



\*\*\*Español abajo\*\*\*

**California Tenants – Use this letter if you are a tenant who received a rent increase over 10% and your county or the state of California is currently in a state of emergency.**

Instructions:

1. [Click here to open a Microsoft Word version of this sample letter](#)
2. The Microsoft Word version will have the same blank spaces as this version but will not have the comments in the margin. Fill out the blanks in the Microsoft Word-version using the comments on the margins of this version as a guide.
3. Use this sample letter if you are a tenant who received a rent increase over 10% and your county or the state of California is currently in a state of emergency.
4. Contact your local county office of emergency services or emergency management to find out if there is currently a state of emergency in effect.
5. Please note that you should **tailor this letter to the facts in your case**. This template is **not a substitute for legal advice**. If you need help finding a tenant attorney, please see the [Tenants Together Directory](#).
6. Once you have filled out the letter with your information and sent the letter to your landlord, keep a copy for your records.

Sent via Certified Mail- Return Receipt Requested

(\_\_\_\_\_)

(\_\_\_\_\_)  
(\_\_\_\_\_)

Dear (\_\_\_\_\_),

I (\_\_\_\_\_) am a tenant at (\_\_\_\_\_\_). On (\_\_\_\_\_), I received a notice from you of a rent increase to (\_\_\_\_\_) per month from (\_\_\_\_\_) per month, an increase of (\_\_\_\_\_) percent. I am writing to inform you that this rent increase does not comply with California Penal Code section 396, which prohibits price gouging during a state of emergency.

On (\_\_\_\_\_), the Governor of California declared a state of emergency due to (\_\_\_\_\_\_). California Penal Code section 396 prohibits price gouging during a state of emergency. Under Penal Code section 396, it is illegal to increase the price of essential consumer goods and services, including rental housing, more than 10% during a declared state of emergency.

**Commented [SD1]:** Date

**Commented [SD2]:** Full name of landlord and/or property manager

**Commented [SD3]:** Address of landlord and/or property manager

**Commented [SD4]:** Full name of landlord and/or property manager

**Commented [SD5]:** Your/tenant's name(s)

**Commented [SD6]:** Address, City, State, Zip

**Commented [SD7]:** Insert date when you received the written notice

**Commented [SD8]:** New rent \$ amount

**Commented [SD9]:** Old rent \$ amount

**Commented [SD10]:** Percent change in rent. Percent change is calculated by: 1) subtracting the old rent from the new rent 2) dividing that amount by the old rent 3) multiplying by 100.

For example, if your old rent was \$1,200, and your new rent is \$1,450, the percent change would be: 1) 1450-1200, which is 250, 2) 250/1200, which is .21, 3) .21 x 100, which is a 21% percent rent increase.

**Commented [SD11]:** Insert date when state of emergency was declared

**Commented [SD12]:** This letter could also be tailored for a locally declared emergency by a city or county. If the Governor declared a state of emergency in your county, include that information in the letter and state that the property you rent is located within that county.

**Commented [SD13]:** Insert reason for Statewide Emergency.

If the declaration says the end date, you can also include: This state of emergency remains in effect until (\_\_\_\_\_), but it may be extended.

The notice of the rent increase you provided me on (\_\_\_\_\_) does not comply with the above California Penal Code, and therefore it is not valid. Please be informed that price gouging a tenant is not just a civil violation, but a criminal misdemeanor under the law. Anyone convicted of violating the state law prohibiting price gouging may be held liable for one year in county jail, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both, as well as additional civil penalties. Local ordinances may impose additional penalties.

**Commented [SD14]:** Date of notice of rent increase

Please confirm in writing immediately that you are withdrawing the notice of the rent increase and that I should continue to pay my existing rent amount of \$(\_\_\_\_\_\_).

**Commented [SD15]:** Current rent \$ amount

Sincerely,

(\_\_\_\_\_)  
(\_\_\_\_\_)

**Commented [SD16]:** Your signature

**Commented [SD17]:** Your full name

**Inquilino de California- use esta carta si es un inquilino que recibió un aumento de alquiler superior al 10% y su condado o el estado de California se encuentra actualmente en estado de emergencia.**

Instrucciones:

1. [Haga clic aquí para abrir una versión de Microsoft Word de este modelo de carta.](#)
2. La versión de Microsoft Word tendrá los mismos espacios en blanco que esta versión pero sin los comentarios al margen. Complete los espacios en blanco en la versión de Microsoft Word utilizando como guía los comentarios del margen de esta versión.
3. Use este modelo de carta si es un inquilino que recibió un aumento de alquiler superior al 10% y su condado o el estado de California se encuentra actualmente en estado de emergencia.
4. Comuníquese con la oficina local de servicios de emergencia o de manejo de emergencias de su condado para averiguar si actualmente está vigente un estado de emergencia.
5. Tenga en cuenta que debe **adaptar esta carta a las circunstancias de su caso**. Esta plantilla **no sustituye el asesoramiento legal**. Si necesita ayuda para encontrar un abogado de inquilinos, consulte el directorio de [Tenants Together](#) (Inquilinos unidos).
6. Luego de completar la carta con su información y de enviarla a su arrendador, guarde una copia para sus archivos.

Enviado por correo certificado: se solicita acuse de recibo

(\_\_\_\_\_)

**Commented [VZ18]:** Colocar la fecha

(\_\_\_\_\_)  
(\_\_\_\_\_)

**Commented [VZ19]:** Colocar el nombre completo del arrendador y/o administrador de la propiedad

**Commented [VZ20]:** Colocar la dirección del arrendador y/o administrador de la propiedad

Estimado/a (\_\_\_\_\_) :

Yo (\_\_\_\_\_) soy inquilino en (\_\_\_\_\_) . El (\_\_\_\_\_) , recibí una notificación suya sobre el aumento del alquiler a (\_\_\_\_\_) por mes que antes era de (\_\_\_\_\_) por mes, tratándose de un aumento de (\_\_\_\_\_) %. Le escribo para informarle que este aumento de alquiler no cumple con la sección 396 del Código Penal de California, que prohíbe el aumento abusivo de precios durante un estado de emergencia.

El (\_\_\_\_\_) , el gobernador de California declaró el estado de emergencia debido a (\_\_\_\_\_) . La sección 396 del Código Penal de California prohíbe el aumento abusivo de precios durante un estado de emergencia. Según el artículo 396 del Código Penal, es ilegal aumentar el precio de bienes y servicios de consumo esenciales, incluidas las viviendas de alquiler, en más del 10% durante un estado de emergencia oficialmente declarado.

El aviso del aumento de alquiler que me proporcionó el (\_\_\_\_\_) no cumple con el Código Penal de California mencionado anteriormente y, por lo tanto, no es válido. Por favor considere que aumentar los precios a un inquilino no es sólo una infracción civil, sino un delito penal según la ley. Cualquier persona que sea declarada culpable de violar la ley estatal que prohíbe la especulación de precios puede ser condenada a un año de cárcel en el condado, a una multa de hasta \$10.000, o a ambas sanciones, así como a penas civiles adicionales. Las ordenanzas locales pueden imponer sanciones adicionales.

Por favor, confirme por escrito inmediatamente que retira la notificación del aumento del alquiler y que debo seguir pagando mi renta actual de \$ (\_\_\_\_) .

Atentamente,

(\_\_\_\_\_)  
(\_\_\_\_\_)

**Commented [VZ33]:** Colocar su firma

**Commented [VZ34]:** Colocar su nombre completo