

Presented in Committee - April 28, 2017

## SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE OF SHORT-TERM RENTALS

# Overview of Registration, Outreach and Enforcement for Short-Term Rentals



#### REGISTRATION TO LEGALLY HOST SHORT-TERM RENTALS\*

Approved Short-Term Rental Hosts	2,106	
Revocations (or withdrawn by host)	198 (24)	
Denied Applications	359	

\* Short-Term Rentals are rentals for stays of LESS than 30 days



#### R E G I S T R A T I O N

- > OSTR Working with Department of Technology to launch online registration
  - Launch estimated in June
  - Online business registration with Office of Treasurer & Tax Collector is already in place.
    - Business registration with Tax Collector is the first step in obtaining the required registration with Office of Short-Term Rentals.



### REGISTRATION | Outreach

Current in-person appointments, to begin registration, typically takes 15 minutes

> Average review and approval time after submittal is two (2) weeks

#### Primary reasons for denials

- > Host does not reside at the property at least 275 nights per year
- Building or Planning Code Violations
- Host previously subject to multiple notices of violation for illegal short-term rentals elsewhere



#### REGISTRATION | Outreach

- Walk-in appointments available first Monday evening of each month (except July), and every Wednesday afternoon from 1pm to 4pm
- OSTR has held off-site registration events at multiple City libraries and City fairs/events
- OSTR launched a new website this Spring: <u>shorttermrentals.sfgov.org</u>



#### ENFORCEMENT

> Over 1,488 Notices of Violation issued for illegal short-term rental activity

Representing over 1,600 dwelling units

- > Majority of notices of violation involve high-volume short-term rental activity
  - > Host (owner or lessee) typically does not live on-site and is not eligible to register
  - Hosts in violation include both property owners and lessees
    - Lessees includes both actual tenants and those who do not reside at property



ENFORCEMENT | Illegal Short-Term Rental Complaints, by Supervisorial District

D1	101	D5	156	D9	110
D2	150	D6	228	D10	232
D3	182	D7	74	D11	14
D4	35	D8	203	Total	1,485





### ENFORCEMENT | Illegal Short-Term Rental Complaints | Status

<b>Under Review</b> (Submitted by Public, or Office initiated)	667	
Closed – No Violation	173	
Closed – Abated	645	
Total	1,485	



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- Under Review Factors
  - > Older complaints where activity may have ceased
  - Appears to actually be 30+ minimum day stays (typically "corporate" rentals), therefore no likely violation
  - > Activity is infrequent or shifts between properties



#### ENFORCEMENT | Types of Violations

- High Volume operators (owners & lessees) with multiple properties across City
- Group Housing ("Hostels") in Single Family Residential Neighborhoods
- Owner or tenant lives on-site, but utilizes 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> dwelling in same building as fulltime (illegal) short-term rental (eligible host must reside in their actual dwelling unit)
- > Affordable (mostly Below-Market-Rate, or "BMR") units.
  - OSTR staff works with Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development, with notices issued by OSTR
- Single-Room-Occupancy (SROs) and Residential Hotels in South of Market Area (SOMA), Tenderloin, and Chinatown.
  - > OSTR staff assists Department of Building Inspection with research & enforcement



#### ENFORCEMENT | Revocations

- Bulk of revocations are due to host not being a permanent resident (present at least 275 nights per year) and operating high-volume short-term rentals.
- Smaller number of revocations due to sustained pattern of noise/party complaints.
- Limited number of registrations suspended due to code violations. Primarily building code violations for illegal dwellings.



#### ENFORCEMENT | Platform Requirements

- 2016 changes to existing ordinance regulating Short-Term Rentals (Chapter 41A of the SF Administrative Code) requires provision of data from platforms to assist with registration and enforcement.
  - > No changes are pending for short-term rental *hosts*
- 2016 changes also requires platforms to block short-term rental transactions if dwelling unit is not registered to legally host short-term rentals.
- City is in Federal court mediation conferences, after some of the hosting platforms (websites) contested the City's rules. Mediation deals with implementation of requirements for *hosting platforms (websites)*.



### Thank You

Website: <u>shorttermrentals.sfgov.org</u>

- Begin Registration
- Learn about the City's Rules
- ➢ File a Complaint

Phone: (415) 575-9179