

# **COURT-CLERGY CONFERENCE 2019**

**Topic: Evictions: Landlord/Tenant Cases**

**Speakers: Hon. Cindy D. Davis  
Hon. Peter Doft**

**What are three main points that the clergy should know about this subject?**

- Landlord/Tenant cases are very technical and generally guided by code. By their nature, these cases are some of the fastest moving cases in the courthouse as possession of real property is in issue.
- Most landlords will be represented by attorneys. Many tenants tend to be self-represented, although there are some free legal resources to assist tenants. The court houses a landlord/tenant clinic.
- Tenants need to be mindful of all notices and respond quickly. Hoping the case will go away or ignoring the case will generally not improve the situation.

**What are three ways in which clergy can help their congregants?**

- As time is of the essence in these cases, clergy will want to provide resource information as quickly as possible.
- Eviction cases cause significant stress on the litigants as their home environment and credit is at stake. Be as supportive and calming as possible.
- The Superior Court website has information and forms for BOTH landlords and tenants.

**Three websites where clergy can go to learn more:**

- <http://www.sdcourt.ca.gov> Under “Civil” then “Landlord/Tenant” (Court website)
- <https://www.hud.gov/states/california/renting/tenantrights>
- <https://www.lassd.org/> (Legal Aid Society of San Diego)

**Contact names, phone numbers and email addresses if clergy have questions:**

- See websites listed above
- Legal Aid Society of San Diego / Eviction phone line (866) 244-0101
- Legal Aid Society of San Diego/ General phone line (877) 534-2524