

# **Community Legal Aid**

A non-profit law firm serving the legal needs of low-income individuals and families in central northeast Ohio



[www.communitylegalaid.org](http://www.communitylegalaid.org)

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## **Legal Aid's statement clarifying HUD moratorium on foreclosures, evictions**

*Statement from Steven McGarrity of Community Legal Aid.*

Today's announcement regarding the moratorium on foreclosures and evictions has prompted confusion in the legal community, and Community Legal Aid would like to clarify our understanding of the recent policy announcement.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development is postponing foreclosure and eviction processes for "single-family homeowners with FHA-insured mortgages for the next 60 days," as stated in their most recent press release.

There is currently no relief from evictions for renters.

Housing is a critical basic need for individuals during a public health crisis. Isolation and social distancing practices cannot work if people are kicked out of their homes, forced to move in with family members or "couch surf" between friends, seek shelter in emergency shelters, or end up on the street.

Extending this same relief to renters would benefit them in the same way homeowners will benefit from the protections in HUD's new policy. We commend the few courts in northeast Ohio that already have taken steps to postpone eviction hearings and ensure that tenants have stable housing during this time of crisis.

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