

STANDARD FORM APARTMENT LEASE (FIXED TERM)

Date: _____

Name: _____ Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Phone Number: _____

Lessor, hereby leases to (Name) _____

(Address/City/State/Zip) _____ (PhoneNumber) _____

Lessee, who hereby hires the following premises, viz (Apartment/Suite) _____

at (Street or Address) _____, MA (Zip) _____ (consisting of) _____

for the term of _____, beginning _____

and terminating on _____. The rent to be paid by the Lessee for the leased premises shall be as follows:

RENT:**TENANT:**

This section governs rent payments. In some cases, rent payments may increase during the lease term. Please be sure that you carefully read and understand this section. Please initial here when you are certain that you understand and agree with this section.

Lessee's initials:

A: The term rent shall be \$ _____, payable, except as herein otherwise provided, in installments of \$ _____, on the First day of every month, in advance, so long as this lease is in force and effect;

B: However, if in any tax year commencing with the fiscal year n/a the real estate taxes on the land and buildings, of which the leased premises are a part, are in excess of the amount of the real estate taxes thereon for the fiscal year n/a, (herein called the "Base Year", and being the most recent year in which the Lessor has actually received a real estate tax bill for the leased premises) Lessee will pay to Lessor as additional rent hereunder, when and as designated by notice in writing by Lessor, n/a per cent of such excess that may occur in each year of the term of this Lease or any extension or renewal thereof and proportionately for any part of a fiscal year. The Lessor represents to the Lessee that the term rent set forth in the immediately preceding paragraph (A) does not reflect any real estate tax increase subsequent to the said Base Year. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the Lessee shall be obligated to pay only that proportion of such increased tax as the unit leased him bears to the whole of the real estate so taxed, and if the Lessor obtains an abatement of the real estate tax levied on the whole of the real estate of which the unit leased by Lessee is a part, a proportionate share of such abatement, less reasonable attorney's fees, if any, shall be refunded to said Lessee.

LESSOR AND LESSEE FURTHER COVENANT AND AGREE:

- 1) **MAINTENANCE-** For maintenance, if other than lessor, contact:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

- 2) **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS -**

3. Heat and Other Utilities

TENANT:

This section governs utility payments. Be sure to discuss with the Lessor those payments which will be required of you for this apartment.

The Lessee shall pay, as they become due, all bills for electricity and other utilities, whether they are used for furnishing heat or other purposes, that are furnished to the leased premises and presently separately metered, as well as for fuel oil kept in a separate tank which serves only the leased premises. The Lessor agrees to furnish reasonably hot and cold water and reasonable heat during the regular heating season (except to the extent supplied through utilities metered to the leased premises or fuel oil kept in a separate tank as stated above), but the failure of the Lessor to provide any of the foregoing items to any specific degree, quantity, quality, or character due to any causes beyond the reasonable control of the Lessor, such as accident, restriction by City, State or Federal regulations, or during necessary repairs to the apparatus shall not (subject to applicable law) form a basis of any claim for damages against the Lessor. If legally permitted, utility meters may consist of submeters installed to allocate charges incurred by the Lessor. **Payment by the Lessee for water and sewer service is subject to the provisions of the attached Water and Sewer Submetering Addendum.**

4. Attached Forms

The forms, if any, attached hereto are incorporated herein by reference.

5. Care Of Premises

The Lessee shall not paint, decorate or otherwise embellish and/or change and shall not make nor suffer any additions or alterations to be made in or to the leased premises without the prior written consent of the Lessor, nor make nor suffer any strip or waste, nor suffer the heat or water to be wasted, and at the termination of this lease shall deliver up the leased premises and all property belonging to the Lessor in good, clean and tenantable order and condition, reasonable wear and tear excepted. No washing machine, air-conditioning unit, space heater, clothes dryer, television or other aerials, or other like equipment shall be installed without the prior written consent of the Lessor. No waterbeds shall be permitted in the leased premises.

6. Cleanliness

The Lessee shall maintain the leased premises in a clean condition. He shall not sweep, throw, or dispose of, nor permit to be swept, thrown or disposed of, from said premises nor from any doors, windows, balconies, porches or other parts of said building, any dirt, waste, rubbish or other substance or article into any other parts of said building or the land adjacent thereon, except in proper receptacles and except in accordance with the rules of the Lessor.

7. Definitions

The words "Lessor" and "Lessee" as used herein shall include their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors, representatives and assigns, agents and servants; and the words "he", "his" and "him" where applicable shall apply to the Lessor or Lessee regardless of sex, number, corporate entity, trust or other body. If more than one party signs as Lessee hereunder, the covenants, conditions and agreements herein of the Lessee shall be the joint and several obligations of each such party.

8. Delivery Of Premises

In the event the Lessor is not able through no fault of his own to deliver the leased premises to the Lessee at the time called for herein, the rent shall be abated on a pro rata basis until such time as occupancy can be obtained, which abatement shall constitute full settlement of all damages caused by such delay, or the Lessor, at his election, shall be allowed reasonable time to deliver possession of the leased premises, and if he cannot deliver such possession within 30 days from the beginning of said term, either the Lessor or Lessee may then terminate this lease by giving written notice to the other and any payment made under this lease shall be forthwith refunded. Lessee hereby authorizes and empowers Lessor to institute proceedings to recover possession of the premises on behalf of and in the name of Lessee.

9. Eminent Domain

If the lease premises, or any part thereof, or the whole or any part of the building of which they are a part, shall be taken for any purpose by exercise of the power of eminent domain or condemnation, or by action of the city or other authorities or shall receive any direct or consequential damage for which the Lessor or Lessee shall be entitled to compensation by reason of anything lawfully done in pursuance of any public authority after the execution hereof and during said term, or any extension or renewal thereof, then at the option of either the Lessor or the Lessee, this lease and said term shall terminate and such option may be exercised in the case of any such taking, notwithstanding the entire interest of the Lessor and the Lessee may have been divested by such taking. Said option to terminate shall be exercised by either the Lessor or the Lessee, by giving a written notice of exercise of such option to terminate in the manner described in Section 17 of this lease. Said option to terminate shall not be exercised by either party (a) earlier than the effective date of taking, nor (b) later than thirty (30) days after the effective date of taking. The mailing of the notice of exercise as set forth hereinabove shall be deemed to be the exercise of said option; and upon the giving of such notice, this lease shall be terminated as of the date of the taking. If this lease and said term are not so terminated, then in case of any such taking or destruction of or damage to the leased premises, rendering the same or any part thereof unfit for use and occupation, a just proportion of the rent hereinbefore reserved, according to the nature and extent of the damage to the leased premises, shall be suspended or abated until, in the case of such taking, what may remain of the leased premises, shall have been put in proper condition for use and occupation. The Lessee hereby assigns to the Lessor any and all claims and demands for damages on account of any such taking or for compensation for anything lawfully done in pursuance of any public authority, and covenants with the Lessor that the Lessee will from time to time execute and deliver to the Lessor such further instruments of assignment of any such claims and demands as the Lessor shall request, provided however that the Lessee does not assign to the Lessor any claims based upon Lessee's personal property or other improvements installed by Lessee with Lessor's written permission.

10. Fire, Other Casualty

If the leased premises, or any part thereof, or the whole or a substantial part of the building of which they are a part, shall be destroyed or damaged by fire or other casualty after the execution hereof and during said term, or any extension or renewal thereof, then this lease and said term shall terminate at the option of the Lessor by notice to the Lessee. If this lease and said term are not so terminated, then in case of any such destruction or damage to the leased premises, or to the common areas of the building customarily used by the Lessee for access to and egress from the leased premises, rendering the same or any part thereof unfit for use and occupation, a just proportion of the rent hereinbefore reserved, according to the nature and extent of the damage to the leased premises, shall be suspended or abated until the leased premises shall have been put in proper condition for use and occupation. If the leased premises or such common areas have not been restored by the Lessor to substantially their former condition for use and occupancy within thirty days after the damage occurred, the Lessee may terminate this lease by giving notice to the Lessor within thirty days following the termination of the thirty day period within which the Lessor failed to restore. If either party gives notice of intention to terminate under this section, this lease shall terminate on the last day of the then-current monthly rental period.

11. Disturbance, Illegal Use

Neither the Lessee nor his family, friends, relatives, invitees, visitors, agents or servants shall make or suffer any unlawful, noisy or otherwise offensive use of the leased premises, nor commit or permit any nuisance to exist thereon, nor cause damage to the leased premises, nor create any substantial interference with the rights, comfort, safety or enjoyment of the Lessor or other occupants of the same or any other apartment, nor make any use whatsoever thereof than as and for a private residence. No signs or other articles shall be hung or shaken from or affixed to the windows, doors, porches, balconies, or exterior walls or placed upon the exterior windowsills without the Lessor's prior written consent in each instance.

12. Governmental Regulations

The Lessor shall be obligated to fulfill all of the Lessor's obligations hereunder to the best of the Lessor's ability but the Lessee's obligations, covenants and agreements hereunder shall not (subject to applicable law) be affected, impaired or excused because the Lessor is unable to supply or is delayed in supplying any service or is unable to make or is delayed in making any repairs, additions, alterations or decorations, or is unable to supply or is delayed in supplying any equipment or fixtures, if Lessor is prevented or delayed from doing so because of any law or governmental action or any order, rule or regulation of any governmental agency, which is beyond the Lessor's reasonable control.

13. Common Areas	No receptacles, vehicles, baby carriages or other articles or obstructions shall be placed in the halls or other common areas or passageways.
14. Insurance	Lessee understands and agrees that it shall be Lessee's own obligation to insure his personal property.
15. Keys & Locks	Upon expiration or termination of the lease, the Lessee shall deliver the keys of the premises to the landlord. Delivery of keys by the Lessee to the Lessor, or to anyone on his behalf, shall not constitute a surrender or acceptance of surrender of the leased premises unless so stipulated in writing by the Lessor. In the event that the exterior door lock or locks in the leased premises are not in normal working order at any time during the term thereof, and if the Lessee reports such condition to the Lessor, then and in that event the Lessor shall, within a reasonable period of time following receipt of notice from the Lessee of such condition, repair or replace such lock or locks. Locks shall not be changed, altered, or replaced nor shall new locks be added by the Lessee without the written permission of the Lessor. Any locks so permitted to be installed shall become the property of the Lessor and shall not be removed by the Lessee. The Lessee shall promptly give a duplicated key to any such changed, altered, replaced or new lock to the Lessor.
16. Loss or Damage	The Lessee agrees to indemnify and save the Lessor harmless from all liability, loss or damage arising from any nuisance made or suffered on the leased premises by the Lessee, his family, friends, relatives, invitees, visitors, agents, or servants or from any carelessness, neglect or improper conduct of any such persons. All personal property in any part of the building within the control of the Lessee shall be at the sole risk of the Lessee. Subject to provisions or applicable law the Lessor shall not be liable for damage to or loss of property of any kind which may be lost or stolen, damaged or destroyed by fire, water, steam, defective refrigeration, elevators, or otherwise, while on the leased premises or in any storage space in the building or for any personal injury unless caused by the negligence of the Lessor.
17. Notices	Written notice from the Lessor to the Lessee shall be deemed to have been properly given if mailed by registered or certified mail postage prepaid, return receipt requested to the Lessee at the address of the leased premises, or if delivered or left in or on any part thereof, provided that if so mailed, the receipt has been signed, or if so delivered or left, that such notice has been delivered to or left with, the Lessee or anyone expressly or impliedly authorized to receive messages for the Lessee, or by any adult who resides with the Lessee in the leased premises. Written notice from the Lessee to the Lessor shall be deemed to have been properly given if mailed by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested to the Lessor at his address set forth in the first paragraph of this lease, unless the Lessor shall have notified the Lessee of a change of the Lessor's address, in which case such notice shall be so sent to such changed address of the Lessor, provided that the receipt has been signed by the Lessor or anyone expressly or impliedly authorized to receive messages for the Lessor. <i>Notwithstanding the foregoing, notice by either party to the other shall be deemed adequate if given in any other manner authorized by law.</i>
18. Other Regulations	The Lessee agrees to conform to such lawful rules and regulations which are reasonably related to the purpose and provisions of this lease, as shall from time to time be established by the Lessor in the future for the safety, care, cleanliness, or orderly conduct of the leased premises and the building of which they are a part, and of the benefit, safety, comfort and convenience of all the occupants of said building.
19. Parking	Parking on the premises of the Lessor is prohibited unless written consent is given by the Lessor.
20. Pets	No dogs or other animals, birds or pets shall be kept in or upon the leased premises without the Lessor's written consent, and consent so given may be revoked at any time.
21. Plumbing	The water closets, disposals, and waste pipes shall not be used for any purposes other than those for which they were constructed, nor shall any sweepings, rubbish, rags, or any other improper articles be thrown into same, and any damage to the building caused by the misuse of such equipment shall be borne by the Lessee by whom or upon whose premises shall have been caused unless caused by the negligence of the Lessor, or by the negligence of an independent contractor employed by the Lessor.
22. Repairs	The Lessee agrees with the Lessor that, during this lease and for such further time as the Lessee shall hold the leased premises or any part thereof, the Lessee will at all times keep and maintain the leased premises and all equipment and fixtures therein or used therewith repaired, whole and of the same kind, quality and description and in such good repair, order and condition as the same are at the beginning of, or may be put in during the term or any extension or renewal thereof, reasonable wear and tear and damage by unavoidable casualty only excepted. The Lessor and the Lessee agree to comply with any responsibility which either may have under applicable law to perform repairs upon the leased premises. If Lessee fails within a reasonable time, or improperly makes such repairs, then and in any such event or events, the Lessor may (but shall not be obligated to) make such repairs and the Lessee shall reimburse the Lessor for the reasonable cost of such repairs in full, upon demand.
23. Right Of Entry	The Lessor may enter upon the leased premises to make repairs thereto, to inspect the premises, or to show the premises to prospective tenants, purchasers, or mortgagees. The Lessor may also enter upon the said premises if same appear to have been abandoned by the Lessee or as otherwise permitted by law.
24. Non-Performance Or Breach By Lessee	If the Lessee shall fail to comply with any lawful term, condition, covenant, obligation, or agreement expressed herein or implied hereunder, or if the Lessee shall be declared bankrupt, or insolvent according to law or if any assignment of the Lessee's property shall be made for the benefit of creditors, or if the premises appear to be abandoned then, and in any of the said cases and notwithstanding any license or waiver of any prior breach of any of the said terms, conditions, covenants, obligations, or agreements the Lessor, without necessity or requirement of making any entry may (subject to the Lessee's rights under applicable law) terminate this lease by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a seven (7) day written notice to the Lessee to vacate said leased premises in case of any breach except only for nonpayment of rent, or 2. a fourteen (14) day written notice to the Lessee to vacate said leased premises upon the neglect or refusal of the Lessee to pay the rent as herein provided. Any termination under this section shall be without prejudice to any remedies which might otherwise be used for arrears of rent or preceding breach of any of the said terms, conditions, covenants, obligations or agreements.
25. Lessee's Covenants In Event Of Termination	The Lessee covenants that in case of any termination of this lease, by reason of the default of the Lessee, then at the option of Lessor: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (A) the Lessee will forthwith pay to the Lessor as damages hereunder a sum equal to the amount by which the rent and other payments called for hereunder for the remainder of the term, including any extension or renewal thereof, exceed the fair rental value of said premises for the remainder of the term, including any extension or renewal thereof; and (B) the Lessee covenants that he will furthermore indemnify the Lessor from and against any loss and damage sustained by reason of any termination caused by the default of, or the breach by, the Lessee. Lessor's damages hereunder shall include, but shall not be limited to any loss of rents; reasonable broker's commissions for the re-letting of the leased premises; advertising costs; the reasonable cost incurred in cleaning and repainting the premises in order to relet the same; and moving and storage charges incurred by Lessor in moving Lessee's belongings pursuant to eviction proceedings.

- (C) At the option of the Lessor, however, Lessor's cause of action under this article shall accrue when a new tenancy or lease term first commences subsequent to a termination under this lease, in which event Lessor's damages shall be limited to any and all damages sustained by him prior to said new tenancy or lease date.

Lessor shall also be entitled to any and all other remedies provided by law. All rights and remedies are to be cumulative and not exclusive.

26. Removal Of Goods

Lessee further covenants and agrees that if Lessor shall remove Lessee's goods or effects, pursuant to the terms hereof or of any Court order, Lessor shall not be liable or responsible for any loss of or damage to Lessee's goods or effects and the Lessor's act of so removing such goods or effects shall be deemed to be the act of and for the account of Lessee, provided, however, that if the Lessor removes the Lessee's goods or effects, he shall comply with all applicable laws, and shall exercise due care in the handling of such goods to the fullest practical extent under the circumstances.

27. Non-Surrender

Neither the vacating of the premises by the Lessee, nor the delivery of keys to the Lessor shall be deemed a surrender or an acceptance of surrender of the leased premises, unless so stipulated in writing by Lessor.

28. Subletting, Number Of Occupants

The Lessee shall not assign nor underlet any part of the whole of the leased premises, nor shall permit the leased premises to be occupied for a period longer than a temporary visit by anyone *except the individuals specifically named in the first paragraph of this lease*, their spouses, and any children born to them during the term of this lease or any extension or renewal thereof without first obtaining on each occasion the assent in writing of the Lessor.

29. Trustee

In the event that the Lessor is a trustee or a partnership, no such trustee nor any beneficiary nor any shareholder of said trust and no partner, General or Limited, of such partnership shall be personally liable to anyone under any term, condition, covenant, obligation, or agreement expressed herein or implied hereunder or for any claim of damage or cause at law or in equity arising out of the occupancy of said leased premises, the use or the maintenance of said building or its approaches or equipment.

30. Waiver

The waiver of one breach of any term, condition, covenant, obligation, or agreement of this lease shall not be considered to be a waiver of that or any other term, condition, covenant, obligation, or agreement or of any subsequent breach thereof.

31. Separability Clause

If any provision of this lease or portion of such provision or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the lease (or the remainder of such provision) and the application thereof to other persons or circumstances shall not be effected thereby.

32. Copy Of Lease

The Lessor shall deliver a copy of this lease, duly executed by Lessor or his authorized agent, to the Lessee within thirty (30) days after a copy hereof, duly executed by the Lessee, has been delivered to the Lessor.

33. Reprisals Prohibited

The Lessor acknowledges that provisions of applicable law forbid a landlord from threatening to take or taking reprisals against any tenant for seeking to assert his legal rights.

34. Other Provisions

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said parties hereunto and to another instrument of like tenor, have set their hands and seals on the day and year first above written; and Lessee as an individual states under the pains and penalties of perjury that said Lessee is over the age of 18 years.

Lessee

Lessor

Trustee or Agent

TENANT: SUBJECT TO APPLICABLE LAW, THE LANDLORD WILL PROVIDE INSURANCE FOR UP TO \$750 IN BENEFITS TO COVER THE ACTUAL COSTS OF RELOCATION OF THE TENANT IF DISPLACED BY FIRE OR DAMAGE RESULTING FROM FIRE.

TENANT: MAKE SURE TO RECEIVE A SIGNED COPY OF THIS LEASE.

GUARANTY

In consideration of the execution of the within lease by the Lessor at the request of the undersigned and of one dollar paid to the undersigned by the Lessor, the undersigned hereby, jointly and severally, guarantee the Lessor, and the heirs, successors, and assigns of the Lessor, the punctual performance by the Lessee and the legal representatives, successors and assigns of the Lessee of all the terms, conditions, covenants, obligations, and agreements in said lease on the Lessee's or their part to be performed or observed, demand and notice of default being hereby waived. The undersigned waive all suretyship defenses and defenses in the nature thereof and assent to any and all extensions and postponements of the time of payment and all other indulgences and forbearances which may be granted from time to time to the Lessee.

WITNESS the execution hereof under seal by the undersigned the day and year first written in said lease.

Tenant Lead Law Notification

What lead paint forms must owners of rental homes give to new tenants?

Before renting a home built before 1978, the property owner and the new tenant must sign two copies of this **Tenant Lead Law Notification** and **Tenant Certification Form**, and the property owner must give the tenant one of the signed copies to keep. If any of the following forms exist for the unit, tenants must also be given a copy of them: lead inspection or risk assessment report, Letter of Compliance, or Letter of Interim Control. **This form is for compliance with both Massachusetts and federal lead notification requirements.**

What is lead poisoning and who is at risk of becoming lead poisoned?

Lead poisoning is a disease. It is most dangerous for children under six years old. It can cause permanent harm to young children's brain, kidneys, nervous system and red blood cells. Even at low levels, lead in children's bodies can slow growth and cause learning and behavior problems. Young children are more easily and more seriously poisoned than others, but older children and adults can become lead poisoned too. Lead in the body of a pregnant woman can hurt her baby before birth and cause problems with the pregnancy. Adults who become lead poisoned can have problems having children, and can have high blood pressure, stomach problems, nerve problems, memory problems and muscle and joint pain.

How do children and adults become lead poisoned?

Lead is often found in paint on the inside and outside of homes built before 1978. The lead paint in these homes causes almost all lead poisoning in young children. The main way children get lead poisoning is from swallowing lead paint dust and chips. Lead is so harmful that even a small amount can poison a child. Lead paint under layers of nonleaded paint can still poison children, especially when it is disturbed, such as through normal wear and tear and home repair work.

Lead paint dust and chips in the home most often come from peeling or chipping lead painted surfaces; lead paint on moving parts of windows or on window parts that are rubbed by moving parts; lead paint on surfaces that get bumped or walked on, such as floors, porches, stairs, and woodwork; and lead paint on surfaces that stick out which a child may be able to mouth such as window sills.

Most lead poisoning is caused by children's normal behavior of putting their hands or other things in their mouths. If their hands or these objects have touched lead dust, this may add lead to their bodies. A child can also get lead from other sources, such as soil and water, but these rarely cause lead poisoning by themselves. Lead can be found in soil near old, lead-painted homes. If children play in bare, leaded soil, or eat vegetables or fruits grown in such soil, or if leaded soil is tracked into the home from outside and gets on children's hands or toys, lead may enter their bodies. Most adult lead poisoning is caused by adults breathing in or swallowing lead dust at work, or, if they live in older homes with lead paint, through home repairs.

How can you find out if someone is lead poisoned?

Most people who are lead poisoned do not have any special symptoms. The only way to find out if a child or adult is lead poisoned is to have his or her blood tested. Children in Massachusetts must be tested at least once a year from the time they are between nine months and one year old until they are four years old. Your doctor, other health care provider or Board of Health can do this. A lead poisoned child will need medical care. A home with lead paint must be delead for a lead poisoned child to get well.

What kind of homes are more likely to have lead paint?

In 1978, the United States government banned lead from house paint. Lead paint can be found in all types of homes built before 1978: single-family and multi-family; homes in cities, suburbs or the countryside; private housing or state or federal public housing. The older the home, the more likely it is to have lead paint. The older the paint, the higher its lead content is likely to be.

Can regular home repairs cause lead poisoning?

There is a danger of lead poisoning any time painted surfaces inside or outside the home are scraped for repainting, or woodwork is stripped or removed, or windows or walls are removed. This is because lead paint is found in almost all Massachusetts homes built before 1978, and so many of Massachusetts' homes are old. Special care must be taken whenever home repair work is done. No one should use power sanders, open flame torches, or heat guns to remove lead paint, since these methods create a lot of lead dust and fumes. Ask the owner of your home if a lead inspection has been done. The inspection report will tell you which surfaces have lead paint and need extra care in setting up for repair work, doing the repairs, and cleaning up afterwards. Temporarily move your family (especially children and pregnant women) out of the home while home repair work is being done and cleaned up. If this is not possible, tape up plastic sheets to completely seal off the area where the work is going on. No one should do repair work in older homes without learning about safe ways to do the work to reduce the danger of lead dust. Hundreds of cases of childhood and adult lead poisoning happen each year from home repair work.

What can you do to prevent lead poisoning?

- Talk to your child's doctor about lead.
- Have your child tested for lead at least once a year until he/she is four years old.
- Ask the owner if your home has been delead or call the state Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) at 1-800-532-9571, or your local Board of Health.
- Tell the owner if you have a new baby, or if a new child under six years old lives with you.
- If your home was delead, but has peeling paint, tell and write the owner. If he/she does not respond, call CLPPP or your local Board of Health.
- Make sure only safe methods are used to paint or make repairs to your home, and to clean up afterwards.
- If your home has not been delead, you can do some things to temporarily reduce the chances of your child becoming lead poisoned. You can clean your home regularly with paper towels and any household detergent and warm water to wipe up dust and loose paint chips. Rub hard to get rid of more lead. When you are done, put the dirty paper towels in a plastic bag and throw them out. The areas to clean most often are window wells, sills, and floors. Wash your child's hands often (especially before eating or sleeping) and wash your child's toys, bottles and pacifiers often. Make sure your child eats foods with lots of calcium and iron, and avoid foods and snacks that are high in fat. If you think your soil may have lead in it, have it tested. Use a door mat to help prevent dirt from getting into your home. Cover bare leaded dirt by planting grass or bushes, and use mats, bark mulch or other ground covers under swings and slides. Plant gardens away from old homes, or in pots using new soil. Remember, the only way to permanently lower the risk of your child getting lead poisoned is to have your home delead if it contains lead paint.

How do you find out where lead paint hazards may be in a home?

The only way to know for sure is to have a lead inspection or risk assessment done. The lead inspector will test the surfaces of your home and give the landlord and you a written report that tells you where there is lead in amounts that are a hazard by state law. For interim control, a temporary way to have your home made safe from lead hazards, a risk assessor does a lead inspection plus a risk assessment. During a risk assessment, the

home is checked for the most serious lead hazards, which must be fixed right away. The risk assessor would give the landlord and you a written report of the areas with too much lead and the serious lead hazards. Lead inspectors and risk assessors have been trained, licensed by the Department of Public Health, and have experience using the state-approved methods for testing for lead paint. These methods are use of a sodium sulfide solution, a portable x-ray fluorescence machine or lab tests of paint samples. You can get a list of licensed lead inspectors and risk assessors from CLPPP.

In Massachusetts, what must the owner of a home built before 1978 do if a child under six years old lives there?

An owner of a home in Massachusetts built before 1978 must have the home inspected for lead if a child under six years old lives there. If lead hazards are found, the home must be delead or brought under interim control. Only a licensed deleader may do high-risk deleading work, such as removing lead paint or repairing chipping and peeling lead paint. You can get a list of licensed deleaders from the state Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Deleaders are trained to use safe methods to prepare to work, do the deleading, and clean up. Either a deleader, the owner or someone who works for the owner who is not a licensed deleader can do certain other deleading and interim control work. Owners and workers must have special training to perform the deleading tasks they may do. After the work is done, the lead inspector or risk assessor checks the home. He or she may take dust samples to test for lead, to make sure the home has been properly cleaned up. If everything is fine, he or she gives the owner a Letter of Compliance or Letter of Interim Control. After getting one of these letters, the owner must take care of the home and make sure there is no peeling paint.

What is a Letter of Compliance?

It is a legal letter under state law that says either that there are no lead paint hazards or that the home has been delead. The letter is signed and dated by a licensed lead inspector.

What is a Letter of Interim Control?

It is a legal letter under state law that says work necessary to make the home temporarily safe from serious lead hazards has been done. The letter is signed and dated by a licensed risk assessor. It is good for one year, but can be renewed for another year. The owner must fully delead the home and get a Letter of Compliance before the end of the second year.

Where can I learn more about lead poisoning?

Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP)
(For more copies of this form, as well as a full range of information on lead poisoning prevention, tenants' rights and responsibilities under the MA Lead Law, how to clean lead dust and chips, healthy foods to protect your children, financial help for owners, safe deleading and renovation work, and soil testing.)
617-753-8400, 1-800-532-9571

Massachusetts Department of Labor and
Workforce Development
(List of licensed deleaders)
617-969-7177, 1-800-425-0004

Your local lead poisoning prevention program or your local Board of Health

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
(Information about lead in consumer products)
1-800-638-2772

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I
(Information about federal laws on lead)
617-565-3420

National Lead Information Center
(General lead poisoning information)
1-800-LEAD-FYI

Tenant Certification Form

Required Federal Lead Warning Statement

Housing built before 1978 may contain lead-based paint. Lead from paint, paint chips, and dust can pose health hazards if not managed properly. Lead exposure is especially harmful to young children and pregnant women. Before renting pre-1978 housing, lessors must disclose the presence of known lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the dwelling. Lessees must also receive a federally approved pamphlet on lead poisoning prevention. The **Massachusetts Tenant Lead Law Notification and Certification Form** is for compliance with state and federal lead notification requirements.

Owner's Disclosure

(a) Presence of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards (check (i) or (ii) below):

(i) Known lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards are present in the housing (explain).

(ii) Owner/Lessor has no knowledge of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing.

(b) Records and reports available to the owner/lessor (Check (i) or (ii) below):

(i) Owner/ Lessor has provided the tenant with all available records and reports pertaining to lead -based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing (circle documents below).

Lead Inspection Report; Risk Assessment Report; Letter of Interim Control; Letter of Compliance

(ii) Owner/Lessor has no reports or records pertaining to lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing.

Tenant's Acknowledgment (initial)

(c) Tenant has received copies of all documents circled above. (d) Tenant has received no documents listed above.

(e) Tenant has received the Massachusetts Tenant Lead Law Notification.

Agent's Acknowledgment (initial)

(f) Agent has informed the owner/lessor of the owner's/lessor's obligations under federal and state law for lead-based paint disclosure and notification and is aware of his/her responsibility to ensure compliance.

Certification of Accuracy

The following parties have reviewed the information above and certify, to the best of their knowledge, that the information they have provided is true and accurate.

Owner/Lessor _____ Date _____

Owner/Lessor _____ Date _____

Tenant _____ Date _____

Tenant _____ Date _____

Agent _____ Date _____

Agent _____ Date _____

Owner/Managing Agent Information for Tenant (Please Print):

Name _____ Street _____ Apt. _____
City/Town _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

I (owner/managing agent) certify that I provided the Tenant Lead Law Notification/ Tenant Certification Form and any existing Lead Law documents to the tenant, but the tenant refused to sign this certification.

The tenant gave the following reason: _____

The Massachusetts Lead Law prohibits rental discrimination, including refusing to rent to families with children or evicting families with children because of lead paint.

Contact the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program for information on the availability of this form in other languages.

Tenant and owner must each keep a completed and signed copy of this form.

Mold Addendum

Date: _____

The following addendum is made part of the lease or tenancy at will agreement between the undersigned parties with respect to Apartment _____ (the "Premises") at _____.

Tenant acknowledges the possibility that mold may at some time be present in the Premises. Mold is a fungus commonly found in the environment. In some cases, for example to produce penicillin, mold can be very useful. On the other hand, some types of mold are toxic and can cause sickness. At the present time, neither government agencies nor the scientific community has reached a consensus as to when indoor mold becomes harmful. For this reason, it is important to make sure that mold is not allowed to accumulate. Mold typically originates in a damp environment. It can then spread through the air or be transported by contact with other surfaces (like the bottom of a shoe). Cleanliness is unquestionably the key component of any strategy to combat mold. Consistent with Massachusetts law, Tenant is responsible for maintaining the Premises in a clean and sanitary condition, free of filth or causes of sickness. In particular, Tenant must remove any visible accumulation of moisture, for example after showering. Wet clothing, carpeting, towels and other articles should be dried completely. If mold, normally recognized by its greenish black color, has formed, it may be necessary to apply a special commercial disinfectant (avoiding products which may cause discoloration), in which case any instructions on the product label should be carefully followed. Tenant must notify Landlord immediately upon discovering any water leakage from the roof, a pipe or any other building component normally maintained by Landlord. Because mold may be caused by elevated indoor humidity, Tenant must not block or otherwise interfere with the operation of any heating, ventilating or air conditioning equipment supplied by Landlord, notifying Landlord immediately if such equipment malfunctions or if any doors or windows cannot be opened or closed. Any violation by Tenant hereunder shall be deemed a failure to comply with the provisions of the attached lease or tenancy at will agreement, entitling Landlord to pursue all available remedies.

WITNESS the execution hereof under seal this _____ day of _____, 20__.

(Landlord)

(Tenant)

(Landlord)

(Tenant)

RENT AND SECURITY DEPOSIT RECEIPTTO: _____
LesseeRE: _____
Unit

Address

Address

City/State/Zip

City/State/Zip

We hereby acknowledge receipt of your check # _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to be applied as follows:

- 1) First Month's Rent ____ / ____ / ____ through ____ / ____ / ____
- 2) Last Month's Rent _____
- 3) Purchase or installation cost for a key and lock _____
- 4) Security Deposit (see attached condition form) _____

\$ _____
\$ _____
\$ _____
\$ _____

SECURITY DEPOSIT

A. The Lessor acknowledges receipt from the Lessee of \$ _____ (an amount not to exceed one month's rent) to be held by the Lessor during the term hereof, or any extension or renewal, as a security deposit pursuant to the terms hereof; it being understood that THIS IS NOT TO BE CONSIDERED PREPAID RENT, nor shall damages be limited to the amount of the security deposit.

B. The Lessor acknowledges that, subject to damages prescribed by law, he shall, within thirty (30) days after the termination of this lease or upon the Lessee's vacating the premises completely together with all his goods and possessions, whichever shall last occur, return the security deposit or any balance thereof, and any interest thereon, if due, after deducting

- (1) Any unpaid rent or water and sewer charges which have not been validly withheld or deducted pursuant to any general or special law.
- (2) Any unpaid increase in real estate taxes which the Lessee is obligated to pay pursuant to a tax escalation clause which conforms to the requirements of Mass. General Laws, Chapter 186, Section 15C; and
- (3) A reasonable amount necessary to repair any damage caused to the premises by the Lessee or any person under the Lessee's control or on the premises with the Lessee's consent, reasonable wear and tear excluded. In the case of such damage, the Lessor shall provide the Lessee within thirty (30) days with an itemized list of damages, sworn to by the Lessor or his agent under pains and penalties of perjury, itemizing in precise detail the nature of the damage and of the repairs necessary to correct it, and written evidence, such as estimates, bills, invoices or receipts, indicating the actual or estimated cost thereof.

C. The Lessor must submit to the Lessee a separate written statement of the present condition of the premises, as required by law. If the Lessee disagrees with the Lessor's statement of condition, the Lessee must attach a separate list of any damage existing in the premises and return the statement to the Lessor. No amount shall be deducted from the security deposit for any damage which was listed in the statement of condition or in any separate list submitted by the Lessee and approved by the Lessor or the Lessor's agent, unless the Lessor subsequently repaired or caused to be repaired said damage and can prove that the renewed damage was unrelated to the prior damage and was caused by the Lessee or by any person under the Lessee's control or on the premises with the Lessee's consent.

D. If the Lessor transfers the premises, the Lessor must transfer the security deposit or any balance thereof, and any accrued interest, to the Lessor's successor in interest for the benefit of the Lessee.

As required by law, the security deposit is presently or will be held in a separate, interest-bearing account.

(number _____) at _____
Bank

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

If the security deposit is held for one year or longer from the commencement of the tenancy, the Lessee shall be entitled to interest on the amount of the security deposit at the rate of five percent (5%) per year, or such lesser amount as may be received from the bank, payable at the end of each year of the tenancy.

LAST MONTH'S RENT

Pursuant to applicable law, the tenant is entitled to interest on last month's rent paid in advance from the date of tenancy, payable at the end of each year of tenancy and prorated upon termination. Interest shall not accrue for the last month for which rent was paid in advance. The rate of interest payable on last month's rent is five percent (5%), provided however that if the landlord elects to deposit last month's rent in a bank account, interest will be limited to any lower rate actually paid by the bank. The tenant should provide the landlord with a forwarding address at the termination of the tenancy, indicating where such interest may be given or sent.

Date received ____ / ____ / ____.

Authorized Signature: _____
Lessor/Agent

Lessor

Agent

Address

Address

City/State/Zip

City/State/Zip

Phone

Phone

Apartment Condition Statement

Date: _____

This is a statement of the condition of the premises you have leased or rented. You should read it carefully in order to see if it is correct. If it is correct, you must sign it. This will show that you agree that the list is correct and complete. If it is not correct, you must attach a separate signed list of any damage which you believe exists in the premises. This statement must be returned to the lessor or his agent within fifteen (15) days after you receive this list or within fifteen (15) days after you move in, whichever is later. If you do not return this list within the specified time period, a court may later view your failure to return the list as your agreement that the list is complete and correct in any suit which you may bring to recover the security deposit.

TO: _____

Lessee

Address

City

Zip

RE: _____

Unit

Address

City

Zip

We have examined the premises and have found the present condition to be as follows:

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Lessor/Agent Signature: _____

Lessor

Agent

Address

Address

City

Zip

City

Zip

Phone

Phone

AGREED AND ASSENTED TO: _____ / _____ / _____

Lessee