

Anti-Eviction Groups Release List of NYC's Top 20 "Worst Evictors"

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New York, NY—Today, the **Right to Counsel NYC Coalition, JustFix.nyc, and the Anti-Eviction Mapping Project** are excited to release the "[Worst Evictors List](#)," which lists the top 20 landlords who evicted the most tenants across NYC in 2018. The list demonstrates how the widespread use of housing court to threaten and evict tenants by particular landlords is part of what's driving the eviction crisis.

"For too long, instead of being a place where tenants encounter fairness and equity, housing court has been used as a weapon by landlords to harass and unfairly oust tenants," said **Lauren Springer, tenant leader with Catholic Migration Services in Queens**.

The list also illustrates just how often landlords use housing court. Ved Parkash, #2 on the Worst Evictors List, has 1.1 lawsuits per family, meaning that he has sued more tenants in housing court than families he houses and that eviction is part of his business model. Over a 2.5 year period, there were 449 more filings issued than families housed in the buildings he owns.

"Landlords take tenants to housing court for frivolous court proceedings as a form of harassment," said **Carmen Vega-Rivera, tenant leader with Community Action for Safe Apartments (CASA) in the Bronx**. "Landlords use their power to take tenants to court repeatedly in order to wear them out with the intention of displacing them. This has happened to me numerous times and for many years. Housing court condones this behavior and harassment tactic by slapping the landlord on their wrist and allowing them to continuously bring back the same tenants to court under false pretenses. This practice must stop! Tenants have had enough!"

The release of the list comes one week before the Right to Counsel NYC Coalition hosts the "[People's Tribunal on Evictions](#)," where roles will be reversed as tenants use a mock housing court to make their case against their landlords. The event will feature tenants of the Worst Evictors testifying about the injustices they face due to their landlords both in and out of housing court.

"We will be at the Tribunal testifying against Moshe Piller because since he took over our building, it has deteriorated because he doesn't make repairs," said **tenant leaders with the Flatbush Tenant Coalition in the 2010 Newkirk Tenants' Association**. "Tenants have been fighting frivolous eviction cases for more than 10 years. Tenants are afraid to lose their

apartments because Piller does everything in his power to harass, intimidate, and force us to move. It's outrageous that he is able to make people homeless. Tenants need justice! It is time for the courts, DHCR and the city to listen to our voice.”

Along with the list, the groups also released an [interactive map](#) that shows where evictions happened across the city in 2018 and the landlords responsible for them. Visitors to the map can search their landlord to determine whether, and where, they evicted tenants. Showing a total of 18,007 evictions carried out by landlords in 2018, this map communicates the pervasive and systemic nature of the eviction crisis.

Tenants can go to www.worstevictorsnyc.org to see the Worst Evictors List, the map of evictions, learn about their rights, and connect to lawyers and tenant organizing groups. The “People’s Tribunal on Evictions” will be held on Oct. 29, 5-9pm at DC 37, 125 Barclay St., 6th Floor.

The [Right to Counsel NYC Coalition](#) is a broad-based coalition of tenants, community organizers, legal service providers, academics, and more. In 2017, the coalition won a 3-year campaign to make it a right for low-income tenants to have an attorney when facing an eviction in housing court. NYC became the first city in the nation to win this right. The coalition continues to organize for a just implementation and expansion of the law.