

# **HOUSING SCAM**

It has come to our attention that several landlords have been contacted by people posing as international students/visiting scholars/faculty.

*Typically, the scam works like this:*

- ❖ Tenant expresses urgency in completing rental agreement & agrees to send a check/money order for the cost of the rental **ASAP**.
- ❖ Tenant sends a counterfeit check/money order for more money than is needed and requests the landlord send them the balance.
- ❖ Tenant states that they're planning to use the balance to purchase their plane ticket, furniture or another urgent cause and asks the landlord to send the money **ASAP**.
- ❖ Upon initial deposit, the bank accepts the counterfeits but contacts the landlord within a couple of days and notifies them that the check/money order was fake.

## **IF THIS HAPPENS TO YOU**

**DO NOT SEND OR RETURN MONEY** until the check or money order has had ample time to clear.

If you feel suspicious that a potential tenant may be attempting a scam, request that the bank/post office investigate.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE OF THIS WARNING AND BE SUSPICIOUS OF ANYONE CONTACTING YOU WITH SIMILAR REQUESTS.**