



The DESIGNATED AUTHORITY can also help  
you find emergency shelter and funds.  
CALL: 1-877-644-9992 (Toll-free)  
or,  
CALL an NCSA Courtworker:  
1-780-451-4002



## BREAKING A LEASE & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

### ARE YOU SAFE AT HOME?

Are you renting a home with someone you are dating, married to, co-parenting with or in an adult interdependent relationship with? Do they ever:

- hurt you or damage your property?
- intimidate you?
- stalk you or prevent you from leaving?
- force you to have sexual contact when you don't want to?
- target you for psychological or emotional abuse?

## Did you know you can break your lease without penalty if you are experiencing domestic violence?

This does not apply to homes located on Reserves or Settlements.

1.

**You will need to get a certificate to give to your landlord.**

TO GET A CERTIFICATE, contact Alberta Human Services (ask for the [Designated Authority](#)).

### Provide the Designated Authority with:

- an active court order (Emergency Protection Order, Queens' Bench Protection Order, Restraining Order)
- OR a statement from a certified professional saying that you are leaving domestic violence
- You can send your document by fax, or e-mail, or deliver it in person.

**A Certificate will be issued in 7 DAYS** and is valid for 90 DAYS. A safer spaces coordinator will contact you to make arrangements to deliver the certificate.

2.

**Write a letter to your landlord saying you are leaving due to domestic violence. Include the date you will leave.**

**YOU HAVE THE RIGHT** to use your security deposit as your last month's rent. You can ask the landlord to do so in the letter.

Sign and date the letter, and give it to your landlord with the certificate, and 28 days later, your tenancy will end.

You do not have to stay during those 28 days.