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United States Census

Duties of Owners/Managers of Residential Rental Property

Every 10 years, from April through July, census takers (also known as “enumerators”) visit residences that did not return the questionnaires mailed in March. They often contact owners and managers for information about the residents of rental property.

All Census workers have been fingerprinted and have undergone a complete FBI background check prior to employment with the Census. They will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions.

Owners and managers are required to assist Census employees. Specifically, Title 13 of the United States Code, Section 224 requires the “owner, proprietor, manager, superintendent, or agent of any hotel, apartment house, boarding or lodging house, tenement, or other building” when requested by a Census employee to, “furnish the names of the occupants of such premises” and “to give free ingress thereto and egress there from.” A violator is subject to a fine of not more than \$500.

Owners are **not** required to provide any information other than the names of the occupants. Additional information should not be volunteered out of concern for resident’s privacy. If a census worker asks you to provide additional information regarding the residents, please consult with an attorney.

For U.S. Census materials that owners and managers can use to provide information about the Census to their residents, [click here](#).

