

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

As you know, I have agreed to represent you both/all regarding a petition to expunge the prior eviction actions filed against you listed here: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_. Recently we discussed the idea of including both/all of you on the same petition(s) for expungement. Specifically, we discussed how having both/all of you on a petition would best achieve the goal of finding you a new place to live.

While it will save time and simplify the process for both/all of you to be on the same petition for each expungement, there is a potential conflict of interest in my representation of all of you in the same matter. A conflict can arise when there is a significant risk that the representation of one client will be materially limited by the lawyer's responsibilities to another client.

I believe it is possible to continue representing both/all of you in this matter. But to do so, I need your informed consent, confirmed in writing, stating that you understand the potential conflict of interest and wish to proceed with joint representation in this case. If you wish to give informed consent, please carefully review the consent form included with this e-mail and send me written confirmation that you wish to proceed.

To achieve the best possible representation, you will need to cooperate with me fully and provide all the information I need to assist you. If at any time you become dissatisfied with my handling of this matter, you should not hesitate to tell me immediately so we can discuss and resolve the problem. It is essential to your representation that we maintain a good relationship throughout. You may terminate our representation at any time. We may terminate this representation only as permitted or required by laws and regulations.

Thank you,

Attorney Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST CONSENT

In a joint representation, there is a risk that representation of one of you could become limited by my responsibilities to the other(s). In representing both/all of you in your eviction expungement case your interests could come into conflict because you were both/all defendants in the eviction cases you hope to expunge. This may give rise to a disagreement between you regarding issues pertaining to the expungement proceedings such as disputes regarding who is responsible for the cause of the eviction, and who is responsible for any outstanding debts that may exist with regard to your former tenancy. I cannot represent one joint client in resolving issues of this sort with the other joint client(s). Other, presently unanticipated, areas of dispute could also arise.

You are advised that, in a joint representation, there is no expectation of attorney-client privilege or confidentiality as between the joint clients. In other words, the lawyer may freely share information regarding the representation with all of the joint clients, regardless of how that information was obtained. You should know that if one of you asks the lawyer not to disclose information relevant to the joint representation, the lawyer will not be able to continue with the joint representation and will have to withdraw from the representation. Also, if a conflict arises between joint clients, the lawyer will be required to withdraw from the representation.

Despite the possibilities for a conflict of interest in your eviction expungement case, you all believe that one attorney can represent, advance, and protect all your interests. You agree that you want **[INSERT ATTORNEY NAME HERE]** to represent you, all in this matter. You have each chosen not to exercise your right to hire a different attorney and hereby consent to my joint representation of you despite the possibility of the conflicts described in this document and the accompanying letter.

I understand and accept the terms of this Agreement.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_