

Legal Alert: Housing Court Update Moving Forward on Pre-March 17, 2020 Cases

November 2, 2020

We have recently received notification from the Administrative Judge that we are now permitted to make motions on cases which were commenced prior to March 17, 2020 that meet the following criteria:

- a. In non-payment proceedings where respondents failed to appear and answer the petition and still owe any portion of the rent sued for in that case, we can now ask the Court to issue a judgment and warrant of eviction based upon a tenant's failure to file an Answer on a case commenced prior to March 17, 2020.
- b. In holdover proceedings where respondents failed to appear on the initial return date or any subsequent adjourned date we will seek, by way of motion, to schedule an Inquest on cases commenced prior to March 17, 2020. We do not know when these Inquests will be held, but we can assume when they are scheduled, the appearance will be virtual.

We are still awaiting word when we can move to restore those cases which were settled without judgments and those which were on the calendar prior to March 17, 2020, but not resolved.

As always, we are available to discuss this newest development as well as any other issues that have arisen.