**Text

Description automatically generated with low confidence**

Congratulations {{ users[0].name.full() }}! You have completed the tool to write a Do-It-Yourself Letter to Landlord to get back your security deposit.

## Next steps

1. Sign the letter above your name at the bottom of the page.
2. If you included other tenants in the letter, have them sign above their names at the bottom of the page.

## When do I send my letter?

{% if (vacation\_date + timedelta(days=30) > today()) %}Because it has not been 30 days since you moved out, the date shown on your letter will be {{ letter\_date }}. **Do not send your letter before that date!** {% else %}Send your letter as soon as possible. {% endif %}

## How do I send my letter?

Read over the letter below one more time. Make sure everything is correct. Then, you can send it in **one of two ways**:

1. You can send your letter by **certified mail** with a **return receipt**;
2. You can send your letter by **regular mail** (you will not receive any return receipt).

## Why send the letter by **certified** mail?

When you send certified mail, you get a **return** **receipt**. This receipt proves that {{ other\_parties }} got your letter. But, sending a letter this way can cause a **delay** before {{ other\_parties }} gets the letter because {{ other\_parties }} (or someone who works for {{ other\_parties }}) has to receive it **in person**. The mail carrier cannot leave it in {{ other\_parties }}’s mailbox.

## How do I send **certified** mail?

You should take your letter to the **post office** and fill out the forms for this kind of delivery. There will be an **extra charge**. Once your letter has been delivered, you will get a **green postcard** (the return receipt) in the mail. **Keep that green postcard** as proof that your landlord got your letter.

## What happens if {{ other\_parties }} does not accept the letter?

If {{ other\_parties }} **does not** accept the letter, the post office will mail it back to you. You should **keep** this returned letter in case you need to prove that you ***tried*** to send the letter to {{ other\_parties }}. You should also then send another copy of your letter to your landlord by regular mail.

## What happens if {{ other\_parties }} still does not return my deposit?

If {{ other\_parties }} **does not** return your security deposit within two weeks of getting your letter and it has been at least 45 days after you moved out, you can sue. You can ask for two times the amount of the security deposit that your landlord kept. For example, if your landlord kept your whole deposit and your security deposit was $1,500, you can sue for $3,000. If your landlord kept $1,200 of a $1,500 deposit, you can sue for $2,400. Read [Going to Court to Get Your Deposit Back](https://michiganlegalhelp.org/resources/housing/your-security-deposit-what-it-and-how-get-it-back#going-to-court-to-get-your-deposit-back) to learn more about filing a lawsuit to get back what you are owed.