### RCB's USTRA Shutoff Process

- Thirty (30) days after a First Notice is successfully delivered (a First Notice is considered "successfully" delivered if it is not returned by USPS), a Landlord Notice (copy attached, pgs 2-3) is sent via USPS Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested
  - a. The Landlord Notice states the water will be shut off on or after a date forty-five (45) or more days after the date of the Landlord Notice
  - b. The Landlord Notice states that the tenants will be notified of the shutoff date on or after a date fourteen (14) or more days after the date of the Landlord Notice
  - c. Should the Landlord Notice be returned with no service, a new address is located and a new First Notice is sent
  - d. Stopping the shutoff process at this point:
    - i. The Landlord must enter into an agreement with RCB with a down payment of at least 50% of the balance referred to RCB paid with certified funds (money order or certified check)
- 2. Once we receive confirmation of delivery from USPS (via a delivery receipt or an "Unclaimed" or "Refused" letter), the Shutoff Notice (copy attached, pg4) is delivered to the violation address via a courier service and the G-Record is processed
  - a. The Shutoff Notice is delivered no earlier than fourteen (14) days after the confirmed delivery date of the Landlord Notice
  - b. The Shutoff Notice states the amount of the last 30-day bill due, which must be paid to stop the shutoff
  - c. The Shutoff Notice states that the water service to the property will be shutoff on or after a date thirty-seven (37) or more days from the date of the Shutoff Notice if the tenant does not take the steps outlined to stop the shutoff
  - d. The Shutoff Notice is hand delivered to the violation address via a courier service
    - i. The courier service confirms delivery with an affidavit and photographic evidence of the posted Shutoff Notice
  - e. Stopping the shutoff process at this point:
    - i. The Land ord can stop the shutoff process by following the steps outlined above.
    - ii. The tenant can stop the shutoff by providing the following:
      - 1. A copy of their current lease and/or rent receipts for (6) months
      - 2. Copies of two (2) utility bills in the tenants name
      - 3. A valid form of Photo ID
      - 4. A money order or certified check for the amount stated on the shutoff notice
- 3. Thirty (30) days after the confirmed delivery of the Shutoff Notice, the account is reviewed and, if necessary, the S-Record is processed requesting shutoff on the account in question.
  - a. The S-Record is processed with a Shutoff Date seven (7) days from the date the S-Record is processed.
  - b. Reviewing the account and/or stopping the shutoff process:
    - i. The Landlord can stop the shutoff process by following the steps outlined above.
    - ii. The Tenant can stop the shutoff process by following the steps outlined above.
    - iii. If a payment of the amount due on the Shutoff Notice is received by WRB after the Shutoff Notice has been posted, the Shutoff process is stopped
    - iv. If a payment of the amount due on the Shutoff Notice is received by RCB from anyone other than the other with no accompanying documentation, the shutoff is stopped
- 4. Shutoff Timeline:
  - a. First Notice Wait 30 days then send
  - b. Landlord Notice Wait 14 days then post
  - c. Shutoff Notice / G-Record Wait 37 days then process
  - d. S-Record Wait 7 days then
  - e. Shutoff Date
  - f. Total Time from confirmed delivery of first notice: Minimum of 58 days

# The Tenant and Occupant Application Process







City of Philadelphia
Water Revenue Bureau

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Residential Tenant Applications	
Occupant Applications	
Commercial Tenant Applications	
Residential Regulations	
Utility Service Tenants Rights Act (USTRA)	
Commercial Regulations	

## THE TENANT AND OCCUPANT APPLICATION PROCESS

The processing of tenant and occupant applications is a Point-of-Service function. All applications are completed in person by the applicant. Under normal circumstances, it is done in the office at one of our three Walk-in customer service locations. For the applicant who is not ambulatory, we may send out an investigator to facilitate this process.

THE CUSTOMER WALK-IN UNIT IS LOCATED ON THE CONCOURSE LEVEL OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BUILDING 1401 JOHN F. KENNEDY BLVD HOURS OF OPERATION 8:00 AM-5:00PM

THE NORTH PHILADELPHIA SATELLITE OFFICE IS LOCATED AT 2761 N. 22ND STREET HOURS OF OPERATION 8:30 AM-5:00PM

THE NORTHEAST SATELLITE OFFICE IS LOCATED AT 9239 REAR ROOSEVELT BLVD HOURS OF OPERATION 8:30 AM-5:00PM

Call Center Representatives as well as those serving in other areas of the Water Revenue Bureau generally interact with tenants by telephone or in community outreach settings. While you may not actually process the tenant application, your job is to **coach** the tenant to complete a successful application.

### WATER REVENUE BUREAU RESIDENTIAL TENANT APPLICATION

Property Address				Application Date	
Tenant Applicant In	formation		Owner in tormation		
Applicant #1					
.ast Name	First Name	MI	Last Name	First Name	М
58#	PA Driver's license#	_	Telephone # Address:		
[elephone#					
Applicant #2			House # Street		
.ast Name	First Name	MI	City	State	2
58#	PA Driver's license#	_			
Felephone#	cell phone/e-mail address	_			
		Yes No	Verified by:	Unable to verify by:	
. –	winer or previous tenant customer? gwiater service at another address?		record	Offable to verify by.	
	on water service at another property?		rep.	date	
			Agent Information (IT	otner tnan owner)	
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Water Revenue Bureau
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

### WATER/SEWER INFORMAL HEARING REQUEST FORM

(To be returned within 30 days from the date of the WRB Decision Letter)

For Water/Sewer Billing inquiries, please call: 215-686-6880

Cit	ty Use Only
Initial Call Key #:	
IH Call Key #:	

ate:	Account#:	·	SS/EIN#	:
ustomer Name:				
Iailing Address	·			
				Phone:
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. REASON FOR	INFORMAL HEARING	G REQUEST (Ch	eck all that apply).	
Reference: Philad Customers)	elphia Water Departmer	nt Regulations 100	).7 for Residential C	ustomers or 101.6 for Commercial
Dispute rejec				
Dispute reject	ction or revocation of	facceptance of a	napplication	
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### **Residential Applicants**

Tenant applications are completed in person at one of our three Walk-in Customer service locations. Applications will only be accepted for **separately metered single family dwellings**. Additionally, the property must have a working meter and be receiving water service at the inception of the lease. The following documentation is required for the successful completion of a tenant application.

#### **Tenants**

Two pieces of current personal identification.

Primary ID must be a US or State government issued photo ID

Examples

Driver's License (any state)

PA photo ID

US passport

US Passport card

US Permanent Resident Card

US Visa

US Department of Defense Common Access Card

#### Secondary Identification may be a government issued non-photo ID

Examples:

Vehicle Registration (any state)

Social Security card

PA Access card (If PA Driver's license or ID card is primary)

• Current Rental Agreement (Lease)

If there is no lease, one of or a combination of the following:

- Rent Book
- o Money Order Receipts
- Cancelled Checks
- O A notarized letter from the record owner giving the following information:
  - Name and physical address of owner.
  - Name of the lessee(s)
  - the address of the leased property
  - the effective date and term of the lease
  - the rent
  - authorization to have the water bill placed in the tenant's name
- Evidence of a prior determination by a court of competent jurisdiction of the existence of a current rental arrangement for the dwelling unit between the owner and the applicant or the acceptance of the applicant's complaint against the owner and the scheduling of a hearing thereon by the Philadelphia Fair Housing commission shall be considered conclusive of this issue
- Utility Bills. We request gas and electric bills, but not all dwellings have gas service. The tenant must have an electric bill in the name of the applicant, a roommate or family member listed on the lease at the address for which he/she is applying for service. Telephone and cable bills are not accepted for tenant applications.

and/or

 Verification from PECO or PGW on the utility's standard form or letterhead indicating that application for service has been approved

and/or

- o PECO's CAP program certification or recertification
- o PGW's CRP program certification or recertification
- A current water meter reading

### BASIC RENTAL AGREEMENT AND/OR LEASE

which the parties	ement and/or Lease shall whose signatures appear, shall, shall WNER agrees to rent/lea	below have agreed be referred to as "C be referred to as "F	. Landlord/Lessor/A DWNER" and Tenan RESIDENT." As con	gent, t(s)/Lessee, sideration for
from OWNER fo	r use solely as a private re	esidence, the premi	ses located at	
month. This agree A until RESIDENT shou liable for all rent paying RESIDEN B until	IDENT agrees to pay in a ement shall commence on, as a leasehold. The ld move from the premised due until such time that the land/or expiration of sa, on a move giving a written notice of the ements of the land of the	a, and contereafter it shall become prior to the expirate Residence is occided time period, which onth-to-month tenan	ntinue; (check one) come a month-to-mo ration of this time pe cupied by an OWNE chever is shorter. acy until either party	onth tenancy. If riod, he shall be R approved
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shall be added to	GE: A late fee of \$ any payment of rent made ced) check shall have been	e before the d		
	RESIDENT agrees to pay		services based upon 	occupancy of
considered a brea OTHERS shall or	S: Guest(s) staying over 1 ch of this agreement. ON ccupy the subject residence ER obtained in advance	LY the following in	ndividuals and/or an	imals, AND NO
premises, for any requirements of the upon giving a 30 a pet and/or anim	mal, fowl, fish, reptile, an amount of time, without the OWNER. Such consenday written notice. In the al of any kind, an additional monthly ren	obtaining the prior at if granted, shall be event laws are pass anal deposit in the an	written consent and be revocable at OWN sed or permission is mount of \$	meeting the IER'S option granted to have _ shall be

- Agreement. RESIDENT also agrees to carry insurance deemed appropriate by OWNER to cover possible liability and damages that may be caused by such animals.
- 8. LIQUID FILLED FURNISHINGS: No liquid filled furniture, receptacle containing more
  than ten gallons of liquid is permitted without prior written consent and meeting the requirements
  of the OWNER. RESIDENT also agrees to carry insurance deemed appropriate by OWNER to
  cover possible losses that may be caused by such items.
- 9. PARKING: When and if RESIDENT is assigned a parking area/space on OWNER'S property, the parking area/space shall be used exclusively for parking of passenger automobiles and/or those approved vehicles listed on RESIDENT'S Application attached hereto. RESIDENT is hereby assigned or permitted to park only in the following area or space \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The parking fee for this space (if applicable is \$\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ monthly. Said space shall not be used for the washing, painting, or repair of vehicles. No other parking space shall be used by RESIDENT or RESIDENT'S guest(s). RESIDENT is responsible for oil leaks and other vehicle discharges for which RESIDENT shall be charged for cleaning if deemed necessary by OWNER.
- 10. **NOISE:** RESIDENT agrees not to cause or allow any noise or activity on the premises which might disturb the peace and quiet of another RESIDENT and/or neighbor. Said noise and/or activity shall be a breach of this agreement.
- 11. **DESTRUCTION OF PREMISES:** If the premises become totally or partially destroyed during the term of this Agreement so that RESIDENT'S use is seriously impaired, OWNER or RESIDENT may terminate this Agreement immediately upon three day written notice to the other.
- 12. CONDITION OF PREMISES: RESIDENT acknowledges that he has examined the premises and that said premises, all furnishings, fixtures, furniture, plumbing, heating, electrical facilities, all items listed on the attached property condition checklist, if any, and/or all other items provided by OWNER are all clean, and in good satisfactory condition except as may be indicated elsewhere in this Agreement. RESIDENT agrees to keep the premises and all items in good order and good condition and to immediately pay for costs to repair and/or replace any portion of the above damaged by RESIDENT, his guests and/or invitees, except as provided by law. At the termination of this Agreement, all of above items in this provision shall be returned to OWNER in clean and good condition except for reasonable wear and tear and the premises shall be free of all personal property and trash not belonging to OWNER. It is agreed that all dirt, holes, tears, burns, and stains of any size or amount in the carpets, drapes, walls, fixtures, and/or any other part of the premises, do not constitute reasonable wear and tear.
- 13. **ALTERATIONS:** RESIDENT shall not paint, wallpaper, alter or redecorate, change or install locks, install antenna or other equipment, screws, fastening devices, large nails, or adhesive materials, place signs, displays, or other exhibits, on or in any portion of the premises without the written consent of the OWNER except as may be provided by law.
- 14: **PROPERTY MAINTENANCE:** RESIDENT shall deposit all garbage and waste in a clean and sanitary manner into the proper receptacles and shall cooperate in keeping the garbage area neat and clean. RESIDENT shall be responsible for disposing of items of such size and nature as are not normally acceptable by the garbage hauler. RESIDENT shall be responsible for keeping the kitchen and bathroom drains free of things that may tend to cause clogging of the drains. RESIDENT shall pay for the cleaning out of any plumbing fixture that may need to be cleared of stoppage and for the expense or damage caused by stopping of waste pipes or overflow from bathtubs, wash basins, or sinks.
- 15. HOUSE RULES: RESIDENT shall comply with all house rules as stated on separate
  addendum, but which are deemed part of this rental agreement, and a violation of any of the house
  rules is considered a breach of this agreement.
- 16. CHANGE OF TERMS: The terms and conditions of this agreement are subject to future change by OWNER after the expiration of the agreed lease period upon 30-day written notice setting forth such change and delivered to RESIDENT. Any changes are subject to laws in existence at the time of the Notice of Change Of Terms.

- 17. **TERMINATION:** After expiration of the leasing period, this agreement is automatically renewed from month to month, but may be terminated by either party giving to the other a 30-day written notice of intention to terminate. Where laws require "just cause", such just cause shall be so stated on said notice. The premises shall be considered vacated only after all areas including storage areas are clear of all RESIDENT'S belongings, and keys and other property furnished for RESIDENT'S use are returned to OWNER. Should the RESIDENT hold over beyond the termination date or fail to vacate all possessions on or before the termination date, RESIDENT shall be liable for additional rent and damages which may include damages due to OWNER'S loss of prospective new renters.
- 18. **POSSESSION:** If OWNER is unable to deliver possession of the residence to RESIDENTS on the agreed date, because of the loss or destruction of the residence or because of the failure of the prior residents to vacate or for any other reason, the RESIDENT and/or OWNER may immediately cancel and terminate this agreement upon written notice to the other party at their last known address, whereupon neither party shall have liability to the other, and any sums paid under this Agreement shall be refunded in full. If neither party cancels, this Agreement shall be prorated and begin on the date of actual possession.
- 19. **INSURANCE:** RESIDENT acknowledges that OWNERS insurance does not cover personal property damage caused by fire, theft, rain, war, acts of God, acts of others, and/or any other causes, nor shall OWNER be held liable for such losses. RESIDENT is hereby advised to obtain his own insurance policy to cover any personal losses.
- 20. **RIGHT OF ENTRY AND INSPECTION:** OWNER may enter, inspect, and/or repair the premises at any time in case of emergency or suspected abandonment. OWNER shall give 24 hours advance notice and may enter for the purpose of showing the premises during normal business hours to prospective renters, buyers, lenders, for smoke alarm inspections, and/or for normal inspections and repairs. OWNER is permitted to make all alterations, repairs and maintenance that in OWNER'S judgment is necessary to perform.
- 21. ASSIGNMENT: RESIDENT agrees not to transfer, assign or sublet the premises or any part thereof.
- 22. PARTIAL INVALIDITY: Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed as
  waiving any of the OWNER'S or RESIDENT'S rights under the law. If any part of this Agreement
  shall be in conflict with the law, that part shall be void to the extent that it is in conflict, but shall
  not invalidate this Agreement nor shall it affect the validity or enforceability of any other
  provision of this Agreement.
- 22. NO WAIVER: OWNER'S acceptance of rent with knowledge of any default by RESIDENT
  or waiver by OWNER of any breach of any term of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of
  subsequent breaches. Failure to require compliance or to exercise any right shall not be constituted
  as a waiver by OWNER of said term, condition, and/or right, and shall not affect the validity or
  enforceability of any provision of this Agreement.
- 23. ATTORNEY FEES: If any legal action or proceedings be brought by either party of this
  Agreement, the prevailing party shall be reimbursed for all reasonable attorney's fees and costs in
  addition to other damages awarded.
- 24. **JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY:** The undersigned RESIDENTS are jointly and severally responsible and liable for all obligations under this agreement.
- 25. **REPORT TO CREDIT/TENANT AGENCIES:** You are hereby notified that a nonpayment, late payment or breach of any of the terms of this rental agreement may be submitted/reported to a credit and/or tenant reporting agency, and may create a negative credit record on your credit report.

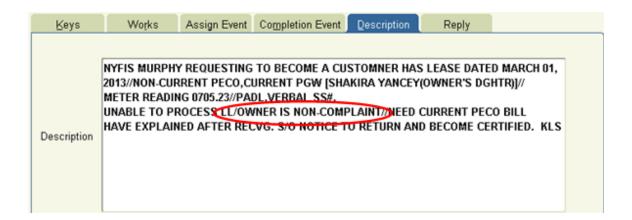
•	26. <b>LEAD NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT:</b> For rental dwellings built before 1978,
	RESIDENT acknowledges receipt of the following: (Please check)
	Lead Based Paint Disclosure Form
	EPA Pamphlet

27. ADDITIONS	AND/OR EXCEPTIONS
28. <b>NOTICES:</b> All notices to OWNER	l notices to RESIDENT shall be served at RESIDENT'S premises and all shall be served at
29. INVENTORY	: The premises contains the following items, that the RESIDENT may use.
shall be deemed pa	DDDENDUMS: RESIDENT acknowledges receipt of the following which rt of this Agreement: (Please check) and purposes
House Rules _	Pet Agreement Other
	<b>EEMENT:</b> This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between IDENT. No oral agreements have been entered into, and all modifications or writing to be valid.
Agreement and her	<b>AGREEMENT:</b> The undersigned RESIDENTS have read and understand this eby acknowledge receipt of a copy of this Rental Agreement.
	ature _ ✓
Date V	
Date	ature
	nt's Signature ✓
	is made as to the legal validity or the adequacy of any provision in this desire legal advice, consult your attorney.)

### **Landlord Compliance**

Everyone conducting business in Philadelphia is required to have a **Business Privilege** license. Additionally, those leasing residential properties must also have a \*Housing Inspection license. Water regulations instruct us to mail the notice of tenant's application for customer status to the property owner's **license** address on file with the Department of Licenses and Inspections.

If the landlord has no current Housing Inspection License on file with the Department of Licenses and Inspections, he is considered to be non-compliant and the application is rejected. A tenant in jeopardy of enforcement action (shut-off) may request protection under USTRA.



Call description may also read:

- No renter's license
- No HI (or Housing Inspection) license found

<sup>\*</sup>Exception: If the rental unit is part of a Condominium Association, the owner of the unit must have a Business Privilege License, but the Condominium Association holds the Housing Inspection License.



#### **Customer Service Division**

Municipal Services Building 1401 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19102-1663

Phone: 215-686-6880 Date: March 8, 2013

Account Number: 000-00000-0000-0000
Service Address: 123 N Broad Street 19102

WILLIAM PENN 100 CITY HALL LANE COUNTY HEIGHTS PA 19000

### NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER OF TENANT'S APPLICATION FOR CUSTOMER STATUS

<u>JOHN DOE</u>, has verified that he/she is a tenant of the above listed service address. You have been identified as the property owner. The tenant has requested that he/she be allowed to take responsibility for paying the bill.

Ultimate responsibility for payment remains with you, the property owner. The responsibility is derived from Pennsylvania State Law Purdons 53. P.S. Section 7106, 7251. You will be responsible for all charges due prior to the date of the application, and all future bills left unpaid by the tenant. You are also responsible for the installation of a functioning meter in the property.

If the bill becomes delinquent, the Water Revenue Bureau will notify you, the property owner of unpaid charges, place a lien on the property, and pursue other collection methods it deems appropriate.

If you wish to reject the tenant customer status, please fill out the form below, detach, and mail it within TEN (10) days from the date of this notice to:

### Water Revenue Bureau 1401 John F Kennedy Blvd-Compliance Div, Room 200 Philadelphia PA 19102-1663

	<u>-</u>	
	ANT CUSTOMER STATUS	
I am the owner/agent of	f the property at 123 N Broad	1 St 19102
I do not want <u>JOHN DO</u>	<u>DE</u> (tenant customer) to recei	ve a water bill in his/her name.
Print Name:	Teleph	none:
Mailing Address: 100 C	CITY HALL LANE COUNT	Y HEIGHTS PA 19000
Signature	Date:	Acct # 000-00000-00000-000



### **Department of Revenue**

Municipal Services Building 1401 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19102-1663

Phone: 215-686-6880 Date: March 8, 2013

WILLIAM PENN 100 CITY HALL LANE COUNTY HEIGHTS PA 19000

### Please Read Important Dated Information

Dear Property Owner:

This is to advise you of delinquent charges owing at 123 N BROAD ST 19102. The amount is \$87.38.

The tenant/occupant on record at this address is JOHN DOE.

You are advised as the owner of the property that you are not absolved of the unpaid charges. The debt for water and sewer charges remains a liability of the property. The property liability is the responsibility of the owner of record.

Payment in full or a payment agreement is necessary to prevent termination of water service.

Your immediate attention is requested.

Sincerely,

Water Revenue Bureau

### WATER REVENUE BUREAU TENANT APPLICATION TERMINATION

PA Driver's license #  First Name	- M I
	М 1
First Name	M I
First Name	M I
PA Driver's license #	-
First Name	MI
State	7in
	bisb
	wnich
 -	
emination of the tenant acco	unt for which
I/We understand tha libited from becoming (a) Wa	
	State  ce due  linquent balance of  sthrough

Revised 5/23/07

### **Tenant Application Termination**

When a residential tenant ends his lease, he should come in to the office to advise the WRB to terminate the tenant account.

The attached application is completed, and the application is ended.

Property Addres	ss	Application Date
	icant Information	OwnerInformation
Applicant #1		
. NI >	First Name MI	-
Last Name	First Name Pro	Last Name First Name MI
PA StateID#	Social Security #	Lastivane institute
		Telephone #
telephone # Appliance #2	cell phonele-mail address	Address:
Applicant #2		
Last Name	First Name MI	House # Street
PA StateID#	Social Security #	City State Zip
telephone #	cell phone/e-mail address	For staff use only
Mames and address	es of Executor (trix) and/or all known heirs	Letter authorizing occupancy received□
valles discussion	25 Of Encount (stry of raise on research	Living owner Information verified by:
		□ WRB record □ BH I □ lax □ Other □ Unable to verify
		Deceased owner
		☐ Death Certificate
	Yes No	☐ Letters of Administration ☐ Other (describe)
	ceiving water service at another address?	
Do you owe any bala	ances on water service at another property?	
IW e occupy the refe	erenced service address as (a) residential occupant(s)	Applicant's relationship to owner
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	water service supplied in my (our) name(s).	□ current PECO bill □ current PGW bill
IW e understand tha	at submission of false or incomplete information may resu	
	is application or the revocation of Customer status. I/We	
•	n approval of this of the application, I W e are entitled	Meter read date
_	nd subject to the same obligations as any other customer	
of the WRB, includin	ng termination of service for non-payment.	Tangled Title □
signature	də	. <del>.</del>
cionatura Application C	da Status	اة الم
Application §  □REJECTED		C. O. and I form the constant of the constant
HEJECTED	☐ Insufficient Personal Identification ☐ Insufficient authorization to occupy	□ Owner Information needed (as requested above)     □ Not coded as a Single Family Dwelling
□ ADDROVED	☐ Issued Rights Information	Li 190 Oued as a driger army owening
AFFINOVED	☐ With ownership interest	
	All customer rights apply as outlined in the Customer S	iervice Regulations.
	The current bill will be prorated, and billing in your nam	_
	using the current meter reading	
	☐ Without ownership interest	
	WRB Representative/Title	Date

Water Revenue Bureau	
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA	
WATER/SEWER INFORMAL	HEARING REQUEST FO

City Use Only		
Initial Call Key #:		
IH Call Key #:		

ORM (To be returned within 30 days from the date of the WRB Decision Letter) I. GENERAL INFORMATION Account#: \_\_\_\_SS/EIN#: Customer Name: Service Address: Mailing Address: Email: Disputed Cycle: \_\_\_\_\_ Disputed Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Water Service (please check one): Off On II. REASON FOR INFORMAL HEARING REQUEST (Check all that apply). (Reference: Philadelphia Water Department Regulations 100.7 for Residential Customers or 101.6 for Commercial Dispute rejection or revocation of acceptance of an application Denial of a request for continued service pursuant to Section 100.10 of Regulations Signature of Customer Date III. FOR CITY USE ONLY (TO BE COMPLETED BY CITY) Request Reviewed By: Date Reviewed: Approved Denied Hearing Request: If Approved: Hearing Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Hearing Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Submit Completed Informal Hearing Request Form: By Mail Water Revenue Bureau • Informal Hearing Unit Municipal Services Building, • 1401 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Room 340 • Philadelphia, PA 19102-1663 In Person Municipal Services Building • Water Revenue Bureau • Concourse Level-Intake Area

For Water/Sewer Billing inquiries, please call: 215-686-6880

Occupant applications are completed in person at one of our three Walk-in Customer service locations. Applications will only be accepted for separately metered, single family dwellings and the property must have a working meter. The following documentation is required for the successful completion of a tenant application.

### **Occupants**

Two pieces of <u>current</u> personal identification.

### Primary ID must be a US or State government issued photo ID

Examples:

Driver's License (any state)

PA photo ID

US passport

US Passport card

US Permanent Resident Card

US Visa

US Department of Defense Common Access Card

### Secondary Identification may be a government issued non-photo ID

Examples:

Vehicle Registration (any state)

Social Security card

PA Access card (If PA Driver's license or ID card is primary)

### Living owner or the City of Philadelphia or Quasi-City entity as owner

- Authorization to Occupy the Premises by a living owner in the form of a notarized letter from the record owner giving the following information:
  - Name and physical address of owner.
  - Name of the occupant(s)
  - the address of the property
  - the expected period of occupancy
  - o authorization to have the water bill placed in the tenant's name
- An unrecorded deed, including one by Gift/Donation (e.g. Quit Claim deed).
- A lease purchase agreement with the record owner <u>and</u> payment receipts. Record owner physical address is required.
- A letter from a V.I.P.\* attorney stating that the applicant has a credible claim to the property <u>and</u> that V.I.P. is representing the applicant in the process of acquiring title.
- Participation in a qualified housing program (PHDC, RDA verify status with the Collections Division)

### **Deceased owner**

Death certificate, letter from the Funeral Director or obituary

Name and physical address of the Executor or Administrator of the Estate and all known heirs.

and

Proof of relationship to record owner

and/or

Verification that the applicant previously occupied the property with the deceased owner (not an heir)

or

Verification that the dissolution of a landlord, tenant relationship has occurred due to the death of a property owner (an old lease executed by the record owner)

• Utility Bills in the applicant's name at the property for which application is made

or

 Verification from PECO and PGW on the utility's standard forms or letterhead indicating that application for service has been approved

or

- o PECO's CAP program certification or recertification
- o PGW's CRP program certification or recertification

Based upon the documentation supplied by the applicant, the processing representative will determine whether or not the occupant has ownership interest.

An occupant with ownership interest has taken steps to acquire title to the property. Any open balances will remain in the record owner's name until title is transferred.

An occupant without ownership interest, including a direct heir has not taken steps to acquire title to the property. Any open balances will be transferred to the occupant's account.

\*Volunteer for the Indigent Program-attorneys working pro bono to resolve tangled title issues

# City of Philadelphia Water Revenue Bureau

**Customer Service Division** 

Municipal Services Building 1401 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19102-1663

Phone: 215-686-6880 Date: March 8, 2013

Account Number: 000-00000-0000-0000
Service Address: 123 N Broad Street 19102

WILLIAM PENN 100 CITY HALL LANE COUNTY HEIGHTS PA 19000

### NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER OF OCCUPANT'S APPLICATION FOR CUSTOMER STATUS

<u>JOHN DOE</u>, has verified that he/she is an occupant of the above listed service address. You have been identified as the property owner. The occupant has requested that he/she be allowed to take responsibility for paying the bill.

Ultimate responsibility for payment remains with you, the property owner. The responsibility is derived from Pennsylvania State Law Purdons 53. P.S. Section 7106, 7251. You will be responsible for all charges due prior to the date of the application, and all future bills left unpaid by the tenant. You are also responsible for the installation of a functioning meter in the property.

If the bill becomes delinquent, the Water Revenue Bureau will notify you, the property owner of unpaid charges, place a lien on the property, and pursue other collection methods it deems appropriate.

If you wish to reject the occupant customer status, please fill out the form below, detach, and mail it within TEN (10) days from the date of this notice to:

Water Revenue Bureau

### 1401 John F Kennedy Blvd-Compliance Div, Room 200 Philadelphia PA 19102-1663

		S-OWNER'S REJECTION
I am the owner/agent of	the property at 123 N Broa	d St 19102
I do not want <u>JOHN DO</u>	E (tenant customer) to recei	ve a water bill in his/her name.
Print Name:	Telephone:	
Mailing Address: 100 C	ITY HALL LANE COUNT	Y HEIGHTS PA 19000
Signature	Date:	Acct # 000-00000-00000-000

### WATER REVENUE BUREAU COMMERCIAL TENANT APPLICATION

	<u> </u>	
Property Address	Application Date	
enant Applicant Information	Own er in tormation	
Applicant		
ast Name First Name M.I.	Last Name First Name	
Business Telephone #	Telephone #	
lames and Addresses of Principals	Address:	
self)		
,	House # Street	
	City State	
	—  I any	
	- <b>     </b>	
	-	
Yes No	hor staff use only: do not write in this section	
res nou Ire you an agent for the owner or previous tenant oustomer?	Verified by: Unable to verify by:	
Are you currently receiving water service at another address?	record	
o you owe any balances on water service at another property?	rep date	
o you owe any balances on water service at a route property:		
We occupy the referenced service address as (a)commercial tenant(s)	Agent information (if other than owner)	
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	N	
and agree to pay for water service supplied in my (our) name(s).	Name	
We understand that submission of false or incomplete information may re		
n the rejection of this application or the revocation of Customer status. 1/w	Telephone #	
inderstand that upon approval of this of the application, I/We are entitled	Address:	
o the same rights and subject to the same obligations as any other custom		
f the WRB, including termination of service for non-payment	House # Street	
ignature date	e City State	
deb.	<u> </u>	
or stair use only, do not write in this section		
ID □ lease □ lease date		
etter from guarantor.		
ero balance on account		
□ active business license □ Verified by rep	o date	
Application Status		
□ APPROVED     □ Issued Rights Information		
REJECTED		
	C. Ourse Information and district	
☐ Insufficient Personal Identification	<ul> <li>Owner Information needed (as requested about</li> </ul>	
□ Unable to establish tenant status	☐ No active water account at lease inception	
□ Account noted "no tenant applicants" by owner	☐ Owner must attend to delinquency	
□ Documents needed:	<ul> <li>Not coded for commercial use</li> </ul>	
	Water Revenue Bureau Representative	

Wate	r Revenue Bureau
CITY OF I	PHILADELPHIA

### WATER/SEWER INFORMAL HEARING REQUEST FORM

(To be returned within 30 days from the date of the WRB Decision Letter)

City Use Only		
Initial Call Key #:		
IH Call Key #:		

I. GENERAL INFO	PRMATION			
Date:	Account#:	SS/EIN#:		
Customer Name:				
Service Address:				
Mailing Address:				
Email:				
Disputed Cycle: _	Disputed Amount:	Phone:		
Water Service (ple	easecheckone): Off	□ On		
II. REASONFOR I	NFORMAL HEARING REQUEST (C	heck all that apply).		
(Reference: Philadelphia Water Department Regulations 100.7 for Residential Customers or 101.6 for Commercial Customers)				
Dispute reject	ion or revocation of acceptance of	anapplication		
1				
Signatu	re of Customer	Date		
III. FOR CITY US	E ONLY (TO BE COMPLETED BY	Стту)		
Request Review	edBy:	Date Reviewed:		
Hearing Reques	t: Approved	☐ Denied		
If Approved: He	earing Date:	Hearing Time:		
Submit Completed Informal Hearing Request Form:  By Mail Water Revenue Bureau • Informal Hearing Unit  Municipal Services Building, • 1401 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Room 340 •  Phila delphia, PA 19102-1663				
In Person	Municipal Services Building • Water Revenue Bureau • Concourse Level-Intake Area			
For Water/Sewer	Billing inquiries, please call: 21:	5-686-6880		

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### **Commercial Applicants**

Commercial Tenant applications are completed in person at one of our three Walk-in Customer service locations. The following documentation is required for the successful completion of a Commercial Tenant Application.

• Two pieces of current personal identification.
Primary ID must be a US or State government issued photo ID

Examples:

Driver's License (any state)

PA photo ID

US passport

US Passport card

US Permanent Resident Card

US Visa

US Department of Defense Common Access Card

### Secondary Identification may be a government issued non-photo ID

Examples:

Vehicle Registration (any state)

Social Security card

PA Access card (If PA Driver's license or ID card is primary)

- Current Rental Agreement (Lease)
- Current Business license or 501(c)(3)
- Name(s) of principals, a current business address
- If the individual making application is <u>not</u> a principal, a letter of introduction, on company letterhead, signed by one of the principals, authorizing this person to make application (and possibly inquiries into the account) is required.
- A written guarantee from the commercial property owner assuring payment of any water/sewer charges billed to the commercial tenant

Unlike the residential tenant application in Basis2, there is no OWN-TEN call. A completed application is completed by a BILLING, MACHG call. Details are maintained in the call description and the contacts screen.

<sup>\*</sup>Note: There is no commercial tenant certification

# REFERENCES

### **Residential Regulations**

### **Residential Tenant and Occupant Applications**

Water Regulation 100.2-Applications for Service

The Water Revenue Bureau ("WRB") will accept owners, tenants and occupants as Water Department customers and will direct the Water Department to provide water/sewer service in their names to their dwelling units under the terms and conditions set forth in these regulations.

- (a) Application to Become a Customer
  - (1) An owner shall become a customer as of the date of title transfer established by the record deed or otherwise established by sufficient evidence to show title to the property.
  - (2) A Tenant or occupant who wishes to become a customer of the WRB must submit:
    - (A) His or her name and current address. An applicant may be required to provide two pieces of personal identification;
    - (B) Satisfactory evidence of owner's consent to possession of the dwelling unit or residential property by a tenant or occupant. Such evidence will usually be in writing, including, for example, a current rental agreement for the dwelling unit for which the applicant desires service, a lease, rent book, money order receipts, canceled checks, other utility bills in the applicant's name at that address, rent receipts, or other written evidence of tenancy or written evidence of the owner's consent to occupancy. Evidence of a prior determination by a court of competent jurisdiction of the existence of a current rental arrangement for the dwelling unit between the owner and the applicant or the acceptance of the applicant's complaint against the owner and the scheduling of a hearing thereon by the Philadelphia Fair Housing commission shall be considered conclusive of this issue;
    - (C) A completed Application and Affidavit in such form as the WRB shall from time to time deem appropriate wherein the applicant agrees to pay for service supplied in his name and makes certain acknowledgments and certifications consistent with these regulations.
  - (3) All WRB determinations shall be made in writing upon the application form and a copy given or mailed to the applicant

Water regulation 100.2 Application for Service

- (d) Notice to Owner
  - (1) Upon receipt of a customer application by one not the owner, the WRB shall mail to the owner or his agent, at his license address on file with the Department of Licenses and Inspections for the property in which an applicant's dwelling unit is located, or if no such license address is available, at such other address as the WRB reasonably believes is the valid current address of the owner or his agent, a "Notice to Owner of Application by Tenant or Occupant to Become a Water Service Customer or For Continued Service", in such form as the WRB shall from time to time deem appropriate.

### Water Regulation 100.7 Hearings

a) In addition to the hearing provided in Section 100.2(d)(2) of these Regulations, and unless a hearing or an opportunity for a hearing has already been given on the same issue or charges (as determined by the Revenue Department), upon timely request, a Customer may request an informal hearing before the WRB to:

- (1) Dispute the Customer's responsibility for the water and sewer, but not the stormwater charges;
- (2) Dispute the amount due or any possible errors in computing charges on the water, sewer, or stormwater bill;
- (3) Dispute whether the agreement terms have been properly applied;
- (4) Dispute rejection or revocation of acceptance of an application;
- (5) Dispute shut off for failure to take or permit a meter reading or to provide access to the meter;
- (6) Dispute shut off for nonpayment or lack of access to the meter to change, repair or read:
- (7) Dispute denial of a request for continued service pursuant to Section 100.10 of these Regulations (Emergency Procedures); and/or
- (8) Dispute denial of an application for continued water service under USTRA.

### USTRA

#### **Tenant Certification under USTRA**

When a tenant is in danger of losing water service and the responsibility for payment of the water bill is not his or the landlord is not I compliance with the city of Philadelphia Department of License and Inspections for a current Housing Inspection License, we will tenant certify the customer under USTRA.

#### "UTILITY SERVICE TENANTS RIGHTS ACT. Act of 1978, P. L. 1255, No. 299 enacted by

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania provides for notice and the right to cure landlord's default to avoid the termination of utility service to tenants. Relevant excerpts for our discussion are:

### Section 7. Rights of tenants to continued service.

- (a) At any time before or after service within the utility's corporate limits is discontinued by a public utility on account of nonpayment by the landlord ratepayer, the affected tenants may apply to the utility to have service continued or resumed. A public utility shall not discontinue such service or shall promptly resume service previously discontinued if it receives from the tenants an amount equal to the bill of the landlord ratepayer for the 30-day period preceding the notice to the tenants. Thereafter, such utility shall notify each tenant of the total amount of the bill for the second and each succeeding period of 30 days or less and if the tenants fail to make payment of any such bill within 30 days of delivery of the notice to the tenants, the utility may commence discontinuance procedures: Provided, that no such discontinuance may occur until 30 days after each tenant has received written notice of the proposed discontinuance as prescribed in section 8. All payments by tenants to a utility on account of nonpayment by the landlord ratepayer shall be made by a check or money order drawn by the tenant to the order of the utility. Upon receiving any such payment, the utility shall notify the landlord ratepayer who is liable for the utility service of the amount or amounts credited to the landlord's bill for each tenant pursuant to the provisions of this section. In the event that the tenants fail to satisfy the requirements of this section to maintain or restore service and service to the affected dwelling units is discontinued, the utility shall refund to each tenant the amount paid by such tenant toward the bill which the tenants failed to pay, upon the request of the tenant or after holding the tenant's payment during 60 consecutive days of discontinued service, whichever occurs first.
- (b) Any tenant of a residential building or mobile home park who has been notified of a proposed discontinuance of utility service pursuant to section 3 shall have the right to agree to subscribe for future service individually if this can be accomplished without a major revision of distribution facilities or additional right-of-way acquisitions

### Section 9. Tenant's Right To Withhold Rent.

Any tenant who has made a payment to a utility on account of nonpayment by the landlord ratepayer pursuant to this act may subsequently recover the amount paid to the utility either by deducting said amount from any rent or payment on account of taxes or operating expenses then or thereafter due from such tenant to the person to whom he would otherwise pay his rent or by obtaining reimbursement from the landlord ratepayer.

### **Commercial Applicants**

### 101.2 Application for Service

The Water Revenue Bureau ("WRB") will accept commercial property owners, their duly authorized agents or guaranteed lessees as Water Department customers and will direct the Water Department to provide water/sewer service in their names to their business use properties under the terms and conditions set forth in these regulations.

### (a) Application to Become a Customer

- (1) A commercial property owner shall become a commercial customer as of the date of title transfer established by the record deed subject to the eligibility requirements set forth below.
- (2) A commercial tenant who wishes to become a commercial customer of the WRB may apply to become a guaranteed lessee. To apply for customer status the commercial tenant ("applicant") must submit:
  - (A) Name(s) of principals, a current business address and a current business license;
  - (B) A completed Application and Affidavit in such form as the WRB shall from time to time deem appropriate wherein the applicant provides:
    - (i). Satisfactory evidence of the commercial property owner's consent to possession of the business use property by the commercial tenant. Such evidence will usually be in writing, including, for example, a current lease agreement for the business use property for which the applicant desires service, or other written evidence of tenancy or written evidence of the commercial property owner's consent to occupancy; and
    - (ii) A written guarantee from the commercial property owner assuring payment of any water/sewer charges billed to the commercial tenant.
  - (3) Upon receipt of the evidence and documents required in Section (b) above, the WRB shall determine whether the commercial tenant is eligible to become a Water Department customer.
  - (4) All WRB determinations shall be made in writing upon the application form and a copy given or mailed to the applicant. After acceptance by the WRB, the guaranteed lessee customer shall be entitled to the same rights and subject to the same obligations as any other commercial customer of the WRB.

### (b) Eligibility

A commercial property owner or commercial tenant (either shall be known as "applicant") is qualified to become a commercial customer under these regulations, UNLESS:

- (1) The applicant has not paid or arranged to pay for past due charges for water/sewer service for which he is legally responsible at this or another service address, including charges for unauthorized usage.
- (2) The guarantor has not paid outstanding water/sewer charges at time of application;
- (3) Water service to the business use property is legally off, there exist uncorrected Water Department violation(s) at the property and/or service to the property would endanger health or safety.

In determining whether uncorrected Water Department violations exist in a business use property, the WRB shall request that the Water Department promptly review its files and/or the property and provide the WRB with a listing of any violations. The applicant shall be given a written list of any violations and advised that it is his responsibility to correct the violations and provide a certification that the corrections have been made from a registered plumber before services will be provided. In no case will water service be provided if the business use property is found at any time by the Water Department to be in a condition not suitable to receive water, or in a condition which would create an emergency or dangerous condition to itself or another property.

(4) Service to a business use property necessitates revision of the Water Department's distribution facilities or acquisition of additional rights-of-way or the quantity of water required or expected pattern of usage negatively impacts existing customers or does not comply with the Rules Governing Water Service and Sewer Service.

### (c) Additional Conditions

- (1) If the business use property is already separately metered, a meter reading must be taken before the applicant will be accepted as a customer. The reading may be taken by the applicant, but the WRB reserves the right to require a reading by the WRB or the Water Department before the applicant will be accepted. In such cases, the WRB will promptly order a meter reading and advise the applicant to facilitate reading of the meter.
- (2) If the applicant's property is presently set up for individual metering but no meter is at the property, a meter will be installed before the applicant will be accepted a s a commercial customer. In such cases, the WRB will promptly order from the Water Department the installation of a meter and advise the applicant to facilitate entry of the necessary Water Department personnel into the property for this

purpose. Meter charges must be paid before water services will be provided.

(3) If the applicant's property is not individually metered, the dwelling unit must be set up for individual metering by a registered plumber to the Water Department's satisfaction at the expense of the applicant and a water meter must be installed before an applicant will be accepted as a commercial customer. Installation charges must be paid before water service will be provided.

### 101.6 Hearings

- (a) Upon timely request, a Commercial Customer may request an informal hearing before the WRB to:
- (1) Dispute the Commercial Customer's responsibility for the charges on the water/sewer/stormwater bill;
- (2) Dispute the amount due or any possible errors in computing charges on the water and sewer bill;
- (3) Dispute whether payment agreement terms have been properly applied;
- (4) Dispute shut off for failure to take or permit a meter reading or to provide access to the meter; and/or
- (5) Dispute shut off for non payment or lack of access to the meter to change repair or read.