

## OCCUPY BERNAL PROTESTS HOME AUCTION -- 20 JANUARY 2012

1:45 p.m. SAN FRANCISCO CITY HALL STEPS, VAN NESS SIDE

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# DON'T EVICT OUR NEIGHBORS

Maria and Washington Davila have lived at 4255 Folsom Street in Bernal Heights for seven years. They rent a beautiful, modern home with their two Yorkie terriers, Vivo and Princess, and have a great relationship with their landlady. Maria and Washington have paid their rent on time without fail during their entire tenancy; now they face eviction because the home is in foreclosure.

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### The Human Face

Maria and Washington joined Occupy Bernal two weeks ago, when two members of the group knocked on their door to offer help. Since then, the couple and members of Occupy Bernal have communicated frequently by phone with the owner of the home and with her attorney, to develop a strategy to prevent the Davilas from being evicted and return the home to Mrs. Yambao.

“I want to help the owner because she is sick, she has cancer,” Maria said, speaking through a translator. “I have a special interest in helping her because she is very nice, and I don’t want another owner.”

Washington works as a delivery truck driver, and Maria loves to cook Peruvian food. They love Bernal for its parks, quietness, and good neighbors.

“Why should a bank like Wells Fargo be able to throw us out of our beautiful home,” Maria said, “just to make even more money?”

### The Foreclosure of 4255 Folsom

Las Vegas resident Felisa Yambao, the owner of 4255 Folsom, lives in Las Vegas and is suffering from cancer. She calls the Davilas wonderful tenants. Mrs. Yambao has lost one home already, after a bank foreclosed on a house she owned in Vallejo, CA. Wells Fargo foreclosed on her home at 4255 Folsom last year, after Mrs. Yambao fell into default on her mortgage. An auction date for December 2011 was postponed to today -- January 20, 2012. Mrs. Yambao told Occupy Bernal that she was unaware that her property was scheduled for auction today until she was notified by the organization and her tenants.

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### Fair Tenancy -- No Eviction

Occupy Bernal has the following demands:

- 1) that Wells Fargo refuse to sell to any buyer who intends to evict the tenants in order to re-sell the home.
  - 2) that Wells Fargo cancel the auction unless and until they can guarantee that any investor who buys the home will maintain the tenancy of Maria and Washington at a fair rent, subject to rent control.
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