

COVID-19 & Evictions



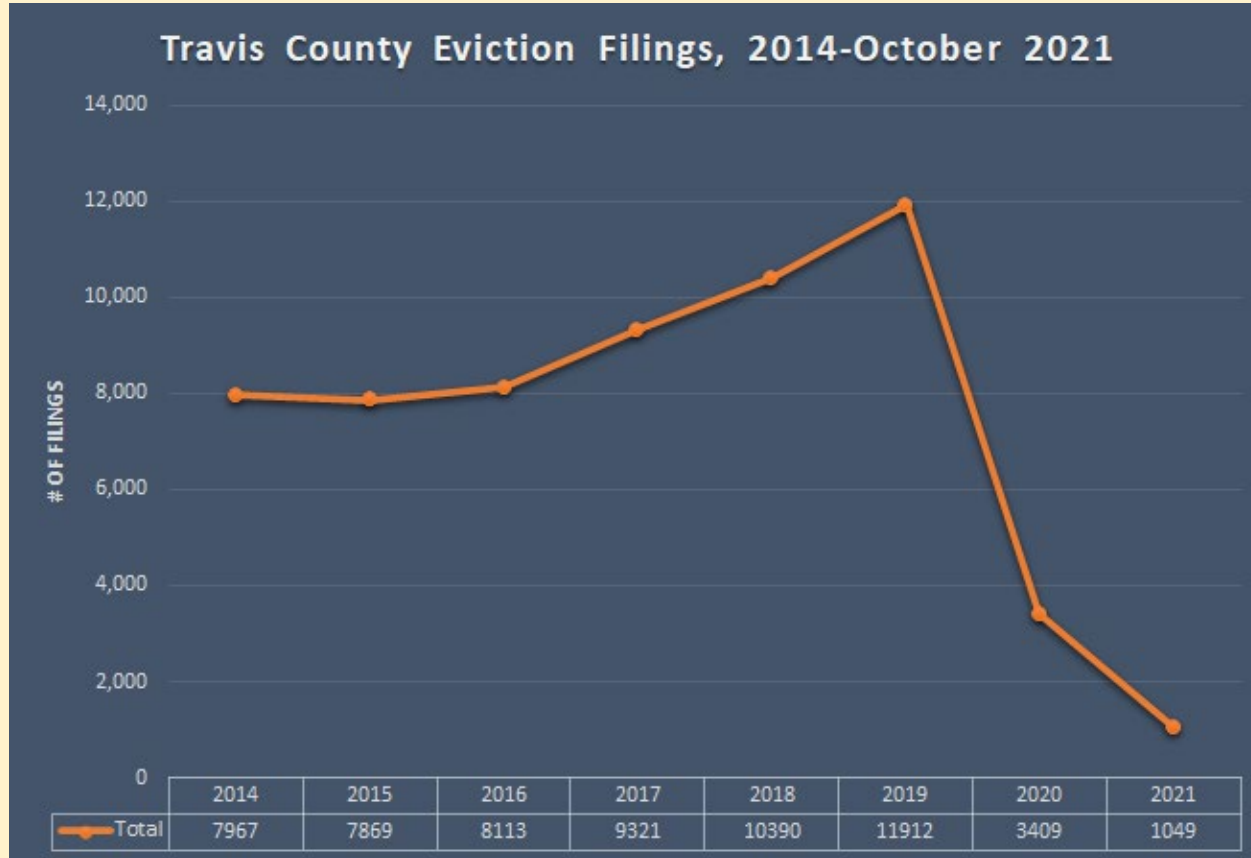
***Presentation to the Community Development
Commission of the City of Austin***

Shoshana Krieger, *Project Director*

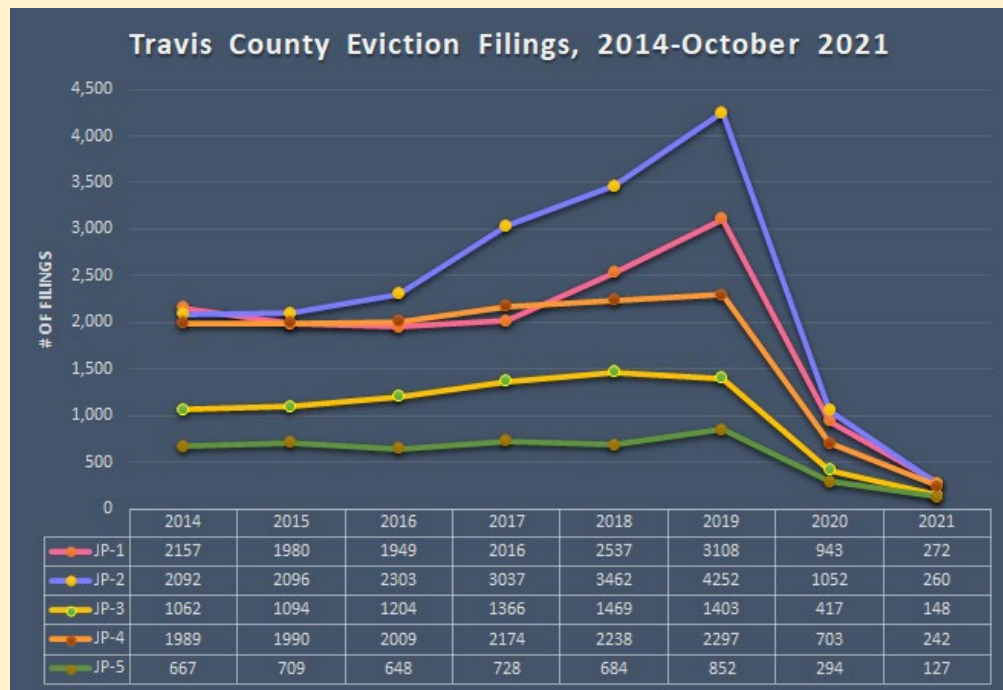
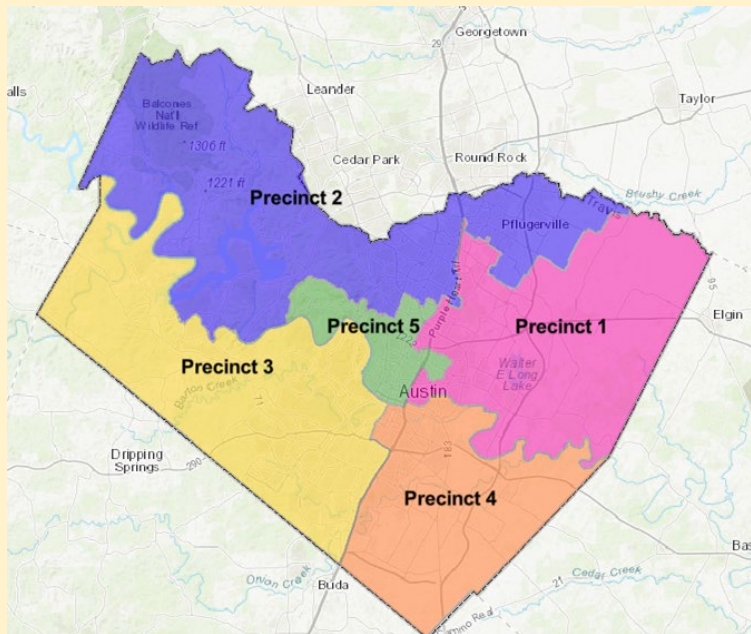
October 12, 2021

COVID-19 Evictions in Context

Eviction Filings in Travis County Over Time

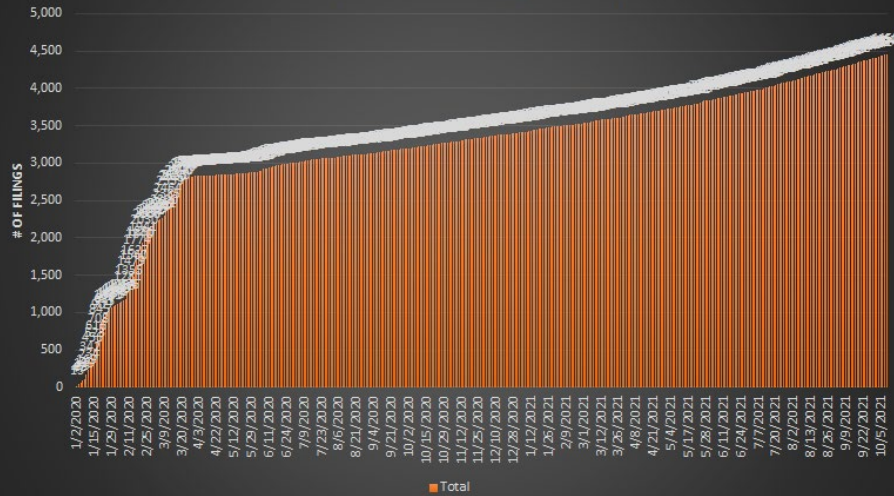


Eviction Filings in Travis County by JP

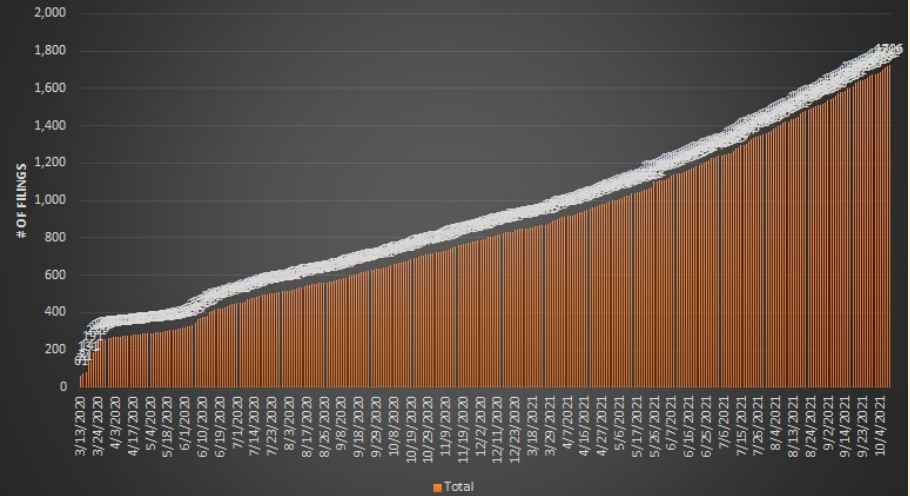


Eviction Filings during COVID-19

Travis County Eviction Filings, 2020-present

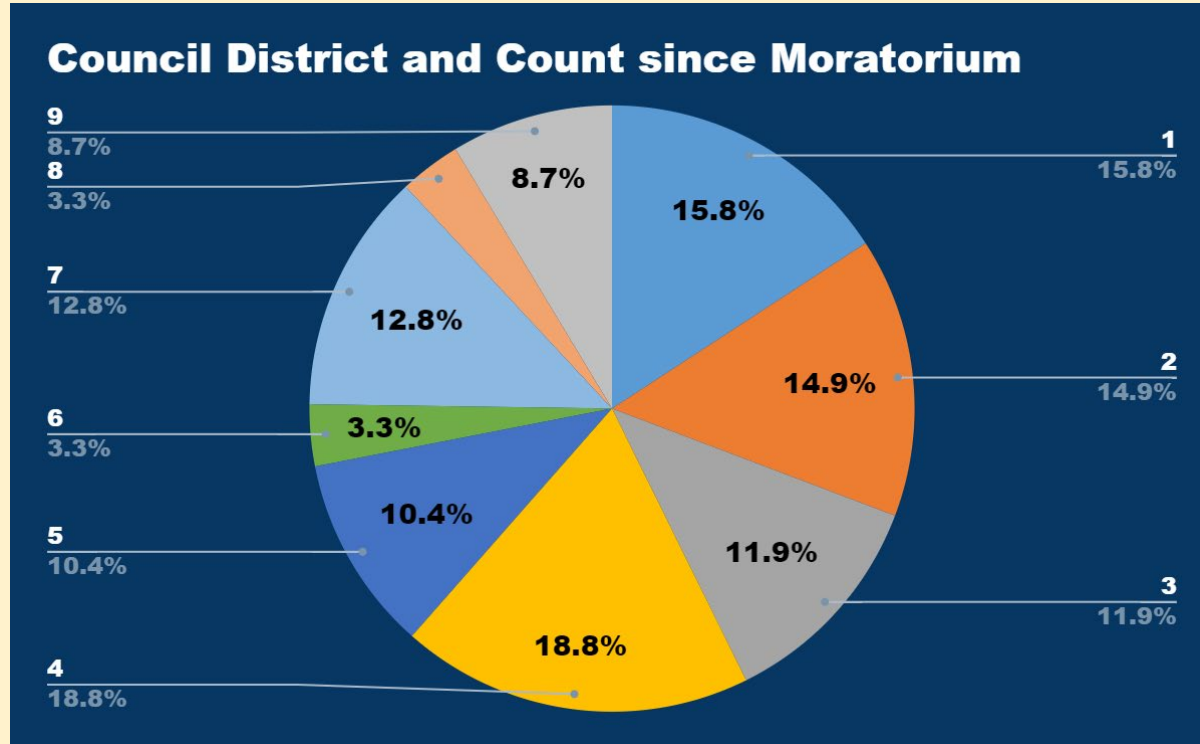


Travis County Eviction Filings, COVID-present



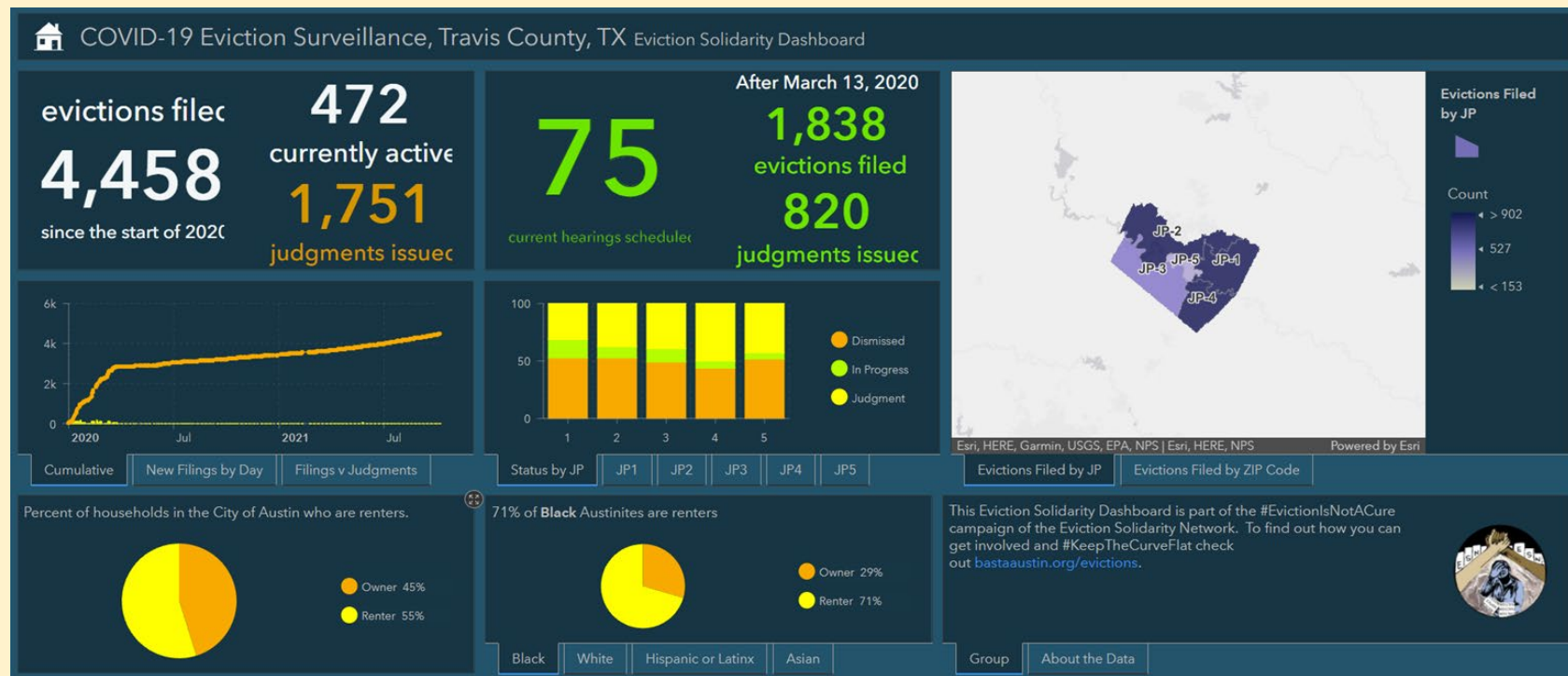
Eviction filings By Council District Since COVID-19

Based on partial dataset



Want to see more data?

www.evictionisnotacure.com



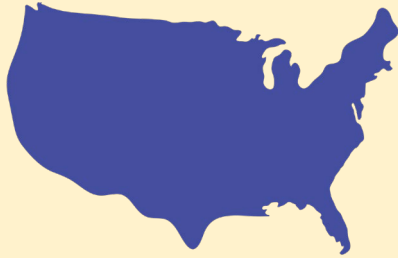
What the data doesn't show....

- ⌠ Informal evictions
- ⌠ Accurate judgment information (we are working on this)
- ⌠ What happens to tenant if there's a dismissal
- ⌠ Census-level info (we are also working on this!)
- ⌠ Demographic information



Tenant Protections

COVID Eviction Protections Since Onset of Pandemic



CARES Act

~~CDC Moratoria~~



~~Early Moratorium~~

SCOTX



Mayoral/County Judge Orders

City of Austin and San Marcos

Cure Ordinances

Justice Courts

Current Local Protections

1

Mayoral/County Judge Orders=
Many Notices to Vacate Prohibited
Expires October 15th

2

Justice Courts =
Pause on Many Nonpayment Hearings
Expires October 15th

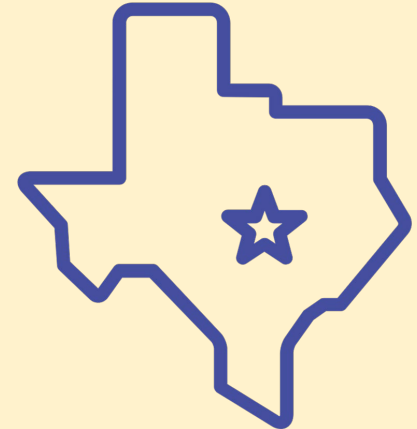
3

City of Austin Cure Ordinance =
Give Tenants 60 Day Grace Period
Expires October 15th

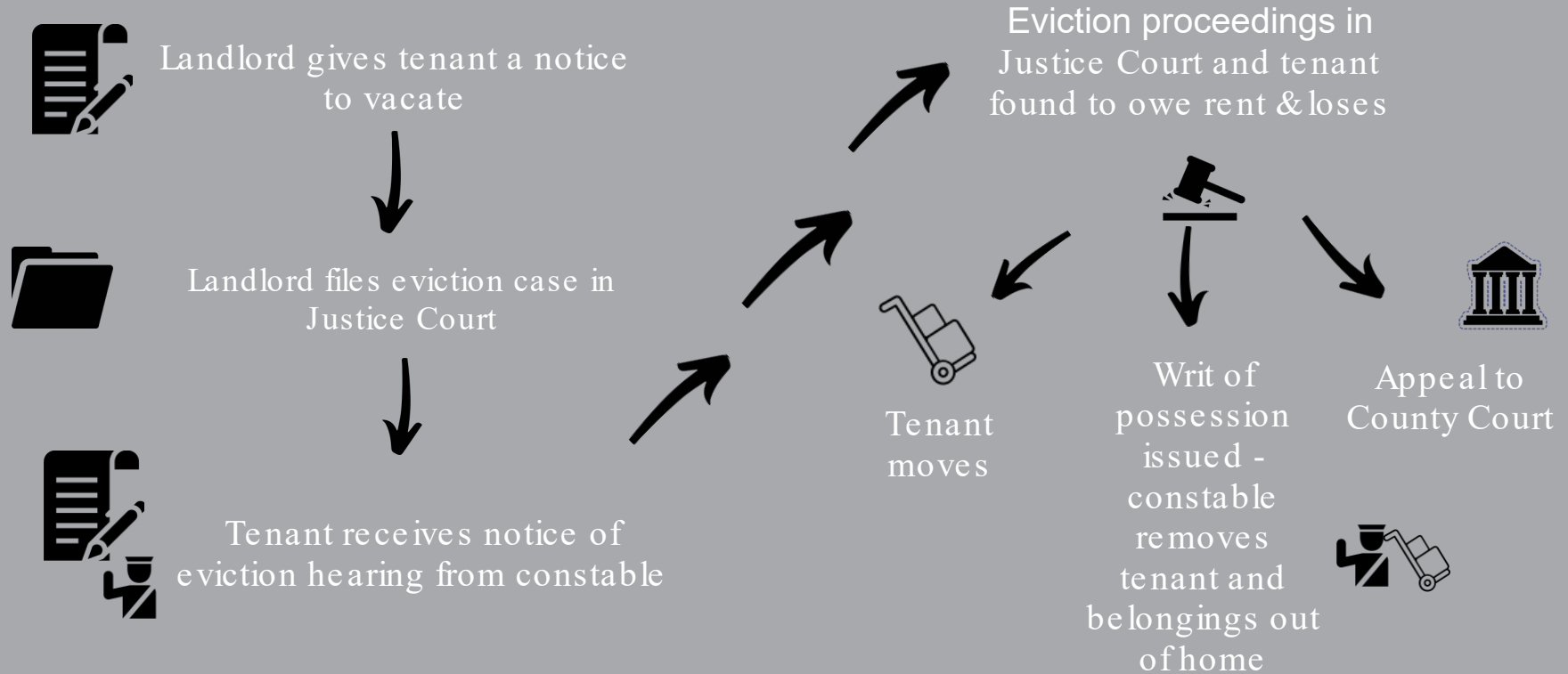
Landlord must **exhaust rental assistance remedies** before proceeding with nonpayment eviction with more than 3 months of arrears:

- 1) RENT 3.0
- 2) Travis County ERAP
- 3) Texas Rent Relief

Must wait 45 days from application.



Typical Eviction Process If You Don't Pay Rent



Process normally is 3-5 weeks

**Additional
Step!**



Landlord gives a Notice of
Proposed Eviction giving tenants
time to "cure" nonpayment



Landlord gives tenant a notice
to vacate



Landlord files eviction case in
Justice Court



Tenant receives notice of
eviction hearing from constable



Eviction proceedings in
Justice Court and tenant
found to owe rent & loses



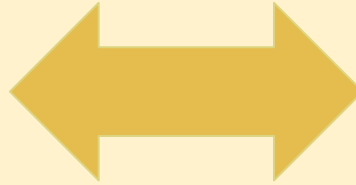
Tenant
moves

Writ of
possession
issued -
constable
removes
tenant and
belongings out
of home



Appeal to
County Court

Local Protections After October 15th....



Rental Assistance

Texas Rent Relief

- <https://texasrentrelief.com> or 833-989-7368

City of Austin RENT 3.0

- <https://austintexas.gov/rent>

Travis County Emergency Rental Assistance

- <https://www.traviscountytexas.gov/health-human-services/rent>

Eviction Solidarity Network

[Facing Eviction? Click Here for Resources](#)

About Eviction Solidarity Network

Eviction Solidarity Network (ESN) envisions a city where the power dynamic between landlords and tenants is shifted so that tenants have the time, resources, knowledge and rights to have autonomy and control over their homes to prevent evictions in pursuit of housing justice. We want to change the culture around evictions inside and outside the courtroom by emboldening tenants facing eviction to appear in court and exercise their rights.

ESN is anchored by [BASTA \(Building and Strengthening Tenant Action\)](#), the [Austin Tenants Council \(ATC\)](#), and [Democratic Socialists of America-Austin \(DSA\)](#).

Other partner organizations include: [Austin Justice Coalition \(AJC\)](#), [Texas](#)



Eviction Solidarity Network Volunteer Form

The Eviction Solidarity Network (ESN) is a coalition of Building and Strengthening Tenant

ESN Activities

1. Court watch & tracking
2. Tenant outreach
 - a. Calls
 - b. Flyeting/Door hangers
3. Court feedback & education
4. Eviction Solidarity Dashboard - data tracking & sharing

Resources for Renters

Resource Guide (eng/span):

<https://evictionisnotacure.com/en/community-resources>

BASTA Resources:

www.bastaaustin.org/covid19

Apply for Legal Assistance:

(888) 988-9996

TRLA Housing Resources

www.trla.org/housinghelp

Eviction Solidarity Network* | Resource Guide

Note: This is not a comprehensive list of available resources. For more COVID-19 information and resources please go to: Council Member Greg Casar's lists <http://tiny.cc/afiqsz> (English) & <http://tiny.cc/efiqsz> (Spanish), ECHO <https://www.austinecho.org/coronavirus/>, & Austin Public Health <https://www.austintexas.gov/department/health>

(Click [here](#) for resources for surrounding counties in Central Texas)

Rent Payment Assistance

Relief of Emergency Needs for Tenants (RENT) Assistance Program: This program provides full rent payment for income-eligible Austin renters financially impacted by COVID-19. Rolling lottery applications. Must apply online here: <https://austin.covidrenthelp.org/>

Travis County Family Support Services: 512-267-3245
www.traviscountytexas.gov/health-human-services/divisions/family-support-services

Legal Assistance

Texas RioGrande Legal Aid: Apply for legal services by calling (888) 988-9996 Mon - Fri. 8am - 5pm. Additional information and flyers on COVID-19-related legal issues can be found at www.trla.org/covid19-main [updated 8/27/20]

Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas: For legal assistance, fill out an application online at: <http://www.vlsoct.org/get-help/>. If you cannot apply online, call 512-476-5550, select option 2 and leave a message. A non-attorney will call you within 48 business hours to complete an online application for you.

Central Texas Lawyers Referral Service: Free online legal assistance call (512) 476-5550

Questions?