

# MONTANA STANDARD LEASE AGREEMENT

County of: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE PARTIES:** This Agreement, dated \_\_\_\_\_, by and between:

Landlord: The Landlord is a(n) individual known as \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter known as the "Landlord",

and

Tenant(s): A(n) individual/organization known as \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter known as the "Tenant(s)", agree to the following:

**OCCUPANT(S):** The Premises is to be occupied strictly as a residential dwelling with the following individual(s) in addition to the Tenant: (check one)

- \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ ("Occupant(s)")
- There are no additional occupant(s).

**OFFER TO RENT:** The Landlord hereby rents to the Tenant(s), subject to the following terms and conditions of this Agreement, \_\_\_\_\_ with the address of \_\_\_\_\_ consisting of \_\_\_\_\_ bathroom(s) and \_\_\_\_\_ bedroom(s) hereinafter known as the "Premises". The Landlord may also use the address for notices sent to the Tenant(s).

**PURPOSE:** The Tenant and Occupant(s) may only use the Premises as: (check one)

- A residential dwelling only.
- A residential dwelling and: \_\_\_\_\_

**FURNISHINGS:** The Premises is: (check one)

- To be furnished with the following items: \_\_\_\_\_
- Not furnished.

**APPLIANCES:** The Landlord shall: (check one)

- Provide the following appliances: \_\_\_\_\_
- Not provide any appliances.

**LEASE TERM:** This Agreement shall be a fixed-period arrangement beginning on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ and ending on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_. At the end of the Lease Term and no renewal is made, the Tenant: (check one)

- May continue to lease the Premises under the same terms of this Agreement under a month-to-month arrangement.
- Must vacate the Premises.

Hereinafter known as the "Lease Term"

**RENT:** Tenant(s) shall pay the Landlord in equal monthly installments of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (US Dollars) hereinafter known as the "Rent". The Rent will be due on the \_\_\_\_\_ of every month and paid under the following instructions:

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**NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS (NSF CHECKS):** If the Tenant pays the Rent with a check that is not honored due to insufficient funds (NSF): (check one)

- There shall be a fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ per incident.
- There shall be no fee.

**LATE FEE:** If Rent is not paid on the Due Date: (check one)

- There shall be a penalty of \$\_\_\_\_\_ due as  One (1) Time Payment  Every Day Rent is Late. Rent is considered late when it has not been paid within \_\_\_\_\_ day(s) after the Due Date.
- There shall be No Late Fee if Rent is late.

**FIRST (1ST) MONTH'S RENT:** The Tenant is required to pay the first (1st) month's rent: (check one)

- Upon the execution of this Agreement.
- Upon the first (1st) day of the Lease Term.

**PRE-PAYMENT:** The Tenant shall: (check one)

- Pre-Pay Rent in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the term starting on \_\_\_\_\_ and ending on \_\_\_\_\_. The Pre-Payment of Rent shall be due upon the execution of this Agreement.
- Not be required to Pre-Pay Rent.

**PRORATION PERIOD:** The Tenant: (check one)

- Shall take possession of the Premises before the start of the Lease Term on \_\_\_\_\_ and agrees to pay \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the proration period. The proration rate is calculated by the monthly Rent on a daily basis which shall be paid by the Tenant upon the execution of this Agreement.
- Shall not be taking possession of the Premises before the Lease Term.

**SECURITY DEPOSIT:** As part of this Agreement: (check one)

- The Landlord requires a payment in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ ("Security Deposit") for the faithful performance of the Tenant under the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Payment of

the Security Deposit is required by the Tenant upon the execution of this Agreement. The Security Deposit shall be returned to the Tenant within \_\_\_\_\_ days after the end of the Lease Term less any itemized deductions. This Security Deposit shall not be credited towards any Rent unless the Landlord gives their written consent.

- The Landlord does not require a Security Deposit as part of this Agreement.

**POSSESSION:** Tenant(s) has examined the condition of the Premises and by taking possession acknowledges that they have accepted the Premises in good order and in its current condition except as herein otherwise stated. Failure of the Landlord to deliver possession of the Premises at the start of the Lease Term to the Tenant(s) shall terminate this Agreement at the option of the Tenant(s). Furthermore, under such failure to deliver possession by the Landlord, and if the Tenant(s) cancels this Agreement, the Security Deposit (if any) shall be returned to the Tenant(s) along with any other pre-paid rent, fees, including if the Tenant(s) paid a fee during the application process before the execution of this Agreement.

**ACCESS:** Upon the beginning of the Proration Period or the start of the Lease Term, whichever is earlier, the Landlord agrees to give access to the Tenant(s) in the form of keys, fobs, cards, or any type of keyless security entry as needed to enter the common areas and the Premises. Duplicate copies of the access provided may only be authorized under the consent of the Landlord and, if any replacements are needed, the Landlord may provide them for a fee. At the end of this Agreement, all-access provided to the Tenant(s) shall be returned to the Landlord or a fee will be charged to the Tenant(s) or the fee will be subtracted from the Security Deposit.

**MOVE-IN INSPECTION:** Before, at the time of the Tenant accepting possession, or shortly thereafter, the Landlord and Tenant: (check one)

- Agree to inspect the Premises and write any present damages or needed repairs on a move-in checklist.

- Shall not inspect the Premises or complete a move-in checklist.

**SUBLETTING:** The Tenant(s) shall:

- Have the right to sub-let the Premises or any part thereof without the prior written consent of the Landlord.

- Have the right to sub-let the Premises or any part thereof only AFTER written consent from the landlord

- Does not have the right to sub-let the premises or any part thereof.

The Tenant(s) will be responsible for all actions and liabilities of the Sublessee including but not limited to: damage to the Premises, non-payment of rent, and any eviction process (In the event of an eviction, the Tenant(s) shall be responsible for all court filing fee(s), representation, and any other fee(s) associated with removing the Sublessee).

**ABANDONMENT:** If the Tenant(s) vacates or abandons the property for a time period that is the minimum set by State law or seven (7) days, whichever is less, the Landlord shall have the right to terminate this Agreement immediately and remove all belongings including any personal property off

of the Premises. If the Tenant(s) vacates or abandons the property, the Landlord shall immediately have the right to terminate this Agreement.

**ASSIGNMENT:** Tenant(s) shall not assign this Lease without the prior written consent of the Landlord. The consent by the Landlord to one assignment shall not be deemed to be consent to any subsequent assignment.

**PARKING:** The Landlord: (check one)

- Shall provide \_\_\_\_\_ parking space(s) to the Tenant for a fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to be paid
- at the execution of this Agreement
  - on a monthly basis in addition to the rent. The parking space(s) are described as:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Shall NOT provide parking.

**RIGHT OF ENTRY:** The Landlord shall have the right to enter the Premises during normal working hours by providing notice in accordance with the minimum State requirement in order for inspection, make necessary repairs, alterations or improvements, to supply services as agreed or for any reasonable purpose. The Landlord may exhibit the Premises to prospective purchasers, mortgagees, or lessees upon reasonable notice.

**SALE OF PROPERTY:** If the Premises is sold, the Tenant is to be notified of the new Owner, and if there is a new Manager, their contact details for repairs and maintenance shall be forwarded. If the Premises is conveyed to another party, the new owner: (check one)

- Has the right to terminate this Agreement by providing \_\_\_\_\_ days' notice to the Tenant.
- Does not have the right to terminate this Agreement.

**UTILITIES:** The Landlord shall provide the following utilities and services to the Tenant:

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Any other utilities or services not mentioned will be the responsibility of the Tenant.

**MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS, OR ALTERATIONS:** The Tenant(s) shall, at their own expense and at all times, maintain the Premises in a clean and sanitary manner, and shall surrender the same at termination hereof, in as good condition as received, normal wear and tear excepted. The Tenant(s) may not make any alterations to the Premises without the consent in writing of the Landlord. The Landlord shall be responsible for repairs to the interior and exterior of the building. If the Premises includes a washer, dryer, freezer, dehumidifier unit and/or air conditioning unit, the Landlord makes no warranty as to the repair or replacement of units if one or all shall fail to operate.

The Landlord will place fresh batteries in all battery-operated smoke detectors when the Tenant(s) moves into the Premises. After the initial placement of the fresh batteries, it is the responsibility of the Tenant(s) to replace batteries when needed. A monthly " cursory " inspection may be required for all fire extinguishers to make sure they are fully charged.

**EARLY TERMINATION:** The Tenant: (check one)

- Shall have the right to terminate this Agreement at any time by providing at least \_\_\_\_\_ days' written notice to the Landlord along with an early termination fee of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (US Dollars). During the notice period for termination the Tenant will remain responsible for the payment of rent.
- Shall not have the right to terminate this Agreement.

**PETS:** The Tenant: (check one)

- Shall have the right to have \_\_\_\_\_ pet(s) on the Premises consisting of \_\_\_\_\_ that are not to weigh over \_\_\_\_\_ pounds. For the right to have pet(s) on the Premises the Landlord shall charge a fee of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ that is  non-refundable  refundable unless there are damages related to the pet. The Tenant is responsible for all damage that any pet causes, regardless of ownership of said pet and agrees to restore the Premises to its original condition at their expense.
- Shall not have the right to have pets on the Premises or in the common areas.

**NOISE/WASTE:** The Tenant(s) agrees not to commit waste on the Premises, maintain, or permit to be maintained, a nuisance thereon, or use, or permit the Premises to be used, in an unlawful manner. The Tenant(s) further agrees to abide by any and all local, county, and State noise ordinances.

**GUESTS:** There shall be no other persons living on the Premises other than the Tenant(s) and any Occupant(s). Guests of the Tenant(s) are allowed for periods not lasting for more than 4 hours unless otherwise approved by the Landlord.

**SMOKING POLICY:** Smoking on the Premises is: (check one)

- Permitted ONLY in the following areas: \_\_\_\_\_
- Prohibited on the Premises and Common Areas.

**COMPLIANCE WITH LAW:** The Tenant(s) agrees that during the term of the Agreement, to promptly comply with any present and future laws, ordinances, orders, rules, regulations, and requirements of the Federal, State, County, City, and Municipal government or any of their departments, bureaus, boards, commissions, and officials thereof with respect to the Premises, or the use or occupancy thereof, whether said compliance shall be ordered or directed to or against the Tenant(s), the Landlord, or both.

**DEFAULT:** If the Tenant(s) fails to comply with any of the financial or material provisions of this Agreement, or of any present rules and regulations or any that may be hereafter prescribed by the Landlord, or materially fails to comply with any duties imposed on the Tenant(s) by statute or State laws, within the time period after delivery of written notice by the Landlord specifying the noncompliance and indicating the intention of the Landlord to terminate the Agreement by reason thereof, the Landlord may terminate this Agreement.

If the Tenant(s) fails to pay rent when due and the default continues for the time period specified in the written notice thereafter, the Landlord may, at their option, declare the entire balance (compiling all months applicable to this Agreement) of rent payable hereunder to be immediately due and payable and may exercise any and all rights and remedies available to the Landlord at law or in equity and may immediately terminate this Agreement.

The Tenant(s) will be in default if:

- (a) Tenant(s) does not pay rent or other amounts that are owed in accordance with respective State laws;
- (b) Tenant(s), their guests, or the Occupant(s) violate this Agreement, rules, or fire, safety, health, or criminal laws, regardless of whether arrest or conviction occurs;
- (c) Tenant(s) abandons the Premises;
- (d) Tenant(s) gives incorrect or false information in the rental application;
- (e) Tenant(s), or any Occupant(s) is arrested, convicted, or given deferred adjudication for a criminal offense involving actual or potential physical harm to a person, or involving possession, manufacture, or delivery of a controlled substance, marijuana, or drug paraphernalia under state statute;
- (f) any illegal drugs or paraphernalia are found in the Premises or on the person of the Tenant(s), guests, or Occupant(s) while on the Premises and/or;
- (g) as otherwise allowed by law.

**MULTIPLE TENANT(S) OR OCCUPANT(S):** Each individual that is considered a Tenant(s) is jointly and individually liable for all of this Agreement's obligations, including but not limited to rent monies. If any Tenant(s), guest, or Occupant(s) violates this Agreement, the Tenant(s) is considered to have violated this Agreement. Landlord's requests and notices to the Tenant(s) or any of the Occupant(s) of legal age constitutes notice to the Tenant(s).

Notices and requests from the Tenant(s) or anyone of the Occupant(s) (including repair requests and entry permissions) constitute notice from the Tenant(s). In eviction suits, the Tenant(s) is considered the agent of the Premise for the service of process.

**DISPUTES:** If a dispute arises during or after the term of this Agreement between the Landlord and Tenant(s), they shall agree to hold negotiations amongst themselves, in "good faith", before any litigation.

**SEVERABILITY:** If any provision of this Agreement or the application thereof shall, for any reason and to any extent, be invalid or unenforceable, neither the remainder of this Agreement nor the application of the provision to other persons, entities or circumstances shall be affected thereby, but instead shall be enforced to the maximum extent permitted by law.

**SURRENDER OF PREMISES:** The Tenant(s) has surrendered the Premises when (a) the move-out date has passed and no one is living in the Premise within the Landlord's reasonable judgment, or (b) Access to the Premise have been turned in to Landlord – whichever comes first. Upon the expiration of the term hereof, the Tenant(s) shall surrender the Premise in better or equal condition as it were at the commencement of this Agreement, reasonable use, wear and tear thereof, and damages by the elements excepted.

**RETALIATION:** The Landlord is prohibited from making any type of retaliatory acts against the Tenant(s) including but not limited to restricting access to the Premises, decreasing or cancelling services or utilities, failure to repair appliances or fixtures, or any other type of activity that could be considered unjustified.

**WAIVER:** A Waiver by the Landlord for a breach of any covenant or duty by the Tenant(s), under this Agreement is not a waiver for a breach of any other covenant or duty by the Tenant(s), or of any

subsequent breach of the same covenant or duty. No provision of this Agreement shall be considered waived unless such a waiver shall be expressed in writing as a formal amendment to this Agreement and executed by the Tenant(s) and Landlord.

**EQUAL HOUSING:** If the Tenant(s) possess(es) any mental or physical impairment, the Landlord shall provide reasonable modifications to the Premises unless the modifications would be too difficult or expensive for the Landlord to provide. Any impairment of the Tenant(s) is/are encouraged to be provided and presented to the Landlord in writing in order to seek the most appropriate route for providing the modifications to the Premises.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:** The Tenant(s) agrees to not possess any type of personal property that could be considered a fire hazard such as a substance having flammable or explosive characteristics on the Premises. Items that are prohibited to be brought into the Premises, other than for everyday cooking or the need of an appliance, includes but is not limited to gas (compressed), gasoline, fuel, propane, kerosene, motor oil, fireworks, or any other related content in the form of a liquid, solid, or gas.

**WATERBEDS:** The Tenant: (check one)

- Shall have the right to use a waterbed on the Premises.
- Shall not have the right to use a waterbed on the Premises

**INDEMNIFICATION:** The Landlord shall not be liable for any damage or injury to the Tenant(s), or any other person, or to any property, occurring on the Premises, or any part thereof, or in common areas thereof, and the Tenant(s) agrees to hold the Landlord harmless from any claims or damages unless caused solely by the Landlord's negligence. It is recommended that renter's insurance be purchased at the Tenant(s)'s expense.

**COVENANTS:** The covenants and conditions herein contained shall apply to and bind the heirs, legal representatives, and assigns of the parties hereto, and all covenants are to be construed as conditions of this Agreement.

**NOTICES:** Any notice to be sent by the Landlord or the Tenant to each other shall use the following addresses:

Landlord's / Agent's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tenant's Mailing Address: (check one)

- The Premises.
- Other. \_\_\_\_\_

**AGENT/MANAGER:** (check one)

- The Landlord does have a manager on the Premises that can be contacted for any maintenance or repair at:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- The Landlord does not have a manager on the Premises although the Landlord can be contacted for any maintenance or repair at:

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**PREMISES DEEMED UNINHABITABLE:** If the Property is deemed uninhabitable due to damage beyond reasonable repair the Tenant(s) will be able to terminate this Agreement by written notice to the Landlord. If said damage was due to the negligence of the Tenant(s), the Tenant(s) shall be liable to the Landlord for all repairs and for the loss of income due to restoring the Premises back to a livable condition in addition to any other losses that can be proved by the Landlord.

**SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT:** In the event, the Tenant(s) is or hereafter becomes, a member of the United States Armed Forces on extended active duty and hereafter the Tenant(s) receives permanent change of station (PCS) orders to depart from the area where the Premises are located, or is relieved from active duty, retires or separates from the military, is ordered into military housing, or receives deployment orders, then in any of these events, the Tenant may terminate this lease upon giving thirty (30) days written notice to the Landlord.

The Tenant shall also provide to the Landlord a copy of the official orders or a letter signed by the Tenant's commanding officer, reflecting the change which warrants termination under this clause. The Tenant will pay prorated rent for any days in which he/she occupies the dwelling past the beginning of the rental period.

The damage/security deposit will be promptly returned to Tenant, provided there are no damages to the Premises.

**LEAD PAINT:** (check one)

- The Premises was built prior to 1978 and there is an attachment titled the 'Lead-Based Paint Disclosure' that must be initialed and signed by the Landlord and Tenant.

- The Premises was not built prior to 1978.

**GOVERNING LAW:** This Agreement is to be governed under the laws located in the State of Montana.

Upon the execution of this Lease the Landlord and Tenant(s) agree to compensate the above-mentioned Real Estate Agent as agreed upon in their separate written agreement.



**ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** In addition to the above-stated terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Landlord and Tenant agree to the following:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**ENTIRE AGREEMENT:** This Agreement contains all the terms agreed to by the parties relating to its subject matter including any attachments or addendums. This Agreement replaces all previous discussions, understandings, and oral agreements. The Landlord and Tenant(s) agree to the terms and conditions and shall be bound until the end of the Lease Term.

The parties have agreed and executed this agreement on \_\_\_\_\_.

**LANDLORD(S) SIGNATURE**

**Landlord's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**TENANT(S) SIGNATURE**

**Tenant's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# AMOUNT (\$) DUE AT SIGNING

Security Deposit: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

First (1st) Month's Rent: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Parking Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Pet Fee(s): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Payment of Rent: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Proration Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Lead-Based Paint Disclosure

Disclosure of Information on Lead-Based Paint and/or Lead-Based Paint Hazards Lead Warning Statement Housing built before 1978 may contain lead-based paint. Lead from paint, paint chips, and dust can pose health hazards if not managed properly. Lead exposure is especially harmful to young children and pregnant women. Before renting pre-1978 housing, lessors must disclose the presence of known lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the dwelling. Lessees must also receive a federally approved pamphlet on lead poisoning prevention.

### Lessor's Disclosure

(a) Presence of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards

(check (i) or (ii) below)

(i) \_\_\_\_\_ Known lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards are present in the housing (explain). \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_ Lessor has no knowledge of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing.

(b) Records and reports available to the lessor

(check (i) or (ii) below)

(i) \_\_\_\_\_ Lessor has provided the lessee with all available records and reports pertaining to lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing (list documents below).

\_\_\_\_\_  
(ii) \_\_\_\_\_ Lessor has no reports or records pertaining to lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing.

Lessee's Acknowledgment (initial)

(c) \_\_\_\_\_ Lessee has received copies of all information listed above.

(d) \_\_\_\_\_ Lessee has received the pamphlet Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home.

Agent's Acknowledgment (if any) (initial)

(e) \_\_\_\_\_ Agent has informed the lessor of the lessor's obligations under 42 U.S.C. 4852(d) and is aware of his/her responsibility to ensure compliance.

Certification of Accuracy The following parties have reviewed the information above and certify, to the best of their knowledge, that the information they have provided is true and accurate.

Tenant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## **AGREEMENT TO GUARANTEE THIS LEASE**

In consideration of the execution of the Agreement by and between Landlord and Tenant(s) and for valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter known as the "Guarantor(s)", hereby unconditionally guarantee to Landlord and Landlord's agents, successors and assigns, the prompt payment of rent or other sums that become due pursuant to this Agreement, including any and all court costs and attorney fees included in enforcing the Agreement and consent to any changes, modifications or alterations of any term in this Agreement agreed to by Landlord and Tenant along with waiving any rights to require Landlord and/or Landlord's agents to proceed against the Tenant(s) for any default occurring under this Agreement before seeking to enforce this Guarantee.

Guarantor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_