
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

May 28, 2020

Ald. Khalif J. Rainey
(414) 286-3764

MEDIA ALERT

Alderman Rainey requests eviction moratorium reinstatement from Governor Evers

In a letter sent yesterday (**attached**) to Governor Tony Evers, **Alderman Khalif J. Rainey** is requesting that the Governor consider a modest reinstatement of the moratorium to evict residents facing financial difficulties during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In part, the letter states: “We cannot know the stories of all those facing eviction, but surely we can assume the majority of them were hard-working, rent-paying residents. Now, in the face of a global pandemic that has created one of the highest unemployment rates in this state’s history and done particular harm to the low-wage service sector, we have the spectacle of landlords seeking evictions even before they are permitted to do so.”

Alderman Rainey’s letter continues, “Surely, though, it’s not too late to consider a modest reinstatement of the moratorium? The economic dislocation that these many thousands of evictions could cause will be great and will fall hardest on those already less fortunate.”

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COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

CHAIR

- Community & Economic Development

MEMBER

- Public Safety and Health Committee
- Steering and Rules Committee



KHALIF J. RAINEY
ALDERMAN, 7TH DISTRICT

KHALIF J. RAINEY
ALDERMAN, 7TH DISTRICT

May 27, 2020

The Honorable,
Governor Tony Evers
115 E. Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Governor Evers:

Despite the heated rhetoric of our political moment, government is not usually about “good” versus “evil”. We study facts, review choices, consider, reflect, and decide. We make the best we can of what we have and hope to work in a bi-partisan way to solve problems all of our constituents share.

This is not what I see in the news reports of landlords lined up outside the Milwaukee County Courthouse hoping to file eviction actions against their tenants, even before your own moratorium on these evictions had expired. We cannot know the stories of all those facing eviction, but surely we can assume the majority of them were hard-working, rent-paying residents. Now, in the face of a global pandemic that has created one of the highest unemployment rates in this state’s history and done particular harm to the low-wage service sector, we have the spectacle of landlords seeking evictions even before they are permitted to do so. And they are doing it even though there is some question as to whether their filings will even be legal.

It is beyond argument that many landlords have suffered from a lack of income from rent. Your administration’s rent assistance program also has great merit and is to be commended. Surely, though, before the end of the moratorium comes, there is a last moment to consider a modest extension? The economic dislocation that these many thousands of evictions could cause will be great and will fall hardest on those already less fortunate. It will diminish whatever prospect existed for the eventual rebound of these communities already so damaged by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This is a chance to do what is good. Such rare opportunities shouldn’t be missed.

Should you have any questions of me, please never hesitate to contact my office.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Khalif J. Rainey".

Khalif J. Rainey,
Alderman, 7th District