

# Sample Q& A: Housing Law

## Eviction – Possessions still in apartment



Q

We were evicted last week. I thought the landlord had to let us get our belongings that we left behind for a minimum of 24 hours, but they were not. I looked in the windows and everything is still there. What can I do?

-- Jessie V., Lake County

A

Hi Jessie,

First, you should send your landlord a letter to set up a time to pick up your belongings. If the landlord does not respond, then you should file a small claims case against him to get your items back. Of, if he sold them, for the value of the items.

This article might be helpful: [Suing someone for \\$10,000 or less](#) and [Starting a small claims court case](#).

IllinoisLegalAid.org even has a Lake County form to start the court case: [Small claims complaint in Lake County](#).

This is such a hassle. For that I am very sorry. Best of luck to you.

Sincerely, Amanda

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# Governing Law

## Applicable Law

Landlord and Tenant Act, [765 ILCS 705/5](#) et seq.

[Ill. Supreme Court Rules 281-289](#) No answer is required unless ordered by court. [Ill. Sup. Ct. Rule 286\(a\)](#). The rules define a small claim as one seeking damages of \$10k or less, excluding interest and costs. [Ill. Sup. Ct. Rule 181](#).

## Relevant ILAO Content

### Pro se

[Suing someone for \\$10,000 or less](#)

[Starting a small claims case](#)

[Small claims complaint in Lake County](#)

### For legal professionals

[Landlord and tenant manual](#)