



NEVADA LEGAL SERVICES

I N C O R P O R A T E D

*Nevada Legal Services wishes you
a safe, happy and healthy holiday
and a Happy New Year!*

-the Staff of

Nevada Legal Services

**THIS MONTH'S NEWS
AND UPDATES:**

COVER STORY:

**NEVADA ADOPTS THE
EVICTION MEDIATION
PROGRAM**

**DEBT COLLECTION AND
COLLECTION SUITS**

**WORLD AIDS DAY WAS
DECEMBER 1**

NEVADA ADOPTS THE EVICTION MEDIATION PROGRAM

By Morgan Shah

In an effort to prevent a wave of evictions amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the Nevada Supreme Court recently adopted rules providing for a new statewide mediation program for residential summary evictions. Through this free program, a neutral third-party mediator facilitates a confidential discussion between the landlord and tenant to explore alternatives to court-ordered summary eviction. The goal is to help the parties reach a mutually agreeable settlement and avoid eviction where possible.

As of October 15, 2020, tenants served with a summary eviction notice for non-payment of rent can request mediation by including a request in the Tenant's Affidavit filed to contest the non-payment of rent eviction notice. A landlord can also request mediation in their complaint. If mediation is requested by either party, the court will automatically set the eviction hearing at least 30 days out to allow time for the mediation to take place and issue an order referring the case to the mediation program.

Once mediation is complete, the mediator will inform the court of the outcome. If a settlement is reached, the landlord and tenant will sign a written agreement that can be enforced by the court. On the other hand, if there is no settlement the court will render a decision on the merits of the case. No matter the result, most tenants who request mediation will benefit from the program as (if nothing else) it provides a little more time to make a plan.

Tenants who receive a summary eviction notice should act quickly to file a Tenant's Affidavit and preserve their rights. Remember, Nevada Legal Services is here to help. If you are facing eviction, contact the nearest NLS office to request assistance or visit www.nslaw.net for forms and information.

