



**SHRIVER  
CENTER**

Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

Taking Action to End Poverty

For more information contact:

Rikeesha Cannon

Shriver Center

Telephone: 312.368.2677

[Rikeeshacannon@povertylaw.org](mailto:Rikeeshacannon@povertylaw.org)

**FOR MEDIA PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY**

November 20, 2006

**Chicago Celebrates the 20th Anniversary of the Tenants' Bill of Rights**

*William P. Wilen of the Shriver Center Honored as an Original Drafter*

**WHO:** William P. Wilen, director of housing litigation, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, will be recognized as one of the original drafters of the Tenants' Bill of Rights.

Others to be recognized include Prof. Hank Rose, Tim Carpenter, Judy Hertz, Herb Ziegledorph, Bob Vandrasic, Ralph Scott, Ald. Ed Smith, and Jack Kaplan.

David Orr, Cook County Clerk, Keynote Speaker

**WHAT:** A panel discussion will examine the future of tenants' rights in Chicago as gentrification threatens low-income renters. Can the ordinance protect tenants, or do we need other laws? Come celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Tenants' Bill of Rights and discuss current and future needs of tenants and what we can do to confront these new challenges.

**WHEN:** November 20, 2006 (5:30 p.m.–8:00 p.m.)

**WHERE:** Roosevelt University, 430 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago (Congress Lounge, 2nd Floor)

**The media are welcome to attend.**

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In November 1986 Chicago's landmark Residential Landlord and Tenants Ordinance (a.k.a. Tenants' Bill of Rights) went into effect. With the support of the late Mayor Harold Washington, the ordinance passed City Council after a five-year campaign of community and citywide organizations led by the Metropolitan Tenants Organization. The measure gives tenants rights to improve their living conditions and protects them from unfair rental practices. The ordinance provides tenants with tools to challenge slumlords. Chicago's renters continue to benefit from use of the law's provisions. Join us to celebrate 20 years of tenants' rights.