

# **Short-Term Rentals Update**

Tuesday, March 4, 2025 General Government and Planning Committee





## **Short-Term Rental Ordinance and Policy Timeline**

- Short-Term Rental (STR) Ordinance passed July 11, 2023.
  - There was a 6-month grace period for STR Operators to register existing units.
- In January 2024, the Division of Revenue began identification, investigation and enforcement of non-compliant operators.
  - An RFP was issued for short-term rental compliance and Granicus was selected.
- The Compliance Hotline was launched in late 2024.
- The Short-Term Rental Ordinance was amended December 5, 2024.
- On January 31, 2025, all short-term rental licensees were required to renew their special fees license.





# **STR Compliance**







## **STR Compliance**

- 979 Current Listings
  - 1290 when software went live
- 16 total citations issued
  - 14 unlicensed violations; 2 nuisance violations
  - One \$1,000 citation successfully appealed
  - \$7,000 outstanding
  - \$4750 of citations paid
- 4 properties are up for citation currently
- 78 properties recently identified and have received an initial notice





#### **STR Renewals**

- Short-term rentals are a regulated license that must be renewed annually by January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Failure to renew results in revocation of the license with the Division of Revenue and zoning compliance.
- Extra steps were taken to notify operators of the renewal:
  - 2 letters to the mailing address for the licensee.
  - Requested outreach from AirBnB to licensees.
  - Direct outreach (phone or email) by Division of Revenue staff.
- Mail delays from January 2025 winter storms:
  - Revenue was still receiving renewal packets sent before the January 31, 2025 deadline as late as February 21, 2025.





#### **STR Renewals**

- Renewal is \$200/year for the first STR unit. Additional \$100/year per additional unit
  - 438 initial properties \$87,600
  - 274 additional properties \$27,400
  - 712 total properties
  - Total \$115,000 in revenue from renewals





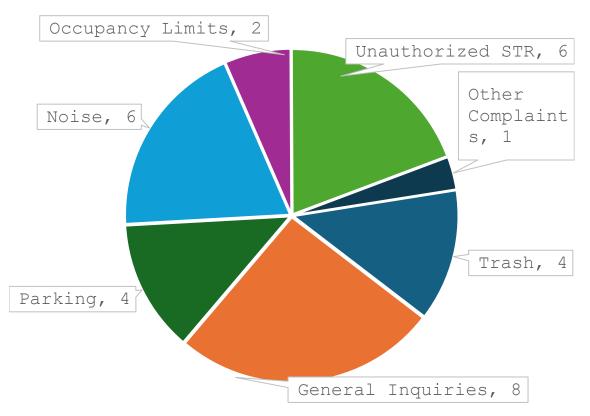
- The hotline is a 24/7 phone line. Answered through a call center connected to the Granicus Host Compliance software.
- Complaints may be submitted through an online form.
  - Pictures and videos can be uploaded to help support the complaint.
- The hotline provides the ability to automatically alert the emergency contact of the property and the non-emergency number for the Lexington Police Department if requested by the complainant.





### **Hotline Calls**

Number of STR Hotline Calls



- Total valid calls 31 calls November 14 Present
  - Trash 4 calls
  - General Inquiries 8 calls
  - Parking 4 calls
  - Noise 6 calls
  - Occupancy Limits 2 calls
  - Unauthorized STR 6 calls
  - Other Complaints 1 call
- Disclaimer: Valid calls do not mean that complaints were substantiated, only that they warranted investigation.







# You got a new Short-term Rental Hotline call!

This is the 1st report for this address.

We wanted to let you know that we just received a new call on the Short-term Rental Hotline. You'll find the details below.

#### Listen to call recording

#### **Call Details**

Call ID

0b740ea390a24eeaa0d2ab0d52db8d02 **Call Time** 30/01/2025 02:42:09 PM (America/New\_York)

Caller Name (Caller's Callback #

Property's Contact Person Called None Property's Contact Person's # None

#### Reported Issue Details

Reported Address Lexington, Kentucky

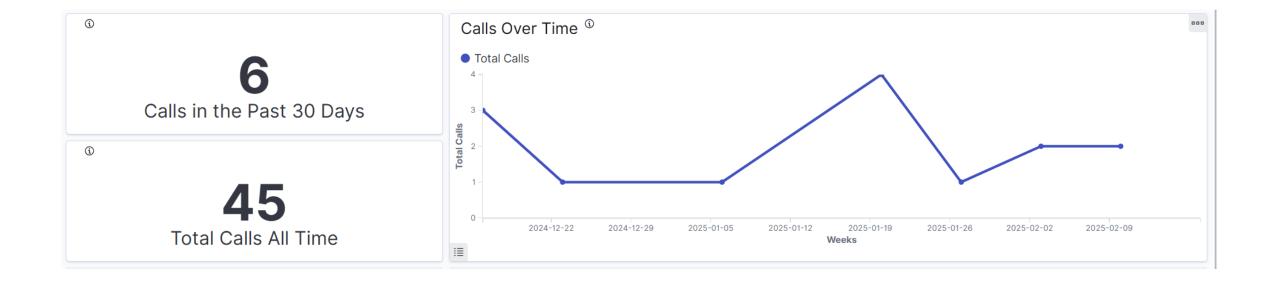
Reported Issue Details general: Trying to pay short term rental via online process and need to know what his business account number is.

Permit/Registration # None

Please check the hotline listing, evidence may have been uploaded for the Tip/Complaint.











Call 859-710-9048

Or visit

https://secure.hostcompliance.com/lexington-fayette-urban-county-ky/complaints/type



# **Questions?**



