



Community Services  
City of Beverly Hills  
455 N. Rexford Dr.  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210-4817  
310.285.2530  
[www.beverlyhills.org](http://www.beverlyhills.org)

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Contact: Dana Beesen  
310.285.2530  
[dbeesen@beverlyhills.org](mailto:dbeesen@beverlyhills.org)

## **The Beverly Hills Human Relations Commission Launched the Tenant Landlord Forum for Beverly Hills Community**

*Beverly Hills, Calif.* – In an effort to promote better relations between tenants and landlords, the Human Relations Commission launched the Tenant Landlord Forum. The Tenant Landlord Forum gives tenants and landlords a public platform to present issues and receive assistance navigating resources to address their issues. The first Tenant Landlord Forum will take place at the Human Relations Commission regular monthly meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup> and will occur monthly on the third Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. at City Hall in Room 280-A.

The Forum is part of the City's response to address the housing-related concerns of community members who may be unaware of their rights and responsibilities. The Beverly Hills Municipal Code, as of December 2004, requires that at least 24 hours prior to the execution of a lease or rental agreement by a tenant, the landlord shall provide written notice to the prospective tenant advising of certain rights of the tenant and landlord or an administrative penalty in the amount of \$500 may be imposed (BHMC 4-6-5C). The purpose of this code is to incentivize tenant and landlord understanding of their rights and responsibilities prior to a lease being signed.

It's been over a decade since the written notice became a requirement," says Jim Latta, Human Services Administrator. "The Human Relations Commission updated and improved the readability of the Tenant Landlord Rights & Responsibilities notice and tenants and landlords can access this notice online, at City Hall or request by mail. The Tenant Landlord Forum was developed for tenants and landlords to seek consultation with the Human Relations Commission in an effort to resolve differences.

Ori Blumenfeld, Human Relations Commission Chair, says, "Through this initiative, the Commission hopes to increase both tenant and landlord awareness of information and resources available to them. The City has effective tools for the community to leverage and the Commission will help people navigate these existing systems by linking them to mediation services, Code Enforcement and other pertinent resources. The Forum, the Human Relations Commission will assess situations and advise how to use these resources.

To access the Tenant Landlord Rights and Responsibilities notice and Tenant Landlord Forum, go to: [www.beverlyhills.org/hrc](http://www.beverlyhills.org/hrc) or contact Human Services at 310-285-1006. For more information on renting, go to: [www.beverlyhills.org/rent](http://www.beverlyhills.org/rent).

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