

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE TENANT ADVOCATE**

NOTICE OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TENANT BILL OF RIGHTS

The Tenant Bill of Rights Amendment Act of 2014, effective December 17, 2014 (D.C. Law 20-147; 62 DCR 1248 (January 30, 2015); D.C. Official Code §§ 42-3531.07(8) & 42-3502.22(b)(1)) requires the D.C. Office of Tenant Advocate (OTA) to publish a “D.C. Tenant Bill of Rights” (TBR) to be updated periodically and noticed in the *D.C. Register*. This publication represents the first official revision of the TBR and replaces the previous official version (which was published on April 3, 2015, and became a required housing provider disclosure on July 3, 2015). Starting ninety (90) days following the publication date of this issue of the *D.C. Register*, the Act requires any housing provider in the District to provide a copy of the TBR as revised to: (1) a prospective tenant upon the submission of an application to lease a residential rental unit; and (2) any current tenant upon request once per year. (D.C. Official Code §§ 42–3502.22(b)(1)(L); 42–3502.22 (b)(1A); & 42–3502.22(b)(2).) The TBR is also available on the agency’s website at www.ota.dc.gov and in hard-copy form at the OTA offices, located at 899 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 6200, Washington, DC 20002.

Two prior agency initiatives to revise and update the TBR were overtaken by major events impacting content: first, the Covid-19 pandemic, during which the Council substantially changed key tenant rights on an emergency and temporary basis; and second, over the course of much of 2025, Council consideration of proposals to overhaul tenant rights on a permanent basis, significantly impacting at least two major areas of relevant law. Following the enactment of Law 26-80, the “Rebalancing Expectations for Neighbors, Tenants, and Landlords (RENTAL) Amendment Act of 2025,” effective December 31, 2025, the agency substantially reconvened the 2025 stakeholder review teams – one for tenant advocates and the other for housing provider advocates. The participants provided comments through two rounds of revisions resulting in the agency’s selective incorporation of recommendations coming from both review teams.

This revision of the TBR includes a link to a new web page – currently live – for an online TBR addendum and other relevant materials, including the OTA’s “Tenant Resource Guide.” Upon publication later this year, the new TBR addendum itself – elaborating on certain key rights summarized in the TBR and others not included in the TBR – will be added to that web page.