

NCCRC

National Coalition for a
Civil Right to Counsel



**Civil Right to Counsel
E-Alerts**

February 21, 2024

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UPCOMING EVENTS

*Webinar
& Resource
Release*

Advancing Racial & Health Justice Through a Right to Counsel for Tenants

Learn how the public health field can support a right to counsel for tenants facing eviction.

**Wednesday, March 6th
11-12pm PT / 2-3pm ET**

bit.ly/R2Cwebinar

In Partnership with:        As part of: 

A safe and stable home is the foundation for a healthy life, but remains out of reach for many. New laws that guarantee a right to counsel for tenants facing eviction offer a promising opportunity to address this and related racial and health inequities. **Join Us for a Webinar on March 6 at 11 am PT / 2 pm ET!**

- Learn more about right to counsel laws and steps that public health practitioners can take to support the right to counsel to advance racial and health justice;
- Be the first to preview and receive the new resource: *Advancing Racial & Health Justice Through a Right to Counsel for Tenants: A Primer for the Public Health Field*.

Register

This webinar is for public health practitioners, lawyers, organizers, local government staff and officials, and all those interested in advancing health through a right to counsel for tenants.

Speakers will include experts in the field working to pass, implement, and evaluate right-to-counsel efforts:

- Will Dominie, *Human Impact Partners*
- Pablo Estupiñan, *Strategic Actions for a Just Economy*
- Brittany Giles-Cantrell, *the de Beaumont Foundation*
- Danya Keene, *Yale School of Public Health*
- Maria Roumiantseva, *National Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel*
- Melissa Marichal Zayas, *ChangeLab Solutions*

This webinar and new resource are brought to you by [Human Impact Partners](#), [National Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel](#), [Results for America](#), [PolicyLink](#), and [ChangeLab Solutions](#), in partnership with the [de Beaumont Foundation](#) and the [American Public Health Association](#) as part of their [Healing Through Policy initiative](#).

RIGHT TO COUNSEL FOR TENANTS FACING EVICTION

National Updates

RTC Can Help Make Emergency Rental Assistance More Effective. [IllinoisAnswers](#) touches on a big issue with rental assistance around the country: ensuring landlords are not taking advantage of both the programs and the tenants utilizing such programs. A right to counsel can be one essential tool to push back against landlords who seek to recover rental assistance and then evict tenants over the same amount.

State and Local Updates

To learn more about existing RTC ordinances and laws, visit the [NCCRC's Enacted Eviction RTC Laws Matrix](#).

- **Arizona.** Phoenix Councilwoman Yassamin Ansari [called](#) for a right to counsel for tenants facing eviction.
- **Connecticut.** Governor Ned Lamont proposed an [adjustment](#) to the state budget that would add an additional [\\$2 million in ARPA funding](#) for the state's right to counsel program.
- **Indiana.** The Indiana Tenants Association held a Housing Advocacy Day and called for passage of [HB 1195](#) to establish an eviction right to counsel task force and increased funding for legal representation. [NLIHC](#) and [CBS4](#) have more.

- **Massachusetts.** In Boston, the "[maiden speech](#)" (*video link*) of City Councilor Benjamin Weber highlighted that he [filed](#) a hearing order to establish a right to counsel for tenants (a [summary](#) of his speech is also available).
- **Missouri.** In his [State of the City](#) address, Kansas City Mayor Quinton Lucas discussed the successes of the city's right to counsel program.
- **Nebraska.** State Senator John Cavanaugh introduced [LB1046](#) to provide a right to counsel for tenants residing in public housing and facing eviction or the termination of their lease. The [Unicameral Update](#) has more. *The NCCRC submitted supportive testimony.*
- **North Carolina.** In Winston-Salem, [NC Newsline](#) reported that all the candidates for the City Council agreed to support a right to counsel in the city, estimated to cost \$1.2 million per year. Meanwhile in Mecklenburg County, the Housing Justice Coalition is [calling on Charlotte City Council members and Mecklenburg County Commissioners](#) to pass a right to counsel for tenants and fund it with \$50 million.
- **Tennessee.** [SmartCitiesDive](#) highlighted the work of the Eviction Prevention Initiative in Hamilton County, TN, which provides rental assistance, supportive case management, and legal assistance for tenants facing eviction.
- **Washington.** A [recent piece on Kiro7](#) discussed the right to counsel program in Washington State (*it incorrectly stated that Washington State is the only state to provide a right to counsel for tenants; Minnesota, Maryland, and Connecticut have right to counsel laws in place as well*).

CIVIL RIGHT TO COUNSEL RESOURCES

- [RTC Status Map](#)
- [RTC Comprehensive Bibliography](#)



The **National Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel** (NCCRC) is an association of individuals and organizations committed to ensuring individuals have a right to effective counsel when facing the loss of their basic human needs in the civil legal system. www.civilrighttocounsel.org | [Donate](#)

The National Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel is a project of the Public Justice Center, Inc. - a 501(c)(3) organization, gifts to which are deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. The Public Justice Center is incorporated in the State of Maryland. Copies of current financial statements are available upon request by contacting the Public Justice Center at 201 N. Charles Street, Suite 1200, Baltimore, MD 21201 or by telephone at 410-625-9409. Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State, Annapolis, MD 21401 for the cost of copying and postage. The Public Justice Center is registered to request contributions in the states that require charitable solicitation registration. See <http://www.publicjustice.org/en/charitable-solicitation-disclosures/> for more information.



The National Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel
c/o Public Justice Center
201 N Charles Street, Suite 1200
Baltimore, MD 21201
United States

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