

## Follow-up on this week's column about rental scams:

No sooner had today's column been published than I got the following email about another listing of mine being scammed. I have omitted Kayte's last name and email address to protect her privacy. Notice that the scammer looked for the owner's name (Ben Veldkamp) on public records and obtained a yahoo.com email address based on his name to sound more realistic:

Hi Jim,

Here is another property listed of yours for rent on craigslist. Sorry that this is happening to you.

Kayte

---

Date: Thu, 17 Jun 2010 02:36:59 -0700  
From: veldkampben@yahoo.com  
Subject: Re: Single-Family Home4Bedrooms for rent!!!  
To: kayte

Hello

I can see you are interested in the ad I have pasted, I am currently in West Africa where I work as a volunteer with the THE SOUTH & WEST AFRICA MISSION (SWAM), here is the site for more details about why I am here in Africa (<http://www.swa-ministry.com/>). I spent less time in the States so I could not get a hold on any Realtor to handle this rent issue, although it was when I knew how long we are going to stay in Africa that I decided to rent out the house. However, the initial plan was to sell out the house. which I tried, but sometimes the agents inflates the price and it takes longer to sell i am telling you this in case you find the house on another website, that is

the old advert So I need a tenant to take care of it but since I am out of the state now, I have received some proposals regarding the rent because it is located in a very good area of Lakewood, but I still have to make sure it is rented out to someone who can take good care of it. It includes facilities such as water and heat laundry facilities, air condition, internet and telephone access and a car park and other necessary facilities, also comes with trash collection, pets are allowed as well as long as they are not destructive. So if you know you are capable of the task, get back to me so that I can provide you with some questions that I would want you to answer. Below is the location.  
**12200 West 18th Drive,  
Lakewood CO**

Ben M Veldkamp Jr

--- On **Wed, 6/16/10, Kayte** wrote:

From: Kayte  
Subject: Single-Family Home4Bedrooms for rent!!!  
To: veldkampben@yahoo.com  
Date: Wednesday, June 16, 2010, 8:32 PM

Hi there,

I am interested in your home. What is the address of this house? Also, are the terms/rental amount negotiable?

Thanks  
Kayte

**Later on Thursday, Kayte told me about another address being scammed. This one, 1417 Monroe Street, Denver, was not a home for sale. It is on trulia.com as a rental only. Again, that scammer obtained a yahoo.com email address based on the actual seller's name. Pretty pathetic, isn't it?**