to resolve the dispute.
5. The length and number of sessions will be at the discretion of the garrison commander, but the total time elapsed from receipt of the tenant's request to conclusion of the process should normally not exceed 10 business days.
6. The garrison commander may keep personal notes for his or her records, as needed. If the parties agree to resolve their dispute the terms will be reduced to a settlement

AMIM-NTG-ZA

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Agreement or other acceptable, binding document, prepared by the landlord and subject to tenant review.


7. If agreement is not reached, the garrison commander will conclude the informal dispute resolution phase and advise the tenant that they may file a request for formal dispute resolution, as described in Schedule 3 to the universal lease. The garrison commander will provide tenants written instructions that the formal dispute resolution process is limited to "eligible housing disputes" as that term is defined in the Schedule 3 of the universal lease and that the formal dispute resolution Decision Authority may only award certain remedies as described in Schedule 3 of the universal lease.

8. The formal dispute resolution phase is reserved solely for the military member, their spouse or other eligible individual who qualifies as a "tenant" as defined in Section 2871 of Title 10 of the United States Code. The formal dispute resolution is designed to obtain prompt and fair resolution of housing disputes concerning rights and responsibilities in the lease. Requests for formal dispute resolution will follow the Department of Defense (DoD) guidance and use the forms in Schedule 3 of the DoD universal lease and dispute resolution process.

9. Nothing in the informal dispute resolution process shall prohibit a tenant or owner from pursuing an eligible housing dispute, as defined in Schedule 3 of the universal lease, in any adjudicative body with jurisdiction over the housing unit or claim in accordance with applicable state and/or federal law.

10. The garrison point of contact is, Mrs. Sandra Key, Chief of Housing, Directorate of Public Works, at (760) 380-6824, Sandra.l.key.civ@mail.mil.

Encl
As


JASON A CLARKE
COL, SF
Commanding

NCLOSURE – Informal Dispute Resolution Process

1. Tenant's Name: _____
Grade Last Name First Name

2. Residential Address: _____

(Include house/apt number, street name, city, state, zip code)

3. Tenant Contact Information:

a. Home telephone number: (_____) _____
Area Code

b. Cell phone number: (_____) _____
Area Code

c. Email address: _____

4. Preferred method of receiving correspondence relating to the matter:

a. _____ Residential address listed on line 2, above.

b. _____ Email address indicated on line 3, above.

5. Rental/Owner Company Name: _____

6. Rental/Owner Contact Information:

a. Contact Name (Last, First): _____

b. Telephone Number: (_____) _____
Area Code

c. Email: _____

8. Statement describing the dispute and prior efforts to resolve the dispute:

Continue on next page

AMIM-NTG-ZA

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ENCLOSURE – Informal Dispute Resolution Process

9. List supporting documentation tenant included in this request:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____
- f. _____

10. By signing below the tenant affirms the information provided above is accurate to the best of their knowledge...

Printed Tenant's First, Last Name

Tenant's Signature

Date:

11. The Military Housing Office employee listed below acknowledges receipt of this Informal Dispute Resolution request:

Printed Name (Last, First)

Date of Receipt of Informal Dispute Resolution

Duty Position or Title

Telephone Number

Email Address