Section 15
Changing or rekeying of the dwelling unit lock.

- After a unit has been vacated, and before a new tenant takes possession of the unit, the landlord must change or rekey the unit. "Change or rekey" means:
  - Replacing the lock
  - Replacing the locking or cylinder mechanism in the lock so that a different key is used to unlock the lock
  - Changing the combination on a combination or digital lock
  - Changing an electronic lock so that the means or method of unlocking the lock is changed from the immediately prior tenant
  - Otherwise changing the means of gaining access to the former tenant's unit so that it is not identical to the new tenant's means of gaining access to the locked unit

- The provisions of this amendment do not apply to an apartment building with four (4) units or less when one of the units is occupied by the owner or when the rental of a room in a private home is owner-occupied
- This provision only applies to counties having a population of more than 3,000,000 which in Illinois applies to Cook County
- If a landlord does not change or rekey the lock as stated in the amended Act, and a theft occurs at that dwelling unit that is attributable to the landlord’s failure to change or rekey the lock, the landlord is liable for any damages from the theft that occurs as a result of the landlord’s failure to comply

Call your locksmith to assist you with compliance!