Tips to Put Renters in the Driver's Seat!

Know the Law:
Florida Statute 83, Part II
Order Florida's free Landlord-Tenant Brochure
and/or Landlord-Tenant Law (Florida Statute)
http://www.800helpfla.com/freeform.html
1-800-HELP-FLA

- Don't understand, don't sign
Never sign a lease agreement if you don't understand or agree to the terms.

- An ounce of prevention
Before you move in, do a walk-through with your landlord. Check off any damage and imperfections, and take pictures and/or video. Put the findings in writing, and make your landlord sign the document.

- Retain a copy for your records
Repeat the above procedure a week before you move out. Again keep a copy for your records.

- Put all repair requests in writing
Just in case you end up in court, record the date and time of each request.

- Use certified return receipt mail
For any and all correspondence to your landlord, always use certified return receipt mail. Make sure you allow time for mailing when there are mandatory requirements under the law or spelled out in your lease.

- Obtain renter's insurance
The only way to protect your belongings is to have renter's insurance. It is a small price to pay in case a fire destroys your possessions or if you are burglarized.

Provided by:
Hillsborough County Consumer Protection Agency
813-903-3430
www.hillsboroughcounty.org/consumerprotection

Current 10/12