



# Isle of Palms Police Department



Public Service Announcement

## RENTAL SCAMS – August 2015

**The Isle of Palms Police Department wants to inform the public that there have been several scams associated with fake rental listings here on the island. Please be extra vigilant when searching for vacation rentals.**

-Never wire money to pay a security deposit, application fee, or rental fee, even with a contract. Wiring money is the same as sending cash – once you send it, you have no way to get it back.

-Make sure the address actually exists.

-Paying with a credit card or through a reputable vacation website with its own payment system is your safest bet.

**If you find yourself the target of a rental scam, report it to your local law enforcement agency or contact the Isle of Palms Police Department (843)886-6522.**

For more information:

<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0079-rental-listing-scams>