

# RENTAL SCAM ALERT!!!!

The City of Platteville and UW-Platteville campus continue to be a target for rental scams, with college students who advertise sublets frequently being targeted.

Please follow these simple common-sense rules to avoid being a victim:

- Deal locally with people you can meet in person.
- Do not respond to inquiries from anyone who wants to rent your property and send you money without seeing the property first.
- Fake *Cashier Checks and Money Orders* are common.

You may receive a deposit that is for more than the required amount.

The renter may ask you to deposit the check and return the excess money to them.

If this happens to you, **DO NOT DEPOSIT CHECK – DO NOT SEND OR RETURN MONEY!!!!**

Banks will cash these and then hold you responsible when fraud is discovered weeks later.

## NEVER GIVE OUT FINANCIAL INFORMATION!!!

### WHO SHOULD YOU NOTIFY ABOUT FRAUD OR SCAM ATTEMPTS?

If you feel suspicious that a potential tenant may be attempting a scam, request that the bank/post office investigate and/or contact the following:

- FTC toll free hotline: 877-FTC-HELP (877-382-4357)
- FTC online complaint form ([www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov))
- Internet Fraud Complaint Center ([www.ic3.gov/](http://www.ic3.gov/))
- Non-emergency number for **your local police department**.