#### **INSTRUCTIONS TO COMPLETE PACKET**

**Completely fill out** the following pages: 1, 3, 7, 12

Review, sign and date pages: 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11

Pages 9, 10 are just for your review.

We will also need a copy of the following documents:

- > Please submit any written communication with your tenant.
- Copies of the most current notices served to/from your tenants.
- > A copy of the rental agreement and addenda, if you have one.
- If the terms of your agreement have changed, provide that documentation. (Rent increase, change of ownership, etc.)
- If your property is held in a Trust, we must have a copy of the legal trust name from your trust documents.
- > Any roommate release forms.
- Name and phone numbers of authorized persons for sharing status of your case.
- > Payment of fees for the Unlawful Detainer lawsuit to be filed.

# IF ALL THE PAPERWORK IS NOT COMPLETED OR PROVIDED, YOUR CASE WILL BE DELAYED

Upon receipt of all the information, our office will prepare the Unlawful Detainer and e-mail it to you for your review and approval. Upon your approval we will submit the documents to the court for filing

## Staff is not allowed to provide legal advice.

This is our Staff's contact information for assistance:

Daria@teamlink.com Daria is our receptionist, she handles all status calls. Status calls are all handled after 2:00 p.m.

<u>Collette@teamlink.com</u> Collette handles all "in-take" information and paperwork for the lawsuit to be filed.

Melissa@teamlink.com Melissa handles all the trial cases.

elizabethmbrum@yahoo.com Elizabeth is the office manager.

PHONE		ION QUESTION WHICH APPLIES TO YOUR CASE		
(916) 447-8101	PROPERTY MANAGER	OWNER OF PROPERTY		
FAX	NAME:	NAME:		
(916)	ADDRESS:			
447-4750		ADDRESS:		
	City State	Zip		
	Best time to Call:	WORK PHONE: ()		
	HOME PHONE: ()	HOME PHONE: ()		
A	Best time to call: CELL PHONE: ()	CELL PHONE: ()		
	FAX #: (	FAX #: ( )		
88	BILL TO:	Address City State Zip		
	QUESTION	ANSWER		
0				
	1. THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY IS:	TRUST LLC Corporation Gen. Partner's Name		
F		OTHER IS THERE A FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT?		
F	2. THE PROPERTY ADDRESS IS: (The Tenant's Address)	Number and street (designate Street, Way, Blvd. etc.) Apt. # City Zip		
	3. THE NAME(S) OF ALL ADULT TENANTS	RENT DUE & UNPAID		
	IN POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY ARE: (State all the names of all adults in possession whether	1.		
С	(State an the names of all addits in possession whether they are named in the rental agreement, whether they contracted with the landlord or whether in possession of	3.		
E	the property with permission or not.)	APR. OCT.		
	4. THE NAMES OF ALL ADULT TENANTS WHO SIGNED THE RENTAL	1.		
	AGREEMENT ARE:	3 JUN DEC		
		WITH		
	5. THE RENTAL AGREEMENT WAS ENTERED INTO ON WHAT DATE:	THESE TENANTS		
U	6. STATE WHAT TYPE OF TENANCY:	MONTH TO MONTH LEASE Fair Rental Value:		
F	7. AMOUNT OF MONTHLY RENT AT	OTHER (specify):     IF MONTHLY RENT HAS INCREASED, STATE WHEN:		
	BEGINNING OF TENANCY: 8. RENT DUE DATE:	HOW MUCH? \$		
	9. THE RENTAL AGREEMENT IS:			
G	10. THE RENTAL AGREEMENT WAS			
Δ	ENTERED INTO WITH:	THE OWNER'S AGENT OTHER (specify):		
	11. THE FOLLOWING NOTICE WAS	3 DAY NOTICE TO PAY RENT OR QUIT 3 DAY PERFORM COVENANT OR QUIT		
R	SERVED ON THE TENANT(S):	30 DAY NOTICE TO TERMINATE 60 DAY NOTICE TO TERMINATE 3 DAY NOTICE TO QU		
Υ		OTHER (specify):  1.  by personally handing a copy to defendant on (date):		
	12. THE NOTICE WAS SERVED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:	2. by leaving a copy with (name or descriptiona person of		
		suitable age or discretion on (date): at defendant's residence or business AND mailing a copy to defendant at his place of residence on (date):		
		because defendant cannot be found at his residence or usual place of business.		
		3. by POSTING a copy on the premises on (date):		
		AND MAILING a copy to defendant at the premises on (date):		
		because no person of suitable age or discretion can there be found		
		WRITTEN AGREEMENT ADDENDUM TO RENTAL AGREEMENT NOTICE TO QUIT ADDENDUM TO RENTAL AGREEMENT NOTICE TO CHANGE TERMS OF TENANCY		
		OTHER (Specify):		
	AMOUNT RECEIVED	\$         OTHER ARRANGEMENTS           CHECK #         DRIVER'S LICENSE #		
725 30th Street	VISA /	Image: Construction of the second s		
Suite 107 Sacramento	Litestare under concilu of portury under the la	we of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, and that if called as a aw office to insert appropriate Information on law suit. By signing below, I acknowledge that I have		
CA 95816	read and understand the retainer agreement on the	next page and am bound by said retainer agreement.		
	X Signature: Owner/Landlord/Authorized Agent	Page 1 of 12 Date Retainer Agreement on page 2		
D	Signature: Owner/Landiord/Authonzed Agent	Page 1 of 12 Sector And		

E	М	Α	I	L

#### **UNLAWFUL DETAINER RETAINER AGREEMENT TYPICAL "DEFAULT" EVICTION**

The minimum flat fee retainer to process a typical residential default eviction in Sacramento County is only \$675.00. This covers your attorney's fees of \$195.00 plus court filing fees, service of process fees for up to two defendants, fees for the Sheriff to serve the Writ of Possession and the fees for the Writ of Possession itself. It also includes a money judgment at your request. Specifically, the default eviction includes the following services at no extra cost to you:

Review of any relevant correspondence to determine legal validity Drafting of Summons & Complaint for Unlawful Detainer (1)(2)

- Filing of Summons & Complaint for Unlawful Detainer (3)
- Service of lawsuit upon the tenant- simple service up to two defendants Status of Notice of Service (4)
- (5)
- (6) Review of Proof of Service
- Drafting and filing of the following paperwork: (7)Request to Enter Default, Writ of Restitution,
- Clerk's Judgment for Restitution, Instructions for Sheriff
- Upon client request (after possession is obtained) we will obtain a money judgment (8)

#### **TYPICAL "TRIAL" EVICTION**

If the tenant does answer the Summons & Complaint, or files opposing papers, there will be an additional fee of \$200.00 to obtain a copy of the Answer from the court, set the matter for a "court" trial, do up to a 1/2 hr "trial-prep", engage in up to one-half hour court trial, prepare a standard judgment, and process the paperwork with the court and the Sheriff's office. Obtaining and reviewing the tenant's Answer.

- (1)(2) Mailing Answer to the client.
- Preparation and filing of a Request to Set Civil Case à
- Client trial preparation conference of up to 30 minutes (4)
- (5)Sending a Notice of Trial to the client
- (6) Court trial of up to one hour
- (7) Preparation of a standard "Judgment After Trial"
- Preparation of the Memorandum of Costs (8) Preparation of the Writ of Possession/Instructions to Sheriff
- (9) (10)Delivery of the Writ of Possession to the Sheriff's Office

#### POTENTIAL "EXTRAORDINARY" SERVICES/COSTS

There could be other extraordinary services/costs depending on how we need to respond to what the tenant does or what occurs in the case. The following illustrates the most typical "extraordinary" services that may be necessary in your case:

\$200 Per Hour:	Court trial or hearing preparation in excess of 30 minutes
	Court trial or hearing that exceeds one hour
	Attorney attendance at court hearing (other than trial - up to one hour)
\$225 Per Hour:	Points & Authorities/Legal briefs/Legal Research
	Preparation of Notices to Quit/Section 8/HUD
	Travel Time/Custom Stipulations/Consultation with Mr. Link
	Preparation of Custom Stipulated Judgment/Stipulation & Order
	Drafting Motions and Opposition to Motions
	Settlement negotiations with clients/attorneys/tenants
\$275 Per Hour:	Depositions/Interrogatories/Answers to Interrogatories
	Jury trial preparation/Jury trial/Personal Inspection of premises
\$25 Per Item:	Preparation of Satisfaction of Judgment
	Preparation of Writ of Possession for Re-posting
	Draft and filing of Dismissal/Substitution of Attorney
	Pre-Judgment Claim of Tenancy
\$50 Per Item:	Preparation of Declaration under Penalty of Perjury
	Preparation of Judgment Upon Declaration
	Subpoena
	Refusal letters
\$75 Per item:	Drafting and filing of a Request for Order to Post Summons & Complaint
	Preparation of a simple Subpoena Duces Tecum

Advanced filing fee for a court motion, additional service attempts by process server, Sheriff Re-posting fee, Writ of Execution fee-collection, Abstract of Judgment, Service Extraordinary Costs: upon additional defendants beyond two/Certified mailings, Motion for Altorneys Fees etc.

Further, the tenant or tenant's attorney may contact this office to engage in settlement negotiations, or have you answer interrogatories or attend depositions of witnesses. We may also be forced to wait for an available courtroom for hours on end, or the trial may take longer than the typical one hour. For the extraordinary services or costs as described in part above, you will be billed accordingly. Any time spent by the office manager for settlement negotiations will be billed at the rate of \$175 per hour. The Law Office is extremely busy representing many clients. Mr. Link employs and trains staff for the purpose of processing, answering and handling routine questions that are presented with each lawsuit or case for which we are retained. Occasionally, a client or manager overwhelmingly feels the absolute need to speak with Mr. Link personally - even though an employee has provided answers to the client's inquiries as to status and standard procedures. In these instances, the undersigned understands that if according to the desire of the client speaking personally with Mr. Link is imperative, the minimum fee for such expenditure of time is \$100 for which the client will be billed. Any time personally spent by Mr. Link beyond thirty minutes will be billed at the proportional rate of \$225 per hour.

I, the undersigned, acknowledge that I have read and understood the foregoing fee structure of the Law Office of Gary Link and agree to pay for services rendered and costs advanced upon receipt of a billing statement. I further acknowledge that I have read and understood the ADVISEMENT'S AND INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL CLIENTS, REFUND POLICY, CLARIFICATION & DISCLAIMERS, and CLIENT RESPONSIBILITIES DURING REPRESENTATION. 1 acknowledge that I am in receipt of those documents. If I am the property manager or agent for the owner of the property, it is represented by me that I am authorized to execute this agreement for and on behalf of the owner/landlord and with the permission and consent of the owner. It is further understood and agreed that if the undersigned is not the owner, that the Law Office will require full payment for services rendered or for costs of suit, from either or both parties.

I authorize, in advance, use of the charge card reflected on the Eviction Questionnaire for payment of any additional "trial" or "extraordinary" billings pursuant to this agreement. I understand that a copy of any charge receipt will be sent to me with a copy of the billing.

It is further understood and agreed that the undersigned hereby authorizes the Law Office of Gary Link to engage in collection proceedings based upon a fee of 1/3 of the amount collected for collection services. The Law Offices hereby advises the undersigned that collection by this office includes entering into stipulations for payment with former tenant(s), and wage garnishments. The Law Office does not engage in "skip tracing" efforts to locate and ascertain the assets or solvency of the former tenants. The Law Office does not engage in bankruptcy work; however, we will gladly refer you to a bankruptcy attorney who is familiar with landlord-tenant matters. IF YOU WISH TO HAVE A MONEY JUDGMENT AGAINST YOUR TENANT, YOU MUST NOTIFY THE LAW OFFICE FOR EACH CASE AFTER THE TENANT HAS VACATED. WE DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY OBTAIN MONEY JUDGMENTS AGAINST YOUR FORMER TENANTS. Effective 01/01/15. Fees, costs or court charges are subject to change at option of Law Office.

~	A 77	 ٦.
	AΤ	 J.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE: \_\_\_

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO PROCESS SERVING COMPANY - Let's get the job done ... fast!

The primary goal of THE LAW OFFICE OF GARY L. LINK is to process your eviction cases in as expeditious a manner as possible. In pursuit of that goal we seek to eliminate all uncertainties throughout the entire eviction process. Accordingly, please provide the process servers with an accurate physical description of your tenant(s). This description is given to the process servers when they are assigned the task of serving legal papers. In the event that the process server gompany is successful in serving your tenant, you will receive a postcard from the process server which indicates the date of the accomplished serve. In the event that the process serving company is unsuccessful after 5 attempts, they will contact you directly to discuss what additional efforts must be engaged in to personally serve your tenant. Please give the following information to the process server:

YOUR NAME:	Y0	UR PHONE # Day: ()	
	(Not the name of your tenant)	Night: (	
SERVICE ON THE TE SERVICE OF 'SUMM	SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS T THESE INSTRUCTIONS PLEASE MAKE AT ENANT(S) DESCRIBED BELOW. IF YOU A IONS & COMPLAINT''' TO ME. IF YOU AR E CONTACT ME IMMEDIATELY AT THE P DO YOU NEED A PASSKEY OR SEC	LEAST FIVE ATTEMPTS TO ACCON RE SUCCESSFUL, IMMEDIATELY M E UNSUCCESSFUL AFTER 5 PROM HONE NUMBERS STATED ABOVE.	AIL A "NOTICE OF /PT AND DILIGENT
	THE PASS CODE IS:		
TENANT'S ADDR	ESS:		
TENANT'S PHONE	: #: ()	IS ANY TENANT IN JAIL?	Yes
DO YOU SUSPECT DRUGS	OR WEAPONS AT THE PREMISES? Yes 🗌 No 🔲	ARE THERE DOGS AT THE PREM	IISES? Yes 🗌 No
DESCRIBE TENANT'S CAR(	S):	TENANTS PARKING SPACE #	
SPECIAL COMMENTS TO F	PROCESS SERVER:		
NAME OF TENAM	NT #1:		
SEX: Male Female A	APPROXIMATE AGE: RACE: Caucas	ian□Black□Spanish□Asian□Persian □	
	C APPROXIMATE WEIGHT		
HAIR COLOR:	HAIR STYLE:	EYE COLOR:	
FACIAL HAIR: Clean shaven	Beard Moustache Goatee TATTOOS (Describe)		
UNIQUE PHYSICAL CHA	ARACTERISTICS:		
BEST TIME TO SERVE T	ENANT:		
TENANT'S WORK NAME	& ADDRESS:		
NAME OF TENA	NT #2:		
SEX: Male 🗖 Female 🗖 A	APPROXIMATE AGE: RACE: Cauc	asian□Black□Spanish□Asian□Persian □	
APPROXIMATE HEIGH	T: APPROXIMATE WEIGH	F:	
HAIR COLOR:	HAIR STYLE:	_ EYE COLOR:	
FACIAL HAIR: Clean shave	n 🗖 Beard 🗖 Moustache 🖾 Goatee 🖾 TATTOOS (Describe	3):	
UNIQUE PHYSICAL CH	ARACTERISTICS:	·	
BEST TIME TO SERVE	TENANT:		
TENANT'S WORK NAM	E & ADDRESS:		

# IF YOU ARE A PROPERTY MANAGER OR AUTHORIZAED AGENT FOR THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY SIGN THIS TOP VERIFICATION

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury as follows:

- 1. I am the property manager or authorized agent for the owner or landlord/lessor of the real property described in the Complaint for Unlawful Detainer and owned or leased by the Plaintiff/Owner/Landlord/Lessor of the premises, or
- 2. If the plaintiff is described in the complaint as a corporation, I declare that I am an officer of the Plaintiff Corporation, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and I have been authorized to execute this verification on its behalf.
- 3. I am duty and expressly authorized to verify said Complaint on the Plaintiff's behalf. Said Complaint for Unlawful Detainer is attached hereto. I am verifying said complaint for Unlawful Detainer on behalf of the owner or the landlord/lessor because the facts stated therein are known by myself and may not be known to the owner or landlord/lessor.
- 4. I have read said complaint for Unlawful Detainer and know the contents thereof.
- I certify that the same is true of my own knowledge except as to those matters, which are stated therein upon my information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true.
- 6. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that I am an adult and at least 18 years of age, and that the foregoing is true and correct and that if called and that if called as a witness, I could do so competently. This declaration under penalty of perjury was executed in \_\_\_\_\_\_, California, on the below stated date.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

Print your name

Sign your name: Property Manager/Authorized Agent

#### IF YOU ARE THE OWNER OR LANDLORD/LESSOR OF THE PROPERTY WHERE YOUR TENANT RESIDES: SIGN THIS BOTTOM VERIFICATION

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury as follows:

- 1. I am the plaintiff in the above-entitled action, and owner or landlord/lessor of the real property described in the Complaint for Unlawful Detainer, which is attached hereto.
- 2. I have read said Complaint for Unlawful Detainer and know the contents thereof.
- 3. I certify that the same is true of my knowledge except as to those matters, which are stated therein upon my information and belief and as to those matters, I believe them to be true.
- 4. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that I am an adult and at least 18 years of age, and that the foregoing is true and correct and that if called as a witness, I could do so competently. This declaration under penalty of perjury was executed in \_\_\_\_\_\_, California, on the below stated date.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

Print your name

Sign your name: Plaintiff/Owner/Landlord/Lessor

#### IF YOU ARE A PROPERTY MANAGER OR AUTHORIZAED AGENT FOR THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY SIGN THIS TOP VERIFICATION

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury as follows:

- 1. I am the property manager or authorized agent for the owner or landlord/lessor of the real property described in the Complaint for Unlawful Detainer and owned or leased by the Plaintiff/Owner/Landlord/Lessor of the premises, or
- 2. If the plaintiff is described in the complaint as a corporation, I declare that I am an officer of the Plaintiff Corporation, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, and I have been authorized to execute this verification on its behalf.
- 3. I am duty and expressly authorized to verify said Complaint on the Plaintiff's behalf. Said Complaint for Unlawful Detainer is attached hereto. I am verifying said complaint for Unlawful Detainer on behalf of the owner or the landlord/lessor because the facts stated therein are known by myself and may not be known to the owner or landlord/lessor.
- 4. I have read said complaint for Unlawful Detainer and know the contents thereof.
- 5. I certify that the same is true of my own knowledge except as to those matters, which are stated therein upon my information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true.
- 6. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that I am an adult and at least 18 years of age, and that the foregoing is true and correct and that if called and that if called as a witness, I could do so competently. This declaration under penalty of perjury was executed in \_\_\_\_\_\_, California, on the below stated date.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

Print your name

Sign your name: Property Manager/Authorized Agent

#### IF YOU ARE THE OWNER OR LANDLORD/LESSOR OF THE PROPERTY WHERE YOUR TENANT RESIDES: SIGN THIS BOTTOM VERIFICATION

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury as follows:

- 1. I am the plaintiff in the above-entitled action, and owner or landlord/lessor of the real property described in the Complaint for Unlawful Detainer, which is attached hereto.
- 2. I have read said Complaint for Unlawful Detainer and know the contents thereof.
- 3. I certify that the same is true of my knowledge except as to those matters, which are stated therein upon my information and belief and as to those matters, I believe them to be true.
- 4. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that I am an adult and at least 18 years of age, and that the foregoing is true and correct and that if called as a witness, I could do so competently. This declaration under penalty of perjury was executed in \_\_\_\_\_\_, California, on the below stated date.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

Print your name

Sign your name: Plaintiff/Owner/Landlord/Lessor

# \*\* TENANT DELAY TACTIC \*\* "Claims of Possession" or "Arietta" claims

In either a contested or an uncontested unlawful detainer case, a claim of possession or Arietta claim may be filed by a person who is not named in the unlawful detainer action or the Writ of Possession, and who claims to have a right to occupancy in the rental unit if a Prejudgment Claim of Right to Possession was not served with the summons and complaint. Typically, such claims are filed with the Sheriff as the Sheriff executes on the Writ of Possession. If such a claim is filed, the eviction must stop and a court hearing must be held within five to fifteen days to determine if that person has a legitimate claim on the unit. This is a <u>significant delay that can be avoided</u> by the filing of appropriate paperwork.

If the claim of possession is upheld, the owner must start the unlawful detainer process completely over, naming that occupant in the suit and subsequent Writ of Execution. If the court determines that the person has no legitimate claim of possession to the unit, then the eviction may go forward. This claim of possession, many times filed by "phantom" non-existing individuals is frequently used simply to delay the eviction. This delay can be prevented.

#### THE SOLUTION

In 1990, the legislature gave property owners a means to combat this delaying tactic on the part of the tenant. Under this new law, owners can have their attorney serve an additional form (Prejudgment Claim of Right of Possession), along with the summons and complaint, calling for those individuals who are residents, but who are not known or named on the notices to quit or on the lawsuit itself, to file their claims shortly after the summons and complaint are served on the known and named residents - not in the final stages of the process. This procedure prohibits the filing of Arietta claims after the judgment for the Writ of Possession has been processed.

For the extra preparation, copying, and service of the additional Prejudgment Claim of Right to Possession we charge \$25 in addition to our standard low rates. We wish to give you the option of choosing to not file this particular form, and saving the fee. If that is your choice, we ask you to sign this waiver that indicates that we gave you an option to file or not file the Prejudgment Claim of Right to Possession form.

#### Check One:

I **DO NOT** WISH TO HAVE THE LAW OFFICE FILE THE PREJUDGMENT CLAIM OF POSSESSION FORM. I UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT DELAYS IN THE PROCESSING OF MY EVICTION; I AM WILLING TO ACCEPT THAT RISK BY NOT FILING THIS FORM.

I **DO** WANT THE LAW OFFICE TO FILE THE PREJUDGMENT CLAIM OF POSSESSION FORM TO AVOID THE POTENTIAL FOR SIGNIFICANT DELAYS.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGN HERE** 

# **PRE-LAWSUIT CLIENT QUESTIONNAIRE** This information is important for us to chart the course of what will be done with your particular case!

(Please Chee YES	ck One) NO	Have there been any changes to the rental agreement? Eg. Rent Increase, Due dates, additional tenants, etc. <b>Please describe:</b>
YES	NO	Have you already served any Notice(s) to Quit upon the tenant or received a notice or letter(s) from the tenant(s)? <b>Please describe:</b>
YES	NO	Did you give to your tenant a "Notice of Right to Pre-Termination of Tenancy Inspection"?
YES	NO D	Have you or your tenant filed any lawsuit against each other?
YES VES YES	NO NO NO NO I	Has your tenant complained about the condition of the tenancy premises within the last 180 days? <b>Please describe:</b> Has your tenant complained recently (written or verbal) that something is wrong with the condition of the premises? <b>Please describe:</b> Have you received any notification of complaints from the Health Department or County/City Code Enforcement? <b>Please specify:</b>
YES	NO D	Is the tenant acting or has the tenant recently acted in violation of any provision of the written rental agreement? Ie. Unauthorized pets, drug dealing, disturbances of the peace, etc. <b>Please specify violations and dates:</b>
YES VES	NO D NO	Do you suspect that there are any unauthorized occupants residing in the property? <b>Please state name(s):</b> Have you or your tenant filed for Bankruptcy in the last 12 months? If yes, please specify:
YES	NO	Are any of your tenant(s) members of the military?
YES		Is the real property (tenancy) in foreclosure; has a Notice of Default or Notice of Sale been served?
YES	NO	Did you purchase this property from a foreclosure sale; or subsequent to a foreclosure sale when the tenant was in possession of the unit at the time of the foreclosure sale?
YES	NO D	Do you have proper Landlord protection insurance for this property?
YES	NO	If the property was built pre-1978 did you provide a Lead Based Paint Warning Notice or Asbestos Warning Notice? <b>Please describe:</b>
YES	NO	Do you have operable smoke detectors installed inside the unit?
YES	NO	Do you have an operable carbon monoxide detector installed inside the unit?
YES	NO	Is the hot water heater earthquake strapped?
YES	NO	Does the front main swinging entry door have a separate deadbolt that is at least13/16" in length-1" if in the City of Sacramento?
YES	NO	Do you have written Rental Criteria to avoid Fair Housing claims?
YES	NO	Have you registered your rental property with the City or County of Sacramento Rental Inspection Program, or with
		any applicable city or county rental housing ordinance? Many local cities and counties require that a landlord register the real property as a rental property prior to the beginning of a tenancy. Each jurisdiction has different registration requirements. Merely paying a rental housing inspection fee in conjunction with a utility billing does not necessarily mean that the rental unit is properly registered. There are often other more defined registration and paperwork requirements. There may be severe consequences for your failure to have the rental unit registered prior to the tenancy which include, but are not necessarily limited to fines, penalties, loss of an opportunity to obtain possession of the property as a result of a lawsuit for Unlawful Detainer, and loss of an opportunity to obtain a money judgment against your tenant for unpaid rent and other rental charges. If you check "No" to this box, please schedule an appointment to speak with either the office manager Elizabeth or with Mr. Link about the ramifications and options. For more information before speaking with us you may also wish to access your jurisdiction's rental housing inspection

ordinance to learn about the registration requirements.

	UD-100
ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (name, State Bar number, and address):	FOR COURT USE ONLY
THIS FORM ONLY REQUIRES THE DATE AND YOUR PLEASE DO NOT COMPLETE THE FORM	
In an effort to reduce your inconvenience in being required to make a return trip to the office, or wait form is completed by one of our staff, signature hereon acknowledges that the signing party has reducial Council form. The signator acknowledges under penalty of perjury that the information set for filled in by the signing party is true and correct and that the law office will be transferring the <b>questionnaire to the judicial council form.</b>	eviewed the contents of the blank orth on the Eviction Questionnaire
DATED: SIGNED:	
Owner/Landlord/Authorized Ag	ent
COMPLAINT - UNLAWFUL DETAINER*	CASE NUMBER:
COMPLAINT AMENDED COMPLAINT (Amendment Number):	
	apply): from limited to unlimited from unlimited to limited
1. PLAINTIFF (name each):	
alleges causes of action against DEFENDANT (name each):	
<ul> <li>2. a. Plaintiff is (1) an individual over the age of 1 8 years. (1) a partnership.</li> <li>(1) a public agency.</li> <li>(2) other (specify):</li> <li>(3) b. Plaintiff has complied with the fictitious business name laws and is doing. business under</li> </ul>	the fictitious name of (specify):
3. Defendant named above is in possession of the promises located at (street address, apt no., city, zip	code, and county):
<ul> <li>4. Plaintiffs interest in the premises is as owner other (specify):</li> <li>5. The true names and capacities of defendants sued as Does are unknown to plaintiff.</li> <li>6. a. on or about (date): defendant (name each):</li> </ul>	
(1) agreed to rent the premises as a       month-to-month tenancy       other tenancy (s         (2) agreed to pay rent of \$       payable       monthly       other (specify fr         (3) agreed to pay rent on the       First of the month       other day (specify):         b. This       written       oral       agreement was made with         (1)       plaintiff.       plaintiffs predecessor in interest.         (2)       agreent.       (1)       other (specify):	
NOTE: Do not use this form for evictions after sale (Code Civ. Proc., § 1161 a).	Page 1 of 3
Form Approved for Optional Use Judicial Council of California UD-100 (Rev. July 1, 2005)	CMI Code, § 1940 at seq. Code of Civil Procedure §§ 425.12, 1166 Nexis & Automated California Judicial Counci

Page 8 of 12

.

PLAINTIFF (Name):		CASE NUMBER:
DEFENDANT (Name):		
(i) subtenan (i) assignee (ii) other (spe	s.	
and labeled Exhibit f (For residential prope (I) the writ	agreement, including any addenda or attachments that form 1. (Required for residential property, unless item 6f is checker rly) A copy of the written agreement is not attached because ten agreement is not in the possession of the landlord or th on is solely for nonpayment of rent (Code Civ. Proc., § 1161(2)) ):	ed. See Code Civ. Proc., § 1166.) e (specify <i>reason):</i> e landlord's employees or agents.
(i) 3-day n (i) 30-day n (i) 60-day n b. (1) On (date):	notice to quit notice to quit (i) the period stated in the notice to comply with the requirements of the notice by that date.	form covenants or quit t e expired at the end of the day.
<ul> <li>d</li></ul>		
(i) by leaving a person (date): place of (i) by posting	onally handing a copy to defendant on (date): ag a copy with (name or <i>description</i> ): a of suitable age and discretion, on (date): esidence business AND mailing a copy to defendate because defendant cannot be found a business. ag a copy on the premises on (date): found residing at the premises AND mailing a copy to defendate business AND mailing a copy to	t defendant's residence or usual AND giving a copy to a
(i) (i) (Not for mail add	because defendant's residence and usual place of bus because no person of suitable age or discretion can b 3-day notice; see Civil Code, § 1946 before using) by sendir irressed to defendant on (date): residential tenancies,- see Civil Code, § 1953 before using) i rcial lease between the parties.	e found there. Ig a copy by certified or registered
c joint written rental a		J in Attachment 8c.
UD-1 00 (Rev. July 1, 2005)	COMPLAINT-UNLAWFUL DETAINER	Page 2 of

LexisNexis & Automated California Judicial Council

Page 9 of 12

PLAINTIFF (Name):	CASE NUMBER:
10.       At the time the 3-day notice         11.       The fair rental value of the         12.       Defendant's continued post         Procedure section 11 74(b).         13.       A written agreement between	on from each defendant because of expiration of a fixed-term lease. to pay rent or quit was served, the amount of rent due was \$ premises is \$ per day. session is malicious, and plaintiff is entitled to statutory damages under Code of Civil (State specific facts supporting a claim up to \$600 in <i>Attachment 12.)</i> en the parties provides for attorney fees. ect to the local rent control or eviction control ordinance of <i>(city or county, title of ordinance,</i>
Plaintiff has met all applica	ble requirements of the ordinances.
15. Other allegations are stated	J in Attachment 15.
16. Plaintiff accepts the jurisdictional limit,	if any, of the court.
17. PLAINTIFF REQUESTS	
a. possession of the premises. b. costs incurred in this proceedin c past-due rent of \$ d reasonable attorney fee e forfeiture of the agreem	defendants remain in possession through entry of judgment. ss. 9,
18. Number of pages attached (sp	pecify):
UNLAWFU	IL DETAINER ASSISTANT (Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 6400-6415)
19. (Complete in all cases.) An unlawfu with this form. (If plaintiff has receive a. Assistant's name: b. Street address, city, and zip cod	d any help or advice for pay from an unlawful detainer assistant, state.) c. Telephone No.:
Date:	
	•
GARY L. LINK (TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	(SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF OR ATTORNEY)
	VERIFICATION
(Use a different verifica	tion form if the verification is by an attorney or for a corporation or partnership.)
	have read this complaint. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of
Date:	
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	(SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF)
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME) UD-1 00 (Rev. July 1, 2005)	(SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF) (SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF) Page 3 COMPLAINT-UNLAWFUL DETAINER LexisNexis & Automated California Judicial Council Fo

# The Law Office of Gary L. Link, Inc.

(Risk Advisement – Waiting an additional 5 days)

SPECIAL ADVISEMENT OF RISKS REGARDING WAITING AN ADDITIONAL 5 DAYS DUE TO "SUB-SERVICE AND MAILING" OR "POSTING AND MAILING" A NOTICE TO QUIT

When filing a lawsuit for Unlawful Detainer based on a Notice to Pay Rent or Quit, the method of service will dictate how much time you will need to wait prior to the lawsuit being filed. If the Notice to Pay Rent or Quit was served by "sub-serving and mailing" or "posting and mailing" because no person of suitable age and discretion could be served at the premises or a place of employment for the tenant is not known, then this law office strongly advises you to wait an additional five days after the notice has been expired before filing the lawsuit for Unlawful Detainer.

Code of Civil Procedure §1013 requires five additional days for mailing to be added to deadlines in California for responding or acting on a notice period. It is unclear from the case law as to whether this code section applies to Unlawful Detainer Notices to Quit or not. There is persuasive case law which states that the additional five days beyond the expiration date of a notice of termination of tenancy is <u>not</u> necessary for a termination notice (30/60/90), however, this case is not dealing with a Notice to Pay Rent or Quit. Although the case law is unclear for a Notice to Pay Rent or Quit, it is safer for you as a landlord to wait the additional five days for the mailing time as specified above.

\*\*\*For a full reading of the cases and code sections referenced above, please contact our office.

#### POTENTIAL PROBLEM AREAS:

You are hereby advised that due to the method of service utilized on your "Notice To Quit" that you have presented to the Law Office of Gary L. Link, Inc., there is a possibility that upon review of said notice by a judge or jury, there may be a determination made that said method and manner of service is defective, thereby rendering the lawsuit filed thereon invalid and/or premature. The result would be that you will need to re-issue another valid notice and re-initiate legal proceedings. In this event, you will have spent double the amount of attorneys fees and costs to prosecute the eviction of one particular residence.

The possibility is also raised that you will incur the risk of the tenant filing a malicious prosecution lawsuit, an abuse of process lawsuit, or a wrongful eviction lawsuit against you. Inherent within any of these lawsuits – whether the first eviction lawsuit or a malicious prosecution lawsuit is the possibility that you will also have to pay for your tenant's legal fees as well as punitive damages for your wrongful conduct. It of course goes without saying, you will not obtain possession of the premises from your tenant.

IT IS HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE UNDERSIGNED CLIENT HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POTENTIAL INVALIDITY OF THE "NOTICE TO QUIT", AND NONETHELESS WISHES TO ASSUME THE RISK THAT THE ABOVE DESCRIBED CONTINGENCY MAY OCCUR UPON THE FILING OF THE LAWSUIT FOR UNLAWFUL DETAINER.

THE CLIENT AGREES SPECIFICALLY TO HOLD THE LAW OFFICE OF GARY L. LINK, INC. FREE AND HARMLESS FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY AND OBLIGATIONS IN THE EVENT THAT THE TENANT CLAIMS THAT A WRONGFUL EVICTION LAWSUIT HAS BEEN FILED AGAINST THE TENANT. THIS HOLD HARMLESS OBLIGATION INCLUDES ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS OF SUIT AS WELL AS A PROMISE TO DEFEND AND PROTECT THE LAW OFFICE AGAINST ANY SUCH CLAIMS OR POTENTIAL LITIGATION BROUGHT BY THE TENANT.

Yes, I authorize the Law Office of Gary L. Link, Inc to wait the additional 5 days prior to filing the lawsuit for unlawful detainer.

No, I do not authorize the Law Office of Gary L. Link, Inc to wait the additional 5 days and I wish to take the risk that the lawsuit could be filed prematurely, wherein this lawsuit may need to be dismissed and a new lawsuit may need to be filed.

DATED: SIGNEI	):
---------------	----

CLIENT

**SIGN HERE** 

CASE NAME:

#### Sacramento County Sheriff Department Instructions for Unlawful Detainer Eviction

#### ALL INFORMATION MUST BE COMPLETED

Plaintiff	Defendant
Court Case Number	Defendants date(s) of birth
By virtue of the accompanying Writ of Possession in the above possession of the property described below to the creditor/age	
Property Address (Must match address on back of Writ)	City/State/Zip Code
Please provide information on any issues that may pe	ose an officer <u>safety</u> issue such as:
Illegal activity may be taking place at this address	al drug use  Mentally Disordered
Please check any of the following that apply;	
Gated Community  Children in Reside Serious Medical Problems	ence   Elderly  Disabled
Is the unlawful <i>detainer resulting</i> from a fore CCP 1161a? Yes □ No □	eclosure sale of a rental housing unit pursuant to
The Deputy will contact the person/agent named below betwee	en 7:00 am - 1 1:00am to set an appointment for the lockout.
It is the plaintiff's responsibility to provide entry into the re-	sidence (i.e. key, locksmith, maintenance person)
Name of party to contact	
Daytime ( )	Cell ( )
This section below requires the information and signature of the	e person named in the top box on the Writ.
Name (Please print)	Date
Address	City/State/Zip Code
Daytime ( )	Cell ( )
Signature	

# The following 12 pages are informational only: Please read and keep for your records.

GARY LINK, Esq. 725 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 107 Sacramento, CA 95816

Telephone (916) 447-8101 Fax (916) 447-4750 E-mail: <u>teamlink@pacbell.net</u>

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL CLIENTS

#### EXPECT "COURT DELAYS" WITH THE COURT PROCESSING OF EVICTION FILES

At the Law Office of Gary Link we take pride in processing your eviction cases in the most efficient and rapid manner possible. There are two major components to the quickest processing of any case: (1) the timeliness of our office, and (2) the timeliness of the court system. We continue to believe that we at the Law Office of Gary Link process your eviction cases in the most rapid manner possible.

The court is not processing cases as rapidly as it formerly did, nor as rapidly as we or landlords would prefer. Where, in the past, a lawsuit could be filed with the court, and the papers returned immediately for the process server to deliver to the tenant on the same evening, at the present time the court is frequently not returning the lawsuit document papers for ten to fourteen days from the date of delivery to the court. With regard to other documents submitted to the court, there have been and will be significant delays in the court processing of paperwork. These court processing delays are not a mechanism that the Law Office can change. The following text to our office from the Unlawful Detainer Division of the Superior Court dated October 20, 2011, clearly shows what is happening with the court processing of paperwork:

"Recently large amounts of filings for both Small Claims and Unlawful Detainers have been flowing into our office. Whilst we pride ourselves on providing as quick and efficient return-offiling service as we possibly can, we are noticing that our normal benchmark is not being able to be achieved. To that end, this notice is to communicate that we are working as fast and efficiently as we can to process any filings you have brought to us. Part of the attempt to provide equal and good service to everyone has caused a slight change in the lobby filings process over the past day or two. We have only been able to accept drop-off filings at the lobby windows and will need to continue to operate as such until we can bring the current back-log back into normal standards."

Nevertheless, at the Law Office of Gary Link we want you to know that we will continue to process our handling of all cases in the most rapid manner possible. At this office we are fully staffed and trained; we do not experience the same problems that the Superior Court is presently experiencing.

The purpose of this notice is to share with you the same frustration that we feel here at the office with the court's slow down of the processing of paperwork. We have been in contact with the court personnel with regard to the court delays, and have been closely working with the court processing personnel and monitoring the timeliness of paperwork processing, yet at the present time the outlook for increasing the court "turnaround time" is not looking so good.

We thank you for your continuing business. You have our assurance that at this office we will be doing all that we reasonably can to move all your cases forward in the most rapid manner possible.

Gary Link

Gary Link Attorney at Law President Gary L. Link Inc. GLL:gll

# The Law Office of Gary Link

(Advisements and Instructions to All Clients)

5-12-2016



### **Please Read and Retain For Your Records**

#### How long will it take to evict my tenants?

Approximately 70% of all the cases filed with the Court will take approximately 30 days to obtain possession from the date that the tenant is served with a copy of the lawsuit (Summons & Complaint) The other approximately 30% of the cases will take approximately 45-60 days to obtain possession from the date that the tenant is served with a copy of the lawsuit. These statistics are based upon the filing and prosecution of over 43,000 eviction cases in Sacramento Area by this office over the last thirty-six years.

Note that the 70% figure represents those cases where the tenants have been served with a copy of the lawsuit and have failed to file any opposing papers with the court. Consequently, this office will file a "default" against your tenant and instruct the Sheriff to evict your tenant. Occasionally some cases may take longer due to tenant's delay tactics.

#### Are there situations where the eviction process can be delayed?

Frankly, there are numerous situations, which will cause unavoidable delays in the processing of an eviction. The most frequent ones are listed below:

- 1. Your tenants avoid the process serving company and cannot be served with the lawsuit. We have instructed the process server to contact you directly if this situation should occur.
- 2. Ultimately, if the tenant cannot be personally served with the paperwork, we shall be required to file an application with the court to permit the posting of the Summons & Complaint on the tenant's door and to mail a copy to the tenant. **ANTICIPATED DELAY: App. 25 days.**
- 3. The tenant files a "Motion to Set Aside the Default" after the default has been taken. ANTICIPATED DELAY: App. 30 days.
- 4. The tenant files an "Application to Stay of Execution" on the basis of substantial hardship. ANTICIPATED DELAY: Discretionary with the Court - may be anywhere from 3 to 45 days depending upon the circumstances.

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- 5. A third person files a "Claim of Tenancy" with the Court. **ANTICIPATED DELAY: App. 20-30 days.**
- 6. The tenant or the tenant's attorney contacts us to attempt to resolve the case short of trial. In this event it may be beneficial for the case to be delayed until a resolution can be reached with the tenant.
  ANTICIPATED DELAY: This delay depends upon the particular circumstances of each case.

#### What do I do if my tenant contacts me after the case has been given to the law office?

If your tenant contacts you regarding the eviction or attempts to settle the case with you, you may discuss the potential terms of settlement with your tenant. Immediately after speaking with your tenant, contact the law office to prepare us for any anticipated phone call from the tenant. **DO NOT** simply instruct the tenant to call the law office without you first contacting us! We shall then be happy to discuss the terms of potential settlement.

#### What if I receive money from my tenant after the lawsuit is filed?

If you receive any money from your tenant, **DO NOT** cash or negotiate said sums unless and until you receive permission and approval from one of the attorneys at the law office. If you accept cash or negotiate any checks tendered to you without a written and signed agreement to the contrary, be advised that it may invalidate the lawsuit.

#### May I enter into any agreements with the tenant after the lawsuit is filed?

After the lawsuit has been filed with the court, if your tenant contacts you, **DO NOT** enter into any agreements with the tenant unless and until you first contact one of the attorneys at the law office. Any and all agreements must be in writing and in proper legal form. **DO NOT** attempt to prepare your own written settlement agreement with your tenant.

#### May I enter the premises of the tenant once a lawsuit has been filed?

Generally, it is not recommended that you bother or disturb your tenant during the pendency of the litigation. However, you may legally enter the premises in situations of emergency, or upon proper advance 24 hour notice to your tenant for the purpose of making necessary or agreed repairs, decorations, alterations or improvements to the premises; to exhibit the premises to prospective or actual purchasers, mortgagees, tenants, workmen or contractors; to inspect or enter after the tenant has abandoned or surrendered possession of the premises; or pursuant to a previous written agreement with the tenant. Please do not abuse this privilege. The Law Office will provide you with a "Notice of Entry".

#### Do I need to send a security deposit statement to the tenant even if I have filed a lawsuit?

Absolutely! Remember that within 21 days of the date that the tenant has vacated the premises you must send a "Disposition of Security Deposit Statement" to your tenant which will detail how much money, if any, has been applied to cleaning or repairs above and beyond normal wear and tear, or unpaid rents due pursuant to the terms of your rental agreement. If your rental agreement states a lesser amount of days, you must adhere to your rental agreement.

#### Will I obtain a money judgment against my tenant?

In Unlawful Detainer actions, an additional part of the service provided to you by the Law Office of Gary Link is to obtain a money judgment against your tenant. This service is included in the initial retainer fee. In most "default" situations the money judgment typically includes unpaid rent through the day you obtain possession of the residence, attorneys fees against your tenant if there is a signed, written rental agreement that contains such a provision, as well as court costs.

Accordingly, after you obtain actual possession of the premises whether by Sheriff's lock-out, mutual agreement with the tenant, or otherwise, call the office to inform us of the actual date of possession. We will mail to you a Declaration to review, sign and return to our office. **Unless you return this information to us, we shall not be able to submit your money judgment to the court.** 

#### Can I collect upon the money judgment?

After a judgment is obtained and upon your specific request and upon completion of the proper documentation, the Law Office of Gary Link will attempt to collect upon any money judgment obtained against your tenant. Upon collection by wage garnishment we shall send you two-thirds of any sums collected from your tenant. After the money judgment is obtained against your tenant, complete the appropriate form to have a wage garnishment processed.

#### How long is my judgment valid?

The judgment and the enforcement thereof is effective for ten (10) years from the day of the judgment. It may be renewed pursuant to the Civil Code sect. 683.010 et.seq. upon written request and payment of fees and costs.

#### What is an "abstract of judgment"?

The recording of an abstract of judgment with the Sacramento County Recorder's Office becomes a lien upon all non-exempt present or after-acquired interests of the judgment debtor. Also, the filing of the "Abstract of Judgment" imparts notice to all persons of its contents and any subsequent purchaser, mortgagee, and lienholder purchases, and takes with the same notice and effect as if the copy of the decree were a duly recorded deed, grant or transfer. If you wish for an abstract of judgment to be filed by this office, please send us a check for \$75.00 plus \$10.00 for each additional person that is to be named on the abstract. This fee is required in advance.

#### How shall I know exactly when the sheriff will evict my tenant?

Our office instructs the Sheriff to contact you or your agent as to the date and time that the Sheriff will arrive at the residence. Ordinarily, you will not be contacted by the Sheriff's office until the morning of the eviction. (Note: the Sheriff will not conduct an eviction on weekends or holidays). There is no need for you to contact our office unless the tenant vacates possession prior to actual eviction or unless the tenant attempts to negotiate with you for more time to remain in the premises; however, if the Sheriff does not contact you within 25 days after the lawsuit is filed, call our office immediately.

#### What happens when I meet the sheriff at the residence?

The Sheriff will physically evict the tenant if necessary. You should be prepared to immediately change all the locks at the premises and conduct a walk through to ascertain any damages to the property caused by the tenant. Photographs and accurate documentation are recommended.

#### What shall I do with the personal property of the tenant that was left behind?

After the tenant vacates possession, the law requires you to protect the tenant's property in a place of safekeeping for up to fifteen days after personal delivery upon the tenant of a legal form entitled "Notice of Right to Reclaim Abandoned Property"; however, you must maintain the personal property for up to eighteen days if you send the notice to the tenant by first-class mail. The time period begins to run from the date of personal delivery or mailing. If you do not know of the tenant's new address, simply mail the notice to the former tenancy premises. Upon request, this notice will be provided to you by our office. This notice must also be delivered to any other person you reasonably believe to be the owner of the personal property. The property may be removed to a storage facility of your choice. The property may stay at the residence if it is so extensive as to prohibit removal.

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#### What if the tenant demands that I return the personal property?

With the exception of the first two days after the tenant has vacated the real property, AND the personal property still remains at the former tenancy premises, you are not obligated to return the personal property unless and until the tenant pays you for the cost of storing the property. (Note: if the property is so extensive that it must remain at the residence, you may demand the fair rental value of the premises for the number of days the personal property remains there up until the date of disposal or sale (discussed below).

# If the tenant does not claim and pay for the storage costs of the personal property after 15/18 days, what do I do? (For Residential Tenancy)

If the total value of the property is worth less than \$700.00, you may do anything you wish to the personal property (ie. sell, destroy, etc.). Your appraisal must be reasonable. We suggest that you take photographs of the property prior to disposal or sale in order to validate your own evaluation - Remember the old cliché: "One person's junk may be another person's treasure". If the total value of the property is worth more than \$700.00 you must conduct a sale of the property by public auction. Contact our office for further specific instructions.

#### May I sue my tenant for damages to the property that are not covered by the security deposit?

Absolutely! We recommend that you file suit in small claims court for any damages to the property that are not covered by the security deposit. Upon request we shall schedule an office appointment to discuss pursuit of your claim.

#### **ADVISEMENT OF RISKS**

This section is intended to advise each of our landlord clients regarding the various risks and consequences to which property managers/agents/owners (hereafter described as "client") are exposing themselves by the initiation of an action for unlawful detainer. By filing of an action for unlawful detainer the initiating parties expose themselves to the following potential risks and liabilities:

- 1. The LANDLORD may not prevail in the action for Unlawful Detainer, thereby subjecting the LANDLORD to an adverse judgment against the LANDLORD for the tenant court costs and attorneys fees, if applicable.
- 2. If the TENANT raises retaliatory eviction as a defense and prevails, the LANDLORD may not be able to remove the TENANT from the premises for at least 180 days.
- 3. The LANDLORD may be subjected to defending breach of contract, intentional and negligent infliction of emotional distress, punitive damages and an action for wrongful eviction. In this event it is understood that the LAW OFFICE does not represent the LANDLORD for landlord clients per the Unlawful Detainer fee schedule but pursuant to its normal hourly rates of \$275 per hour for landlord clients. Also, it will then become necessary to enter into an independent retainer agreement with the LAW OFFICE.

As a CLIENT you are hereby advised to procure liability insurance that contains a duty to defend against affirmative actions by the TENANT if there is any potential for a wrongful eviction or other such claim by the TENANT. ("Wrongful Eviction" is defined to include retaliatory eviction, discriminatory eviction and unfounded or meritless evictions).

**ACCORDINGLY,** it is expressly represented by CLIENT that the following representations made to the law office are true and correct:

- 1. The eviction action is not being initiated with a retaliatory motive.
- 2. The eviction is not being initiated with a motive of discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, marital status, age, physical hardship, source of income of the tenant, nor upon arbitrary discrimination against the TENANT.
- 3. THE CLIENT has carefully investigated the grounds for the Unlawful Detainer proceeding and is correct as to the identity of all adult tenants in possession of the premises, the amount of rent specified as due, the circumstances of service of any notice upon the tenant(s), the identity of the owner of the property, and the contents of the notice to quit.
- 4. The premises is (1) habitable and in compliance with Civil Code Sections 1941.1 and 1942, or (2) the TENANT is responsible for any lack of habitability, or (3) the CLIENT has been prevented by the TENANT from maintaining habitability, or (4) the LANDLORD has no knowledge of lack of habitability. The CLIENT acknowledges familiarity and understanding of the requirements of Civil Code Sections 1941 and 1942 (Copies of these Civil Code sections will be provided to all clients upon request.)
- 5. All adult tenants named on the Notice to Quit (prepared by the client or at the request of the client) are in possession of the premises.
- 6. If client is a property manager or agent of the OWNER, he/she has the express authority to enter into the initiation of actions for Unlawful Detainer as well as the authority to represent the OWNER in dealings with the LAW OFFICE.

THE OWNER, LANDLORD, OR PROPERTY MANAGER AGREE TO HOLD THE LAW OFFICE FREE AND HARMLESS OF ANY AND ALL LIABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROSECUTION OF ANY ACTION FOR UNLAWFUL DETAINER, AND AGREE AS OWNER OR ON BEHALF OF THE OWNER TO INDEMNIFY AND DEFEND SAID LAW OFFICE FROM ANY JUDGMENT RENDERED IN FAVOR OF A TENANT AGAINST SAID OFFICE, INCLUDING ATTORNEYS FEES AND COSTS OF SUIT. CLIENT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT PRIOR TO PRESENTATION AND INITIATION OF ANY ACTION FOR UNLAWFUL DETAINER WITH THE LAW OFFICE, HE OR SHE HAS READ AND UNDERSTANDS THE FOREGOING PROVISIONS IN THEIR ENTIRETY.

# Would you like this office to attempt collection of your money judgment? If so, please contact our office to fill out a form with the following information:

- 1. The name of the former tenant that is currently employed.
- 2. The name, phone number and address of that former tenant's employer.
- 3. Mail a check to the Law Office to cover filing fees, (\$125.00 for garnishment)(Sacramento County)
- 4. We ask that before you fill out the form and present it to our office with the foregoing information; you previously verify the employment status of the former tenant against whom we have obtained a judgment.

The fee for the service of garnishing wages of the former tenant against whom we have obtained a judgment is "one-third" of any sum collected from the former tenant's employer or amount collected from the former tenant. Upon obtaining money from either source, we will send you the remaining two-thirds less any sums advanced by this office on your behalf.

Upon your written request and payment of the fees, this office will file an Abstract of Judgment with the Sacramento County Recorder's Office. The recording of such an abstract becomes a lien on all non-exempt present or after acquired interests of the judgment debtor (tenant). The practical effect of this is that if your tenant seeks to obtain a loan for the next ten years, the abstract will typically need to be cleared before the lender will loan the money. Our fee for this service is \$75.00 plus \$10.00 for each additional person that is named on the abstract. This fee is required in advance.

The judgment and enforcement thereof is effective for ten. (10) years from the date of the judgment. It may be renewed pursuant to Civil Code Section. 683.010 et seq. upon request.

#### **Refund Policy**

We continually make every effort to provide quality and competitive services to the Sacramento landlord community; we trust that this refund policy meets with your approval.

It is the policy of this office that clients pay an initial flat retainer fee in the amount of \$675.00 (Sacramento County) before commencement of the preparation of the legal documents for Unlawful Detainer. The services to be rendered for this fee are set forth in the retainer agreement. We have discovered that over the last 36 years and over 43,000 evictions that occasionally tenants will vacate possession of the premises after the Summons & Complaint have been served upon them. They will apparently vacate voluntarily and most often in the middle of the night. This does not occur often; however, it does occur.

Accordingly, if your tenants *vacate* the premises after the Summons and Complaint have been served upon them, but before the writ of possession is issued and delivered to the sheriff AND there is no need to obtain the Sheriff's assistance to have possession of the premises restored to you, you simply need to contact Mr. Link to make arrangements to receive a refund or credit of the amount of **\$145.00**.

In the event that other "extraordinary" services are necessary to be rendered or have already been rendered for the client pursuant to the "retainer agreement", then a refund may not be available.

Note, that we will nevertheless file the appropriate "default" papers against your tenant. This will permit you to obtain a money judgment against your tenant in the future.

Also, although you have been previously instructed to immediately contact Mr. Link whenever contacted by your tenants about settlement and/or resolution of the lawsuit or when you receive money from the tenants, you are also reminded that if the Summons & Complaint have been served upon your tenants, AND the tenants contact you to negotiate settlement or resolution of the lawsuit by the payment of the rent as well as the \$675 (Sacramento County) attorneys fees and costs of suit, AND you wish to settle with your tenants upon those terms, you must immediately contact the law office to notify us that there will be no need to have the Writ of Restitution issued by the court. In this event, no refund will be available, as you are in a position to insist that your tenant restore to you the attorneys fees and costs of suit that you have paid to the law office. Of course, it is your choice to accept less than what would restore you to the monetary "status quo" from the tenant to settle or resolve your case.

#### CLARIFICATIONS & DISCLAIMERS (Supplement to Attorney-Client Retainer Agreement)

In addition to the written *Retainer Agreement* and its incorporated documents, in this "*Clarification & Disclaimers*" I hope to increase your understanding regarding the nature and extent of representation of a "Client" by the Law Office of Gary Link for the handling and prosecution of an eviction action against a tenant.<sup>1</sup> I have made extensive efforts to completely and thoroughly describe many categories of potential litigation and representation that are peripheral to the handling of any eviction action. The law office has the capacity to represent clients and property manager/agents in most of these legal areas. However, please understand that being retained to evict your tenant(s) does **not** include representation in these categories:

Defense of any affirmative lawsuit filed against client or authorized agent	Personal Injury claims against a current or former tenant
Defense of a tenant filed cross-complaint	Property Damage claims against a current or former tenant
Defense of County Code Enforcement or Building Inspection claims or charges	Unlawful Detainer appeals
Defense of Department of Fair Employment & Housing claims or charges	Temporary Restraining Orders (prosecution or defense)
Defense of Human Rights & Fair Housing claims or charges	Small Claims Court advice, representation or appeals
Defense of Department of Real Estate claims or charges	Tax advice or representation
Defense of Internal Revenue Service claims or charges	Sale or exchange of the client's rental property
Defense of American Disability Act claims or charges	Review and/or advice regarding legal validity of any rental or management form
Defense of Fair Debt Collection Practices Act claims or charges	presented by client or authorized agent
Defense of criminal charges, local ordinance violations	Review and/or advice regarding client or authorized agent business practices
Defense of claims instigated by any governmental agency	Legality of the authorized agent's position or capacity as a property manager
Defense of contempt citations charged against client or authorized agent	Safety review of your rental property, apartment complex, or common areas
Defense of insurance company claims or prosecution of such claims	Bankruptcy representation
Review of owner or agent vendor contracts	Notification of judgments to tenant or credit reporting agencies
Review of the client's claim of property ownership	Preparation or filing of an abstract of judgment
Review of a management/employee agreement	Advancing filing fees, court costs, collection costs, expert witness fees, travel fees,
Review of the client's or authorized agent's standard business practices	court reporters, deposition transcripts
Collection of money judgments without independent and separate written	Renewal of money judgments
authorization from client or authorized agent	Contract disputes between owner/agent and vendors
	Meeting the Sheriff or physically locking the tenant out, changing the locks, etc.

# If any of the above described services become necessary, a separate and different written retainer agreement must first be entered into between the law office and the client and/or the authorized agent.

- ✓ It is understood and agreed that there have been and are no representations, agreements, or understandings regarding the scope of law office representation between the owner/property manager/authorized agent and either the attorney or staff other than those contained in the *Retainer Agreement* and its associated, incorporated documents.
- The law office maintains errors and omissions insurance coverage. Law office is not responsible for the client's lost rents, tenant or third party damages to the tenancy premises, unpaid utilities, or tenancy premises operating expenses.
- ✓ Law office does not guarantee or warrant the result or outcome of any case. In the event of a judgment or verdict against the owner/landlord, the law office has no duty or responsibility to pay the awarded attorneys fees, costs of suit, or statutory penalties.
- ✓ The law office intends to retain all client files for a period of not less than five years from completion of representation, after which the file will be destroyed. If you wish to have copies of your file we will gladly provide you with duplicate copies for the cost of \$.50 per page, plus an acquisition and administration fee of \$35.00 to obtain the file from the storage shed.

#### **Special Notification to Property Managers/Authorized Agents:**

- (1) The "Client" of the law office is technically the owner/landlord. If at any time your owner/landlord's expressed desire to the law office (ie. Stipulations/settlement discussions) conflicts with the agent's expressed desire, the *client's* choice must be honored by the law office. Legal services are not intended to be for or on behalf of any person or entity other than the identified *client*.
- (2) Payment of attorneys fees and costs of suit by property manager/agents/ for the owner/landlord to the law firm to perform specified legal services on behalf of a *client* does not create an "attorney-client" relationship between the law firm and the property manager/agent; neither shall payment being received from someone other than the client on behalf of the owner/landlord (client) interfere with the attorney-client relationship.
- (3) This law firm and its staff maintains an undivided fiduciary duty of loyalty, confidentiality, competence, candor, communication, and honesty to the *client*. Essentially, without creating a joint venture or independent business relationship, authorized agents for the owner/landlord and the law firm are working together to achieve the maximum result for our mutual client.
- (4) The law office will not handle cases where the client's or agent's predominant motive or purpose is to abuse, harass, or annoy the tenant or any other person, to violate anyone's civil rights, or to violate any statute or law.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Through the years I have attempted to keep abreast of new developments in the areas of law for which I represent clients by regularly attending Continuing Education of the Bar seminars. In December, 2000, I attended a seminar whose panelists suggested that to avoid any client confusion regarding the scope of the attorney-client relationship, that each retainer agreement should set forth what services will and will not be provided by a law office for the handling of each matter. This document is one of my efforts to promote client satisfaction and understanding of the nature of our legal relationship. Thank you for taking the time to read all these documents.

# The Law Offices of Rosenberg & Link

(Other Services Provided By The Law Offices)

#### "Not just evictions!"





#### Defense of lawsuits against owners and property managers

- Wrongful eviction defense
- Housing discrimination defense
- Failure to return all or a portion of the security deposit
- Personal injury claims filed by tenants or former tenants
- Alleged failure to return the former tenant's personal property

#### Prosecution of affirmative civil lawsuits against tenants or former tenants

- Evictions
- Claims for unpaid rent, common area maintenance charges, utilities, etc.
- Claims for property damages caused by former tenants
- Temporary restraining orders and preliminary injunctions
- Nuisance abatement against offending property owners

#### Prosecution of affirmative civil lawsuits against owners who fail to pay management fees

#### Prosecution of affirmative civil lawsuits against negligent or contract breaching vendors or managers

#### Dispute resolution and negotiation

- Boundary disputes
- Management company v. owner disputes
- Violation of State and local nuisance law disputes
- Insurance coverage disputes with insurance companies when they deny coverage

#### Real estate litigation and disputes

#### **Civil and criminal matters**

- Personal injury cases (auto accidents, hazardous surfaces, slip & fall, mold & mildew, etc)
- Breach of contract
- Administrative law matters
- DUI defense
- Traffic citation defense
- Incorporation
- Business matters
- Collection of money judgments
- Demand letters
- Responses to demand letters

#### **CLIENT RESPONSIBILITIES DURING REPRESENTATION**

By

#### Law Office of Gary Link

It is extremely important that our clients are fully aware of the most predominant complexities of the processing of an eviction matter. Over the course of thirty-six years and over 43,000 eviction cases, we have matured in becoming aware of the most frequent issues that may arise. This document is designed to streamline life for all of us. We hope that you will co-operate with us to arrive at the best result possible for the handling of your case! We thank you for honoring us with the privilege of being able to serve you.

# → Please, please read all documentation and paperwork provided that may be presented to you during the processing of your case. These documents include the following:

#### Beginning of Case:

- Advisements & Instructions To All Clients
- ✓ Clarifications & Disclaimers
- ✓ Not Just Evictions
- ✓ Client Responsibilities During Representation
- ✓ Has the Tenant Abandoned? Can I take possession immediately?
- ✓ Small Claims Court Advice

#### Upon default being entered against your tenant:

- ✓ Status Report #2 Important Notice of Default
- ✓ Declaration in Support of Default Money Judgment

#### If the tenant files an Answer:

- ✓ What Should You Expect to Happen On The Date Of Trial
- ✓ Special Advisement re Inspection
- ✓ Notice of Intent to Enter
- ✓ Three Day Notice to Quit
- ✓ Answer of Tenant
- ✓ Notice of Trial
- ✓ *Map to the Court*
- ✓ Gary's Bonus To You

#### At the trial of your case:

- ✓ We Won, What Now?
- ✓ Not Just Evictions
- ✓ Questionnaire re collection of money judgment
- ✓ We Want You to Win in Small Claims Court

#### **CLIENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

- ➔ Provide honest, accurate and complete information to our staff regarding the facts of your case
- $\rightarrow$  Adhere to all client instructions and advisements presented in our paperwork
- $\rightarrow$  Be on time to all meetings with Mr. Link, our staff, and to court appearances
- $\rightarrow$  Be fully prepared for all meetings with our office and for all court appearances

#### → Immediately notify the law office:

- $\checkmark$  When your tenant has vacated the tenancy premises
- $\checkmark$  If there are any changes of circumstances for you or the tenancy premises
- $\checkmark$  If you and the tenant have spoken about the possibility of settling the legal matter

# → DO NOT accept any money tendered from the tenant without first having a written agreement prepared by our office

- → Do not enter into any settlement agreements or bargains with your tenant without first speaking with Mr. Link or the office manager; all post-filing bargains must be in writing we prepare the written agreement!
- → Bring all original papers and documents regarding each case to every meeting with our staff or the court
- $\rightarrow$  Be properly attired for all court appearances
- → Maintain the tenancy premises in a habitable condition, not illegally turn off utilities, curtail services, harass or annoy your tenant, threaten your tenant, or invade your tenant's privacy
- $\rightarrow$  Do not defame the reputation or character of your tenants

## We want you to win!

#### (Has the tenant abandoned? Can I take possession immediately?)

#### (55–65–75)

#### By Gary Link

Gary Link, Attorney, is President of the Law Office of Gary L. Link, Inc. Since 1979, Mr. Link has represented landlord in over 43,000 eviction cases and litigated over 14,000 eviction trials. He is a member of the California Apartment Association, the Rental Housing Association, as well as a member of the local, state, and national bar associations. For questions relating to this article, call the law office at 916-447-8101. The information in this article is applicable as of 2014. Because laws may change please contact the law office to affirm continuing validity of the contents of this article.

Many times, the landlord will not be specifically informed by the tenant that the tenant has "vacated" possession of the rental premises, leaving the landlord in doubt as to whether to enter the unit and recover possession or not. Typically, the tenant will not have transferred possession of the keys to the unit, telephoned the landlord that the tenant has indeed vacated, or sent any type of correspondence to state that the premises has been "abandoned" by the tenant. The landlord is then forced to independently determine whether the most financially feasible and appropriate course is to take possession of the premises (1) through the processing of a lawsuit for Unlawful Detainer, (2) through the service of a Notice of Belief of Abandonment, (3) through taking possession immediately.

The best way that I have been able to explain what decision the landlord should make is by portraying an analogy that I have entitled "55-65-75". The analogy is to driving on the freeway at 55 miles per hour, 65 miles per hour, or 75 miles per hour.

#### 55 MPH = UNLAWFUL DETAINER LAWSUIT:

When driving at 55 miles per hour, it takes longer to arrive at your destination than when driving 65 mph or 75 mph. It is also the safest way to arrive from point "A" to point "B". Statistics have proven that are fewer traffic accidents when driving at the slower speed, and the risk of receiving a speeding ticket is reduced to a minimum. The analogy to driving 55 mph is to have the tenant evicted through the process of filing a lawsuit for Unlawful Detainer. The lawsuit process will take the longest time of the three alternatives; most typical default evictions in Sacramento will take 40 to 60 days from the time the tenant is served with the lawsuit until the Sheriff finally evicts the tenant. It will also usually be the most expensive process due to typical attorneys fees and court costs of \$655. Nevertheless, although the eviction process is the longest and most expensive approach, it is the surest and safest way to obtain legal possession of the premises with a minimum of risk that the tenant will prevail in a later lawsuit brought by the tenant against the landlord wherein the tenant claims that the premises was prematurely or wrongfully restored to the landlord.

#### 65 MPH = SERVING A "NOTICE OF BELIEF OF ABANDONMENT OF REAL PROPERTY:

The "middle of the road" approach - which is similar to driving 65 miles per hour on the freeway - to determining whether to take possession of the premises without the necessity of filing of a lawsuit, may be exercised when there have been at least 14 days of consecutively unpaid rent, AND the landlord has formed a "reasonable" belief that the tenant has abandoned the premises. As with driving a little slower than 75 mph, *yet* faster than the legal speed limit (thereby increasing the risk of a traffic accident or receiving a speeding ticket), this method will take at least 18 days of the notice, and will expose the landlord to a moderate risk of liability in the event the landlord is determined by a judge or a jury that there was a failure to properly assess the evidence as to whether a reasonable landlord would have formed a "reasonable" belief of abandonment before mailing the "Notice of Belief of Abandonment" to the tenant. Of course, the central issue for determination is to assess what specific facts exist that could cause the landlord to have a preliminary "reasonable" belief of abandonment of the premises. The most common facts that a landlord should look for are:

- 1. Has the electricity and/or gas been turned off?
- 2. Are papers being delivered at the premises without being removed from the porch?
- 3. Has the mail carrier informed the landlord or neighbors that there has been a change of address filed by the tenant?
- 4. Have the neighbors been consulted to inform the landlord that the tenants were seen removing their belongings from the premises?
- 5. Have the tenants stated to the landlord or others that they were living elsewhere or that they were no longer living at the premises?
- 6. After conducting an inspection of the premises pursuant to a lawfully served "Notice of Intent to Enter", was it discovered that:
  - (a) all of the furniture was removed from the premises,
  - (b) there were no toiletries, linens, dishware at the premises,
  - (c) there was no food in the refrigerator or in the cupboards,
  - (d) the telephone has been disconnected,
  - (e) there is only trash and garbage scattered through out the unit.

The mere fact that the landlord knows that the tenant left personal property on the premises does not, of itself, justify a finding that the tenant has "abandoned" the premises. Unfortunately, a landlord will not usually have the convenience or comfort of having all of the above factors in existence; thus it is recommended that the landlord then serve a "Notice of Belief of Abandonment" by mailing this written notice by first class mail to the tenant's address, or by personally handing it to the tenant. The landlord will then need to wait 18 days without receiving a legally appropriate response from the tenant before the landlord may deem the premises *formally* "abandoned" and take possession of the premises. If the tenant wishes to avoid having the landlord recover possession of the premises in this fashion, within the 18 day period from the date of the mailing of the notice (not counting the day of mailing) the tenant must make sure that the landlord actually receives a written notice from the tenant stating that the tenant (1) does not intend to abandon the real property, and (2) provide an address at which the tenant may be served by certified mail with an action for Unlawful Detainer.

Obviously, because of the great latitude in interpretation of whether the landlord initially was correct in forming a "reasonable" belief of abandonment of the premises based upon the many factors set forth above, this method is described as the "middle of the road" approach. In the appropriate factual circumstances, the service of the "Notice of Belief of Abandonment of Real Property" may also be served at the same time as a "Three Day Notice to Pay Rent or Quit", a "Three day Notice to Perform Covenant or Quit", or even during the processing of the lawsuit for Unlawful Detainer. A "Notice of Belief of Abandonment of Real Property" may be obtained from my office.

#### 75 MPH = TAKING POSSESSION RIGHT NOW:

As with driving on the freeway at 75 mph and risking increased exposure to traffic accidents and speeding tickets, this method exposes the landlord to a higher risk of being sued by the tenant for prematurely and allegedly wrongfully recovering possession of the premises without the tenant's permission. When the landlord utilizes this approach, and has not exercised the right to judicial intervention with a lawsuit for Unlawful Detainer of the proper service of the "Notice of Belief of Abandonment of Real Property", the landlord must be thoroughly certain - and even this may not be enough that the tenant has indeed "abandoned" the premises.

Frankly, this approach should not be utilized without first speaking with an attorney who is knowledgeable in landlord-tenant matters, with whom you will assess the risks of being sued by the particular tenant with whom the landlord is dealing. To those readers who are already in the process of a lawsuit for Unlawful Detainer, in the absence of unusually extreme circumstances, it is *generally* recommended that you allow the lawsuit to run its course, and await the Sheriff's lock out, rather than taking possession immediately.

# The Law Offices of Gary Link

(Small Claims Court Advice)







#### SMALL CLAIMS COURT JURISDICTION IS UP TO \$10,000 (Effective 1-1-12)

Attorney Consultation to be prepared for your day in court includes:

- Review by an attorney of facts/documents to evaluate the merits/defenses of your case
- Basic pretrial preparation of your case, e.g., whom to sue, what to sue for, etc.
- Identification of necessary witnesses/anticipated testimony
- Identification of documents that should be presented at trial
- Order of presentation of evidence at trial
- Courtroom demeanor strategy/tactics
- Your appeal rights/trial de novo
- Settlement/mediation alternatives
- Collection of money judgment/avoidance of collection of money judgment

Other services available for an additional cost

- Court Forms
- Preparation of legal documents
- Service of your legal documents
- Filing of papers at small claims court
- Legal research
- Demand letters/response letters
- Collection of money judgment
- Attorney representation at trial de novo (appeal)

Whether you are suing, being sued, or simply anticipate that you will become a party to a small claims court lawsuit, you should immediately seek the advice of an attorney. Mr. Link has been a full-time practicing litigation attorney in Sacramento since 1979.

An attorney consultation for small claims court advice is only \$225 per hour by appointment only.

#### We are here to help you. Call (916) 447-8101 for an appointment today.