FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Village of Lawton Adopts New Rental Licensing Ordinance — Registration Deadline Set for January 1, 2026

LAWTON, MI — The Village of Lawton has enacted a new Rental Property and Short-Term Rental Licensing Ordinance aimed at enhancing the health, safety, and overall welfare of residents and visitors. This ordinance, adopted by the Village Council, establishes new requirements for property owners who rent residential units or short-term rentals within the Village.

Under the new ordinance, **all rental properties—both long-term and short-term—must be registered and licensed** through the Village. The registration process includes an inspection for compliance with safety and maintenance standards. These inspections are based on a comprehensive checklist covering both interior and exterior conditions, available on the Village's website.

All existing rental properties must be registered by January 1, 2026. Inspections must be completed by January 1, 2027. New rental properties must be registered prior to being offered for rent.

Failure to register a rental property may result in civil infractions, fines up to $1,000, and possible revocation of the rental license.

"The goal is to ensure all rental housing in Lawton is safe, code-compliant, and properly maintained," said Village officials. "These new requirements will help protect tenants and ensure quality housing throughout the community."

Property owners and operators are encouraged to begin the registration process early to avoid delays.

For more details and to access the full text of the ordinance, visit **www.LawtonMI.org**.