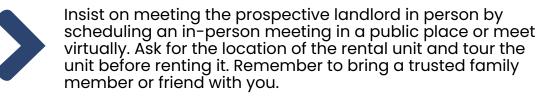


HELP PROTECT YOURSELF FROM IMPOSTER LANDLORDS



Use an Internet search engine to look up the prospective rental address. It may already be listed by a legitimate landlord on a different website. You can also conduct a reverse image search of prospective rental property photos. This search will determine if the photos are present elsewhere on the Internet.

If you are renting a government-subsidized unit (such as a unit advertised as a "voucher" or "section 8" unit), contact your local public housing authority at the phone number or email address listed on their public website to verify the landlord before sending money, documentation, or rental forms.

Pay your rent with a check, money order, or other verifiable means to track the money. Avoid using cash, gift cards, or other forms of payment. Keep a copy of the check or money order and ask for a receipt as a record of your payment. Never give a landlord a blank check or blank money order.

Report fraud schemes involving public housing or other HUD-funded government programs or benefits, by contacting the HUD OIG Hotline at 1-800-347-3735 or visit, https://www.hudoig.gov/hotline.

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