

I take care of my tenants and with this catastrophe I have already told them that I would work with them if they have trouble with the rent. I am a small landlord with five properties, two short term and three long term houses. THIS IS MY LIVELIHOOD. My houses are exceptionally maintained and are always below market rent. For this reason my tenants have been with me for years. I was scheduled to do a small rent increase (the first in two years) on April 1 in order to keep up with taxes and inflation but I called each one of them and told them this would be postponed. I also told them if they had trouble I would do what I could to offer rent relief. BUT I AM LIMITED AS TO WHAT I CAN OFFER. Currently most of my STRs reservations have canceled and two of my long term tenants have told me that they will be laid off. IF I HAVE TO ABSORB THESE LOSSES I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I CAN HOLD OUT. I have families in my rentals and I have watched their children grow. They are an extension of my life and I see it as my responsibility to offer stability for them. Landlords are not the demons that we are often unfairly portrayed as in the media and in politics. I have watched the laws swing against us and I wonder why we are so vilified. We offer an essential service and many landlords maintain personal contact with their tenants for years.

These are hugely extenuating circumstances. I am a responsible landlord and am largely self contained, rarely ask for anything, and operate on a small budget. As I said, this is my livelihood and I take care of my tenants. As the government figures out how to support the economy during this disaster I would like for you to keep in mind that landlords, especially smaller, private ones, are hanging out on a limb right now. Any disaster relief will help me maintain my houses and thereby offer stability and keep these families in their homes.

Thank you,
Greg Larson