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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE

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Craigslist Scammers Target Homes for Sale

August 12, 2017 – The Dane County Sheriff's Office wants to alert renters to be aware of a continuing Craigslist scam, recently attempted in the Town of Medina.

A man listed his home for sale and a potential renter showed up, believing the property was available. The renter saw the posting on Craigslist, believing she was going to tour a long-term, potential rental. No money was lost and the alert citizens reported the attempted scam to law enforcement.

The Dane County Sheriff's Office reminds everyone, the goal of the scammers is to get a potential renter to complete an application, gaining crucial personal information. Often, there is also a request for a monetary deposit, even if the home has not been toured. Be cautious about sharing personal information online and follow these tips:

Do not pay a security deposit or first month's rent by prepaid debit card or wiring money, there is no way to get it back.

Be suspicious of deals sounding too good to be true, including promises of low rent or great amenities, not found anywhere else for the price.

See the property for yourself, not just the outside.

Search online for the same advertisement in other cities, often scammers will list rentals in other cities for lower rent than the actual listing.

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