Section 8 and Subsidized Housing Part 01: Introduction

A safe, comfortable, and affordable home is part of the foundation of the American Dream. In California today, though, housing is often beyond the reach of many. That's why there are programs which can help people who can't quite afford to keep a roof over their heads.

This series of short, informational videos is designed to help you make sense of housing assistance programs. We'll review different types of public housing, your rights, and what happens when something goes wrong.

Part 1 is this introduction. Part 2 will give you a general overview of Subsidized Housing. Part 3 will provide information on Evictions and Terminations, what they are, and what your rights are in both situations. Part 4 will tell you about the Informal Review and Hearing Process. Part 5 will cover Tenant Rights under Section 8 of the Federal Housing Act. You can watch all of these videos, or just those with information on the subject that you need.

It's important to note that these videos will include legal information, not legal advice. Legal advice can only come from an attorney, but legal information like these videos and like the information you can get at your local court's Self-Help Center can help you know what your rights are, and what steps you can take to protect your rights. These videos are designed as an overview -- as a starting point as you make your way through the legal system.

You can get links to more information on subsidized housing from the California Courts website at www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-section8.