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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 21, 2020**

**\$1.1 Million Settlement Secured for Low-Income Latinx Families Threatened  
with Eviction in a Rapidly Gentrifying Westlake Neighborhood**

***Inner City Law Center and Kendall Brill & Kelly Attorneys Negotiate Payments for Renters in  
Case Filed Against Property-flipping Landlords***

**LOS ANGELES** – Inner City Law Center and Kendall Brill & Kelly attorneys announced today a settlement of approximately \$1.1 million with several corporate landlords and a former property manager who failed to provide habitable housing and tried to force long-term, low-income Latinx families out of an apartment building in a gentrifying neighborhood within walking distance of Silverlake and Echo Park.

The settlement provides compensation for the residents who have endured uninhabitable housing conditions and ensures the families can continue to live in the building. Built in 1926, the building is in a prized neighborhood because of its proximity to Los Angeles' increasingly expensive northeast neighborhoods.

Under the Los Angeles Municipal Code, a landlord must provide housing that meets minimum habitability standards and follow strict procedures when seeking to relocate tenants to make improvements to a property. When the landlords failed to follow these rules, the lawsuit was filed on behalf of the residents.

“We were so pleased to be able to resolve this lawsuit so that these families – many of whom have lived here for many years – can be sure they will continue to have a home and receive payments for the many difficulties they faced as a result of the actions of their landlords,” said Shauna E. Woods, an attorney at Kendall Brill & Kelly, which represented the tenants on a *pro bono* basis. “This result would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of Inner City Law Center, which so critically serves our city’s most in need. The Center’s attorneys and staff were invaluable in the defense of our clients, directly participating in the legal proceedings and working hand-in-hand with our clients.”

Kendall Brill & Kelly Attorneys Philip Kelly and Meaghan Lert also represented the 20 clients named in the lawsuit who live in seven units in the building. The settlement in the case is subject to court approval.

“We appreciate the help of Kendall Brill & Kelly in litigating this important case and helping us to reach an agreement that will benefit our clients and, hopefully, send a message to other landlords that they must follow the City ordinances governing renovations of rental properties and provide safe, clean and workable housing for their tenants,” said Tai Glenn, Inner City Law Center chief counsel and director of legal services.

#### **About Inner City Law Center**

Inner City Law Center is a nonprofit law firm providing legal representation for the most vulnerable individuals and families in Los Angeles who have nowhere else to turn. As the only legal services provider headquartered on Skid Row, Inner City Law Center focuses on combating slum housing, preventing homelessness, and aiding homeless veterans. For more information, please visit [www.InnerCityLaw.org](http://www.InnerCityLaw.org).

#### **About Kendall Brill & Kelly**

Kendall Brill & Kelly LLP is a Los Angeles based litigation boutique serving top-tier clients with the depth of legal experience rarely found in any firm. Its attorneys routinely litigate alongside and against the very top firms in Los Angeles and around the country, combining the highest standards of advocacy with a tenacious commitment to achieving the best possible solutions for our clients. As a result, KBK is regularly retained by high-profile clients to perform cutting edge legal work in high-stakes litigation, including entertainment and media litigation, intellectual property litigation, complex commercial litigation, legal malpractice defense, employment litigation, white collar defense, internal corporate investigations, and appellate advocacy. For more information, please visit [www.KBKfirm.com](http://www.KBKfirm.com).