

Safety Tips for Rental Property Scams on Craig's List

- Understand that fraudulent activity is taking place with items sold/rented through Craig's list.
- Your risks are greatly reduced by renting property through a Realtor or Property Management company.
- If you choose to rent property through a Craig's list advertisement, here are some tips from investigators to reduce your risk:
 1. Realize that people may not be who they are presenting themselves to be.
 2. Do not send any money without meeting with the rep at the property.
 3. Verify this person has a key to the house.
 4. Check with the County Assessor's Office for owner information.
 5. Meet with the owner or person renting property.
 - a. Ask if they are the owner/ only rent property from owner or legitimate management company (verify).
 6. If they claim to be the owner, ask them about the property and neighborhood (questions a legitimate owner/ resident would know).
 7. Do not send or give cash.
 - a. Checks provide a paper trail for investigators.
 8. Talk to neighbors to see if there has been unusual activity at the house.
 9. Report any suspicious activity to the Police Department and Craig's List.