ORD 25-31 – Tenant Rights, Responsibilities, and Resources

Effective May 14, 2026

ABOUT ORD 25-31

ORD 25-31 establishes updated tenant protections and provides important information, rights, responsibilities, and resources for tenants, landlords, property owners, and property management companies within the City of Saint Paul.

TENANTS

Tenant Rights

- Receive the screening criteria before submitting an application
- Receive the total costs of rent and optional fees
- Receive the screening report, including the name and contact information of the screening company once processed
- Receive the credit report once processed
- Receive a 60-day notice before eviction actions are started (temporary through December 31, 2026; returns to 30 days on January 1, 2027)
- File a complaint without retaliation

Tenant Responsibilities

- Pay rent on time
- Keep the unit in safe and clean condition
- Report maintenance or unit issues in a timely manner
- Respond to notices and communications
- Provide access to the unit/property after required notice

Tenant Resources

Legal Aid & Advocacy

- HOMELine – https://homelinemn.org/ | 612-728-5767
- Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (SMRLS) – https://www.smrls.org | 651-222-5863
- Volunteer Lawyers Network (VLN) – https://www.vlnmn.org | 612-752-6677
- Housing Justice Center (HJC)– https://www.hjcmn.org/resources

Housing Stability & Support

- Ramsey County Housing Stability – https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/assistance-support/assistance/housing-services-support | 651-266-1050
- Community Stabilization Project – https://csp501dale.wixsite.com/communitystabproject | 651-225-8778

Mediation & Rental Assistance

- Community Mediation Minnesota – https://communitymediationmn.org/ | 1-833-266-2663
- Dispute Resolution Center – https://www.disputeresolutioncenter.org/ | 651-292-7791

Emergency Assistance & Financial Resources

- Saint Paul Emergency Rent Assistance – https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/planning-and-economic-development/housing/emergency-rent-assistance
- Saint Paul Financial Resources Hub – https://www.stpaul.gov/financialhub
- Ramsey County Emergency Assistance – https://www.ramseycountymn.gov/residents/assistance-support/assistance/financial-assistance/emergency-assistance
- CAPRW Energy Assistance – https://www.caprw.org/projects-energy

Discrimination & Human Rights

The Saint Paul Human Rights Ordinance prohibits discrimination in housing based on race, color, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, religion, creed, age, marital status, familial status, ancestry, and status with regard to public assistance.

Human Rights Division

- Phone: 651-266-8966
- Email: hrightscomplaints@ci.stpaul.mn.us

LANDLORDS, PROPERTY OWNERS & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Landlord Rights

- Create uniform screening criteria
- Ask for references
- Request an additional month's rent under qualifying circumstances
- Review additional tenant information for reconsideration

Landlord Responsibilities

- Notice of Sale requirements
- Application screening limitations
- Social Security deposit limitations
- 60-day notice of nonpayment of rent before eviction filings (temporary through December 31, 2026)

- Observe the tenant protection period and provide relocation assistance per the ordinance
- Know and understand applicable exceptions and enforcement provisions

Landlord Resources

- 4(d) Affordable Housing Incentive – https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/planning-and-economic-development/housing/housing-trust-fund/housing-trust-fund
- Minnesota Multi Housing Association – (952) 854-8500 | mha@mmha.com
- Minnesota Attorney General Rental Handbook – https://www.ag.state.mn.us/Consumer/Handbooks/LT/default.asp

Prepared for community education and outreach purposes.