



CITY OF OAKLAND

**CITY OF OAKLAND
RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM**

P.O. Box 70243
Oakland, CA 94612-0243
(510) 238-3721

For date stamp.

TENANT PETITION

Please Fill Out This Form As Completely As You Can. Failure to provide needed information may result in your petition being rejected or delayed.

Please print legibly

Your Name	Rental Address (with zip code)	Telephone:
		E-mail:
Your Representative's Name	Mailing Address (with zip code)	Telephone:
		Email:
Property Owner(s) name(s)	Mailing Address (with zip code)	Telephone:
		Email:
Property Manager or Management Co. (if applicable)	Mailing Address (with zip code)	Telephone:
		Email:

Number of units on the property: _____.

Type of unit you rent (check one)	<input type="checkbox"/> House	<input type="checkbox"/> Condominium	<input type="checkbox"/> Apartment, Room, or Live-Work
Are you current on your rent? (check one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	

If you are not current on your rent, please explain. (If you are legally withholding rent state what, if any, habitability violations exist in your unit.)

I. GROUNDS FOR PETITION: Check all that apply. You must check at least one box. For all of the grounds for a petition see OMC 8.22.070 and OMC 8.22.090. **I (We) contest one or more rent increases on one or more of the following grounds:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	(a) The CPI and/or banked rent increase notice I was given was calculated incorrectly.
<input type="checkbox"/>	(b) The increase(s) exceed(s) the CPI Adjustment and is (are) unjustified or is (are) greater than 10%.
<input type="checkbox"/>	(c) I received a rent increase notice before the property owner received approval from the Rent Adjustment Program for such an increase and the rent increase exceeds the CPI Adjustment and the available banked rent increase.

(d) No written notice of Rent Program was given to me together with the notice of increase(s) I am contesting. (Only for increases noticed after July 26, 2000.)
(e) The property owner did not give me the required form "Notice of the Rent Adjustment Program" at least 6 months before the effective date of the rent increase(s).
(f) The rent increase notice(s) was (were) not given to me in compliance with State law.
(g) The increase I am contesting is the second increase in my rent in a 12-month period.
(h) There is a current health, safety, fire, or building code violation in my unit, or there are serious problems with the conditions in the unit because the owner failed to do requested repair and maintenance. (Complete Section III on following page)
(i) The owner is providing me with fewer housing services than I received previously or is charging me for services originally paid by the owner. (OMC 8.22.070(F): A decrease in housing services is considered an increase in rent. A tenant may petition for a rent adjustment based on a decrease in housing services.) (Complete Section III on following page)
(j) My rent was not reduced after a prior rent increase period for a Capital Improvement had expired.
(k) The proposed rent increase would exceed an overall increase of 30% in 5 years. (The 5-year period begins with rent increases noticed on or after August 1, 2014).
(l) I wish to contest an exemption from the Rent Adjustment Ordinance because the exemption was based on fraud or mistake. (OMC 8.22, Article I)
(m) The owner did not give me a summary of the justification(s) for the increase despite my written request.
(n) The rent was raised <u>illegally</u> after the unit was vacated as set forth under OMC 8.22.080.

II. RENTAL HISTORY: (You must complete this section)

Date you moved into the Unit: _____ Initial Rent: \$ _____/month

When did the owner first provide you with the RAP NOTICE, a written NOTICE TO TENANTS of the existence of the Rent Adjustment Program? Date: _____. If never provided, enter "Never."

Is your rent subsidized or controlled by any government agency, including HUD (Section 8)? Yes No

List all rent increases that you want to challenge. Begin with the most recent and work backwards. If you need additional space, please attach another sheet. If you never received the RAP Notice you can contest all past increases. You must check "Yes" next to each increase that you are challenging.

Date you received the notice (mo/day/year)	Date increase goes into effect (mo/day/year)	Monthly rent increase		Are you Contesting this Increase in this Petition?*	Did You Receive a Rent Program Notice With the Notice Of Increase?
		From	To		
		\$	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		\$	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		\$	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		\$	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		\$	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		\$	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

*** You have 90 days from the date of notice of increase or from the first date you received written notice of the existence of the Rent Adjustment program (whichever is later) to contest a rent increase. (O.M.C. 8.22.090 A 2) If you did not receive a RAP Notice with the rent increase you are contesting but have received it in the past, you have 120 days to file a petition. (O.M.C. 8.22.090 A 3)**

Have you ever filed a petition for this rental unit?

- Yes
- No

List case number(s) of all Petition(s) you have ever filed for this rental unit and all other relevant Petitions:

III. DESCRIPTION OF DECREASED OR INADEQUATE HOUSING SERVICES:

Decreased or inadequate housing services are considered an increase in rent. If you claim an unlawful rent increase for problems in your unit, or because the owner has taken away a housing service, you must complete this section.

- Are you being charged for services originally paid by the owner? Yes No
- Have you lost services originally provided by the owner or have the conditions changed? Yes No
- Are you claiming any serious problem(s) with the condition of your rental unit? Yes No

If you answered “Yes” to any of the above, or if you checked box (h) or (i) on page 2, please attach a separate sheet listing a description of the reduced service(s) and problem(s). Be sure to include the following:

- 1) a list of the lost housing service(s) or problem(s);**
- 2) the date the loss(es) or problem(s) began or the date you began paying for the service(s)**
- 3) when you notified the owner of the problem(s); and**
- 4) how you calculate the dollar value of lost service(s) or problem(s).**

Please attach documentary evidence if available.

You have the option to have a City inspector come to your unit and inspect for any code violation. To make an appointment, call the City of Oakland, Code of Compliance Unit at (510) 238-3381.

IV. VERIFICATION: The tenant must sign:

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the State of California that everything I said in this petition is true and that all of the documents attached to the petition are true copies of the originals.

Tenant’s Signature

Date

V. MEDIATION AVAILABLE: Mediation is an entirely voluntary process to assist you in reaching an agreement with the owner. If both parties agree, you have the option to mediate your complaints before a hearing is held. If the parties do not reach an agreement in mediation, your case will go to a formal hearing before a different Rent Adjustment Program Hearing Officer.

You may choose to have the mediation conducted by a Rent Adjustment Program Hearing Officer or select an outside mediator. Rent Adjustment Program Hearing Officers conduct mediation sessions free of charge. If you and the owner agree to an outside mediator, please call (510) 238-3721 to make arrangements. Any fees charged by an outside mediator for mediation of rent disputes will be the responsibility of the parties requesting the use of their services.

Mediation will be scheduled only if both parties agree (after both your petition and the owner’s response have been filed with the Rent Adjustment Program). **The Rent Adjustment Program will not schedule a mediation session if the owner does not file a response to the petition.** Rent Board Regulation 8.22.100.A.

If you want to schedule your case for mediation, sign below.

I agree to have my case mediated by a Rent Adjustment Program Staff Hearing Officer (no charge).

Tenant’s Signature

Date

VI. IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Time to File

This form must be **received** at the offices of the Rent Adjustment Program (“RAP”) within the time limit for filing a petition set out in the Rent Adjustment Ordinance (Oakland Municipal Code, Chapter 8.22). RAP staff cannot grant an extension of time by phone to file your petition. **Ways to Submit.** **Mail to:** Oakland Rent Adjustment Program, P.O. Box 70243, Oakland, CA 94612; **In person:** Date stamp and deposit in Rent Adjustment Drop-Box, Housing Assistance Center, Dalziel Building, 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, 6th Floor, Oakland; **RAP Online Petitioning System:** <http://rapwp.oaklandnet.com/petition-forms/>. For more information, please call: (510) 238-3721.

File Review

Your property owner(s) will be required to file a response to this petition with the Rent Adjustment office within 35 days of notification by the Rent Adjustment Program. When it is received, the RAP office will send you a copy of the Property Owner’s Response form. Any attachments or supporting documentation from the owner will be available for review in the RAP office by appointment. To schedule a file review, please call the Rent Adjustment Program office at (510) 238-3721. If you filed your petition at the RAP Online Petitioning System, the owner may use the online system to submit the owner response and attachments, which would be accessible there for your review.

VII. HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT THE RENT ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM?

- _____ Printed form provided by the owner
- _____ Pamphlet distributed by the Rent Adjustment Program
- _____ Legal services or community organization
- _____ Sign on bus or bus shelter
- _____ Rent Adjustment Program web site
- _____ Other (describe): _____