Vacating your building for safety reasons?

**WHY IS IT NECESSARY?**

Following the collapse of the Champlain Tower South in Surfside, Florida, government officials took steps to prevent similar tragedies in the future. This lead to many buildings being declared unsafe. The new ordinance requires some owners to provide temporary housing if your residential building is deemed unsafe. The Ordinance is located in Section 8-5 of the Miami-Dade County Code and became effective on March 11, 2022.

**BEFORE THE ORDINANCE**

Owners would rarely provide replacement housing when a building was deemed unsafe.

**AFTER THE ORDINANCE**

If you have to vacate your building for safety reasons and a building official determines it is due to the fault of the owner, the owner must relocate residents into new housing.

**AFTER AN ORDER TO VACATE YOUR BUILDING IS ISSUED:**

- The property owner has eight hours to make arrangements for your temporary housing.
- Owner must provide temporary housing for at least three months or until the property is made safe.
- If the owner fails to do this, the county can provide emergency housing or meals for seven days.
- If the owner still does not arrange for relocation after seven days, then the county may provide you financial assistance for up to three months of rent.
- The County has the power to, but is not required to provide you with assistance and then seek reimbursement from the owner.
- If a private owner does not provide you with an issued Unsafe Structure Notice within 14 days then you can sue under the Tenant's Bill of Rights.