

# ADDITIONAL MATERIAL REGULAR MEETING

### MAY 24, 2022

#### SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF

## **COMMISSIONER STEVE GELLER**

of this division shall apply prospectively from October 1, 2022, and shall not apply to or
 supersede the terms of any Rental Agreement or renewals that existed prior to such date.

(b) The Tenant's Bill of Rights and Notice of Late Fees Ordinance only applies
to residential tenancies subject to Chapter 83, Florida Statutes, and does not apply to
rentals within mobile home parks governed under Chapter 723, Florida Statutes;
short-term rentals of residential units with non-recurring rental terms of thirty (30) days or
fewer; or rentals of properties regulated under Chapter 509, Florida Statutes.

#### 8 Sec. 20-109. Definitions.

9 Landlord means any individual, firm, corporation, or other organization or group of persons however organized that is shown as the lessor, landlord, or property owner under 10 a Rental Agreements of five (5) or more Rental Units, or is any individual or entity 11 12 otherwise acting on behalf of a Landlord involved lessor, landlord, or property owner in the rental of a five (5) or more Rental Units to a Tenants, including, but not limited to, 13 14 owner, lessor, sublessor, assignor, manager, real estate licensee (either a broker, sales associate, or broker-sales associate), condominium association, homeowners' 15 16 association, cooperative association, or any representative of any of the foregoing.

*Late Fee* means a charge of any kind, levied against a Tenant, associated with a
failure of the Tenant to timely pay rent pursuant to the terms of a Rental Agreement.

*Rental Agreement* means an agreement, whether written or oral, by which a Tenant
is entitled to possess a Rental Unit, or which is a "Rental Agreement" as defined in
Section 83.43, Florida Statutes, as it may be amended.

*Rental Unit* means a residential housing unit that is or may be occupied by a Tenant
by virtue of a Rental Agreement, or that is a "Dwelling Unit" as defined in Section 83.43,
Florida Statutes, as it may be amended.

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*Tenant* means a natural person or persons who will occupy, or who makes
 application to occupy, a Rental Unit by virtue of a Rental Agreement, or who is a "Tenant"
 as defined in Section 83.43, Florida Statutes, as it may be amended.

4 Sec. 20-110. Tenant's Bill of Rights; Landlord Notice Requirements.

(a) The Resilient Environment Department shall create and maintain a Tenant's
Bill of Rights, which shall mean a paper or electronic document, available in English,
Spanish, and Creole, in at least 12-point font, and able to be printed on paper of 8-½ by
11 inches or larger, containing a notice of rights under applicable federal, state, and local
law, and services available to residential tenants in Broward County. The content of the
Tenant's Bill of Rights shall be as determined by the Broward County Board of County
Commissioners ("Board") by resolution.

(b) It is unlawful for a Landlord of a Rental Unit to accept a final rental
application or a rental application fee from a prospective Tenant for any of Landlord's
<u>Rental Units</u>, or in instances where no application is required, to enter into a Rental
Agreement for a Residential Unit under the Landlord's control or authority, without first
providing the prospective Tenant with a copy of the Tenant's Bill of Rights. A Landlord may
comply with this requirement through an agent of the Landlord (e.g., a property manager,
rental manager, or real estate licensee).

(c) For existing Tenants already occupying a Rental Unit on or before the date
set forth in Section 20-108(a), the Landlord must provide the Tenant with the Tenant's Bill
of Rights prior to the commencement of a new rental term. For Tenants with rental terms
of thirty (30) days or less that are recurring in nature (e.g., ongoing month-to-month
tenancies), the Landlord must provide the Tenant's Bill of Rights prior to October 1, 2022,
and thereafter no less than once per year.

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(d) There shall be a rebuttable presumption that a Landlord has complied with
 this section if the Landlord can provide a written, dated, and signed affirmation from the
 Tenant stating that the Tenant has timely received the Tenant's Bill of Rights. The signed
 affirmation shall be retained by the Landlord for at least one (1) year after the Tenant
 vacates the Rental Unit.

6 Sec. 20-111. Late Fee Notices; Landlord Requirements.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any Landlord to assess a Late Fee without first
providing, for each Late Fee assessed, written notice to the Tenant against whom the
Late Fee is assessed. At or before such time as a Landlord assesses a Late Fee against
a Tenant, the Landlord must provide written notice to the Tenant with the information
provided for in Section (c) below. A Landlord may comply with this requirement through
an agent of the Landlord (e.g., a property manager, rental manager, or real estate
licensee).

(b) This written notice shall be separate from any notice requirements provided
for in a Rental Agreement and shall be required each time a new Late Fee is assessed.
Only one notice shall be required if the same Late Fee continues to accrue after delivery
of the notice.

18 (c) The written notice required under this section shall include a statement19 informing the Tenant that:

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  - (1) A Late Fee has been incurred;

(2) The amount of the Late Fee due at the time of the notice and, if Late Fees
will increase or continue to accrue, a statement explaining the rate at which
such fees will increase or continue to accrue;

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