# Property Law 1

A Rental Agreement

by Danielle Capretti, J.D.



Thank you!



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#### What words are related to renting property?

Write your answer here.

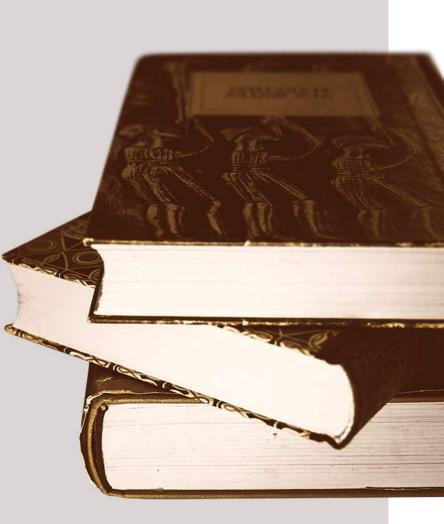
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### **RENTING IN RUSSIA**

• Landlord/Lessor: Rights and Duties?

• Tenant/Lessee: Rights and Duties?



# RENTAL AGREEMEMENT: BASIC PROVISIONS

- Names landlord and tenant
- Identifies property
- Specifies terms and conditions for rent payment
- Gives tenancy duration
- Provides tenancy terms and conditions
- Specifies liability rules for damages and repairs of the property
- Sets down clauses for termination and renewal

### TERMS IN A RENTAL AGREEMENT

Which would you NOT find in a rental agreement?

A provision explaining what happens if a fixture, like a stove, breaks down

A provision including the banking information of the landlord

A provision giving the tenant no liability for wear and tear

A provision allowing the landlord to check the property at any time

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### IMPLIED TERMS IN LEASES FOR LANDLORDS

### QUIET ENJOYMENT

- quiet and peaceful possession of the leased premises
- landlord cannot interrupt the tenant's beneficial enjoyment



## QUIET ENJOYMENT SCENERIO

East 76th Street Corp was constructing a disabled ramp and walls covering a large portion of the private garden entrance of Koretz to his apartment. Koretz left the apartment for two weeks because of the dust, debris, noise and vermin caused by construction.



*Key Fact:* Lease states East 76th Street Corp was not liable "for interference with light, air, view or other interests" of Kortez, "**except** by reason of [its] negligence."

### QUIET ENJOYMENT SCENERIO

#### Should the Kortez's claim of breach of quiet enjoyment be dismissed?

No, the landlord's actions meant Kortez could not peacefully live in the property.

Yes, the landlord has a right to construct a ramp on the property.

No, the landlord cannot do any building work on the tenant's property.



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Koretz v 363 E. 76th St. Corp.

114 N.Y.S.3d 63,178 A.D.3d 445 (2019)

### IMPLIED WARRANTY OF HABITABILITY

- Requires landlords to keep their property "habitable"
- "Habitability" = complies with local housing code





### HABITABLITY SCENERIO

Jarvins and other tenants of First National Realty refused to pay their rent for April, claiming the premises were uninhabitable. The tenants alleged 1500 violations of the local housing regulations.

Key Fact: Section 2501 of the District of Columbia Housing Regulations: "No person shall rent or offer to rent any habitation, or the furnishings thereof, unless such habitation and its furnishings are in a clean, safe and sanitary condition, in repair, and free from rodents or vermin."

### HABITABLITY SCENERIO

Are tenants entitled to withhold rent if the property meets inhabitability requirements?

No, tenants must continue to pay their rent, as they signed a contract.

No, tenants must keep paying rent and allow the landlord time to fix the violations.

Yes, because the landlord has committed a material breach of the rental contract.

No, because inhabitability is only a minor breach of contract.



Implied Warranty of Habitablity



Javins v. First National Realty Corporation

428 F.2d 1071 (D.C. Cir. 1970)

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#### What was your most memorable word from this session?



### ANTICIPATORY BREACH : FOLLOW UP

#### Nolo: Breach of Contract: Anticipatory Breach



# Thank you for your participation! Next Session - March 20, 2024 Property Vocabulary 2: A Sales Contract

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