

For Immediate Release

Press Contact:

Jay Kelekian, Executive Director (510) 981-RENT

**THE BERKELEY RENT STABILIZATION BOARD IS ACCEPTING
APPLICATIONS TO FILL A VACANT SEAT ON THE RENT BOARD**

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA (Tuesday, February 7, 2017) The Berkeley Rent Stabilization Board is accepting applications from qualified Berkeley residents to fill a recently-vacated seat on the Board on an interim basis, through November 30, 2018. Applicants must be a resident of Berkeley and a registered Berkeley voter.

Under the City Charter, the Rent Board is responsible for overseeing the proper administration of programs to regulate residential rent; to protect tenants from unwarranted rent increases and arbitrary, discriminatory or retaliatory evictions; help maintain the diversity of the Berkeley community, and ensure compliance with legal obligations related to the rental of housing.

Board Commissioners expect to appoint a successor to the vacant seat at the March 20th regular Board meeting. The appointment will run until the next general municipal election in November 2018. Board Chair, John Selawsky, stated "The Board wishes to set up an open and transparent selection process that considers all qualified candidates."

The Board has established a four-member Ad hoc Search Committee to review qualified or nominated applications, which could include telephone contact and/or personal interviews. The committee hopes to submit their final recommendations to the Board for consideration at its March 20, 2017 regular meeting.

To apply, eligible candidates must submit a letter of 500 or fewer words detailing his/her background and why s/he wishes to serve on the Board. All applications must include the candidate's full legal name, current living address (post office boxes will not be accepted), as well as telephone and other contact numbers. Letter applications may be mailed or dropped off at the Rent Board offices at 2125 Milvia Street, Berkeley 94704, to the attention of Jen Fabish, (or email jfabish@cityofberkeley.info). These applications will be considered public documents.

The Board will meet for a Special Meeting on February 27, 2017, in order to nominate candidates for the Ad Hoc Search Committee to review. All applications must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 22nd in order to be included in the Board packet for Commissioners' review at their February 27th meeting. Any applications received after 5:00 p.m. on February 22nd but prior to 4:00 p.m. on February 27th, will be copied and distributed to Commissioners at the meeting on February 27, 2017.

If you have any questions, you may contact Jay Kelekian at 981-7368 (981-RENT).

**Jay Kelekian, Executive Director
February 7, 2017**