

May 25, 2021  
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Testimony-FY 2022  
City Council Taxpayers Night

Members of the Council:

My Name is Jo-Ann Orlinsky and I have lived in Baltimore City for more than 60 years. I have lived in Mt. Vernon, Bolton Hill and for the last 31 years in Tuscan Canterbury in District 14. Several of you know that I have been active in city campaigns and on issues of concern to the entire Baltimore Community.

Today I come to you to talk about reconfiguring the priorities in the budget for things that provide more assistance for our neighborhoods. For several years I have been involved in working on Right to Counsel. My thanks to you for all you have done to make this law a reality. Now it is time to implement it. Next year's budget needs to include an item to create an account to fund the beginnings of funding or grants to the organizations which have been willing to participate in providing counsel to those in rent court facing evictions. I know you are all aware of the ludicrous statistics and the necessity for this to be accomplished, so I won't take up your valuable time to go into them again. Baltimore City cannot continue to be the eviction capitol of the country.

Thank you for your consideration.