Moving is a significant event in anyone’s life. While most moves go smoothly, there are some dishonest or “rogue” movers that may try to take advantage of you. The best defense against moving fraud is to be informed and aware of your options when choosing a moving company. Listed below are some important points you should know to avoid becoming a victim of moving fraud.

- Make sure the mover or broker is registered with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) by visiting www.protectyourmove.gov.
- Check the complaint record of a mover or broker at www.protectyourmove.gov.
- Avoid movers that do not show U.S. DOT numbers and brokers that do not show Motor Carrier (MC) numbers in their advertisements.
- Read “Your Rights and Responsibilities When You Move” and the “Ready to Move” brochure on www.protectyourmove.gov. Your mover or broker is required to provide this information to you.
- Movers must give written estimates. Brokers must issue written estimates if they provide estimates.
- Do not sign blank or incomplete documents.
- Make sure you understand the type of liability you sign for. This is a common pitfall for consumers. Ask yourself if 60 cents per pound is enough coverage for all your household goods if the unexpected happens.
- Supervise loading and unloading of your household goods. If you are not available, appoint a representative to act on your behalf.

You may file a complaint against a mover or broker by visiting www.protectyourmove.gov or calling 1-888-DOT-SAFT (1-888-368-7238) Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Do your part. Protect your move.

Visit www.protectyourmove.gov

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