



NEWS RELEASE

INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SACRAMENTO HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY WARNS OF SCAM TO SELL HOUSING VOUCHERS

Sacramento, CA | Officials at Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency are warning people to beware of a scam that promises a housing voucher in return for depositing money into a Green Dot account.

Housing Authority officials say the caller falsely claims to be a representative of SHRA and instructs the person to use the Green Dot wire transfer service to send \$250-\$350 for a move-in deposit or to receive a voucher. Once the funds are received, the caller contacts the sender and tells them to confirm an appointment with the Housing Authority.

“Unfortunately, people find out too late that there is no appointment and the hard lesson learned here is that we do not charge a fee to apply for housing or to receive a voucher,” said La Shelle Dozier, SHRA Executive Director. “This scam is being perpetrated on people who can least afford to lose hundreds of dollars for something that they desperately need.”

Housing Authority officials advise anyone who feels they have been a victim of this scam to report it to the City or County law enforcement agency where they used the Green Dot wire transfer service.

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SHRA (www.shra.org) is a Joint Powers Authority created by the City and County of Sacramento to represent both jurisdictions for affordable housing and community redevelopment needs. The Agency is the leading public developer of affordable housing and oversees residential and commercial revitalization activities in 14 redevelopment areas throughout the City and County. SHRA has a FY 2013 budget of \$169 million and 253 employees. The Agency owns and manages 3,144 units of public housing and is one of the largest landlords in Sacramento. SHRA also administers approximately 11,500 rental assisted vouchers per month.