COALITION FOR ECONOMIC SURVIVAL

LA MAYOR'S RACE THE CHOICE FOR TENANTS



Who's Best for Tenants?

LA Mayor Candidate's Stand on Extending COVID Eviction Protections for Renters

On Wednesday, September 21, the candidates for LA Mayor faced off in a televised debate on KTTV Channel 11.

Frank Stoltze from KPPC Radio asked the candidates this question:
"I want to ask you about the city's eviction moratorium. It's set to expire in within a month of one of you taking office and could force thousands of people from their homes. Do you support extending the moratorium, and if not, what other protections would you provide for renters if it ends?"

RICK CARUSO Developer



Q: Would you extend it (eviction protections) Mr Caruso?

A: To be honest I don't know what that plan was. There was a

KAREN BASSUS Congressmember



A: First of all, we cannot allow more people becoming homeless by the moratorium going away. But at the same time, we need to help the landlords, especially

lot of nice talk. You really have to drill down into the nuance of what's going on. Somebody can stay in an apartment and not pay rent without showing proof that they need to stay there. We need to change the process. Every landlord that I talk to, including myself. I am more than happy to support somebody at a reduced or no rent until they can get back on their feet. As long as you prove you can do that. There's no system in the Los Angeles Housing Department to prove it. So, the unfairness that landlords are feeling are. Everybody realizes we have shared responsibility is to just make sure there is proof and it's verified. And, then we should extend it. If someone is making money and can afford to pay the rent they shouldn't be carried, right? So, it's a matter of fairness. I would change the law in order to deal with the problem. And, we have to understand the problem. It is one of the advantages I have. I understand business. I built a business. So, I know how to solve the problems that business and human beings are dealing with. Thank you.

Q: So, Mr Caruso, are you promising to change the eviction moratorium and then extend it?

A: I'm promising to make sure it's fair to those who are living there and need the help so they don't end up on the street. And, also to support the landlords so there is fairness to the landlords that made the investment and bought that apartment building whatever it may be. Yes, and then extend it. But, not extend it the way it is today. It's not fair to anybody. So, we can make it right. That is the role of

the mom and pop landlords, and that the majority of the landlords. There're other reasons why homelessness may increase in the near future is because a lot of the resources that we fought for and won for COVID that came to the City of Los Angeles are about to expire. So, all of those people who are in hotels and motels from Project Room Key and Project Home Key those resources are about to expire. We need to get them extended. But, the eviction moratorium, we can't just have that go away and have thousands of people on our streets. That would be a disaster.

Q: So you would extend it?

A: Yes, I would extend it. I would extend it, but the landlords need to be assisted as well. We don't need them to default on their mortgages. Then you have two people without housing.

Q: So he (Caruso) says the eviction moratorium as it works now is not fair. That it's impractical.

A: I don't make the assumption that people who need the eviction moratorium for protection are cheating. There are always people who abuse the system. But I don't believe that is the general rule. And, I also thing that renters need to have legal assistance, as well. To protect them. Because there are landlords that want to evict so they can sell their property. So, they can raise rent because some of the apartments are rent controlled. And, so, I don't make the assumption that somebody is there to cheat. I do make the assumption people are in

the Mayor. To represent everybody and find common ground and do what's right for everybody. At least that's what's going to drive me. housing because they need to be housed.



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ATTENTION ALL RENTERS! Attend the Coalition for Economic Survival Tenants' Rights Zoom Clinic

To sign up for the next Coalition for Economic Survival
Tenants' Rights Clinic via ZOOM
Request a Link by emailing:
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The Clinic serves the entire Southern California area. Accommodations for Spanish and Russian speakers are provided.

CES holds the Clinic **Every Saturday** via Zoom at 10 am. and every Wednesday at 6 pm for West Hollywood Renter To request a link to register for any Clinic email:

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COALITION FOR ECONOMIC SURVIVAL

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Assisting Renters Throughout the Greater LA Area

10:00 AM | EVERY SATURDAY

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