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Q & A

The Parking Meter Will Keep Running

Q *My wife and I are rent-stabilized tenants. Included in our lease is a parking spot in the building's garage. Our car was recently stolen and we might not replace it. Must we pay for the spot until our current lease expires?*

A "Yes, the writer must pay for the parking space until the end of the current rent-stabilized lease term," and may even have to continue to pay for the space under a renewal lease, said Thomas P. Higgins, a landlord-tenant lawyer in Manhattan. He noted, however, that since parking spaces are usually in high demand, the landlord might allow the writer to give up the space immediately. "It's worth asking," he said.