

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Ottawa, Illinois Launches Short-Term Rental Registration with Deckard Technologies

Ottawa, IL April 25, 2025 The City of Ottawa is announcing the launch of a new short-term rental (STR) registration program, powered by Deckard Technologies, to better manage and support the growing number of vacation rentals throughout the city.

Beginning immediately, all property owners offering short-term rentals—such as listings on Airbnb, Vrbo, and similar platforms—are required to register their properties through the new digital platform provided by Deckard. This initiative ensures that all STRs are operating in compliance with city regulations and contributing fairly through the required lodging tax, commonly referred to as the "pillow tax."

“Our community is experiencing growth in the short-term rental market, and we want to make sure it's done responsibly and equitably,” said Ottawa Mayor Robb Hasty. “Partnering with Deckard Technologies allows us to streamline the registration process, improve compliance, and make sure we're capturing the revenue needed to support city services.”

Through the Deckard system, hosts can easily register their properties, submit required documentation, and pay applicable pillow taxes online. The software will also assist the city in identifying unregistered rentals and ensuring transparency and fairness across the board.

Short-term rental operators are encouraged to complete registration as soon as possible to avoid potential penalties. Information about the process, including links to the registration portal and frequently asked questions, can be found on the City of Ottawa’s official website at www.cityofottawa.org.

For questions regarding STR registration or the new system, please contact Dan Pond at 815-433-0161 x244 or dpond@cityofottawa.org.

About Deckard Technologies:

Deckard Technologies provides data and compliance solutions to municipalities across the country. Their technology helps cities identify, monitor, and manage short-term rentals to support fair taxation and neighborhood integrity.