

Zopelis, Meg

From: suchitarshah@gmail.com on behalf of Suchita Shah [shah2@wisc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 05, 2008 7:49 AM
To: Zopelis, Meg
Subject: In support of Ald. Judge's Photo Ordinance

Hello,

I am writing to voice my support for Alderman Eli Judge's Photo Ordinance. I am a student at UW-Madison, involved with ASM, the student government, and I am a renter myself. All tenants, not just students, will benefit from this ordinance.

During the mass commotion of the August 14/15 apartment turnover, both renters and landlords are in a rush to get out and get in. Details such as damage may be overlooked by either party, only for one to notice them later and the other to claim no recollection of it. With photo documentation, landlords will be protected from protracted legal battles, while renters will be able to question the claims or be held accountable. Without this basic evidence, I have seen this battle between renters and landlords turn into a classic he-said/she-said fiasco, with neither side knowing the exact truth.

I will not be able to attend this evening's meeting due to my class schedule. However, I would appreciate it if the committee member's would be able to see or hear my comments in support of this photo ordinance.

Thank you,
Suchita Shah

40 N Orchard St
Madison, WI 53715
shah2@wisc.edu
608-397-7884

3/5/2008

Zopelis, Meg

From: Brian Munson [BMunson@vandewalle.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 05, 2008 1:09 PM
To: Zopelis, Meg
Subject: Photo Ordinance

Meg,

While I will not be able to attend tonight's meeting due to meeting conflicts, I did want to pass on my support for the photo ordinance and urge the committee to pass a positive recommendation.

This ordinance will give both renters and landlords accurate accounting of the conditions that result in retention of a security deposit. While this ordinance will take some getting used to on behalf of the landlords, once implemented it can easily be integrated into the check-in/check out process and with the ease of digital photos and storage it should not represent a significant burden.

Please pass this message along to committee at tonight's meeting.

Thank you,

Brian Munson
Principal
Vandewalle & Associates, Inc.
120 East Lakeside Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53726
Tel: 608.255.3988
Fax: 608.255.0814

Zopelis, Meg

From: ralb82@gmail.com on behalf of RAUL ALEJANDRO LEON [rleon@wisc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 05, 2008 3:11 PM
To: Zopelis, Meg
Subject: Landlord Ordinance

Hello Meg,

I will not be able to attend the meeting. However, I definitely support the ordinance that requires landlords to take photos of any damage that they are deducting from a tenant's security deposit to fix. I think that as students, many of us are charged with damages and cleaning fees for things that were damages and dirty in the first place.

Thanks,

Raul

Raul A. Leon
M.I.P.A International Public Affairs. "The Robert M. La Follette School of Public Affairs"
Ph.D. Candidate. Department of Education Leadership and Policy Analysis
The University of Wisconsin - Madison

Tel. (320)493 6581

" Do not remind me that it takes a whole village to educate a child, if you can not recognize that it will take the whole world to educate yourself. " Raul Leon, 2007

Zopelis, Meg

From: Samantha Jo Ziesemer [sziesemer@wisc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 05, 2008 11:31 AM
To: Zopelis, Meg
Cc: Eli Judge
Subject: Photo Ordinance

To Ms. Zopelis, and Members of the Housing Committee,

As a senior at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, I would like to take this time to express my support for the photo ordinance, sponsored by Ald. Judge, that is coming before you this evening.

Not only would this photo ordinance protect student interests when it comes to renting off-campus property, it would also improve relations between the students and their landlords. I have rented for the past three years now, and for the most part have been quite fortunate with the level of consideration I have received from my landlords at the end of my lease. However, I have countless friends who have been much less fortunate. Being charged hundreds or thousands of dollars for damages that they assert were not at their hands, yet having no recourse to challenge these claims, is simply unjust. This photo ordinance would provide a means to alleviate these types of conflicts. On behalf of many renting students who would be extremely grateful, I urge you all to vote in favor of the proposed photo ordinance.

Thank you,

Samantha Ziesemer
Senior Class Vice-President

Zopelis, Meg

From: Troy Vosseller [troy@sconnie.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 05, 2008 2:33 PM
To: Zopelis, Meg
Subject: Landlord Photo Ordinance

Meg,

As a Madison resident, student and business owner, I am pledging my support for the proposed ordinance that requires landlords to take

pictures of damage before deducting from tenants' security deposits.

I have lived with both good and bad landlords, yet the process of security deposit deductions is a closed door, black box mystery. By making the process documented and out in the open all parties will benefit. Tenants will have more respect for their landlords and landlords will be more liked by their tenants. In addition, landlords will prevent themselves from opening up to potential liability by lying about deposit deductions. Furthermore, requiring landlords to take pictures is not an undue burden. If they are already going to assess the damage, fix the problems, or contract the work out, then taking pictures of said damage is no burden in my mind.

In the spirit of open disclosure I support this ordinance.

Sincerely,
Troy

Troy Vosseller
Sconnie Nation LLC
Co-Founder
608-556-3112
PO Box 2537
Madison, WI 53701
troy@sconnie.com