



Beware of poachers!

When we secure sleeping rooms at hotels for our convention (commonly referred to as room blocks), we research the properties to make certain that our attendees will be adequately accommodated. The room block is established to ensure that rooms meet our standards and are offered at a discounted price.

We have been informed that some of our members have been contacted by fax, email, or phone with offers for cut rate housing. The intent is to convince you that the offer is made on our behalf, or that the soliciting company is a viable alternative to going through our service provider. ***This is not true. Housing for the SHPE National Convention is handled exclusively by RHS.***

How it works

Room poaching is a practice carried out by third-party companies that act as travel agencies, wholesalers, or destination management companies to solicit registrants for room reservations.

The poacher might inform registrants that the hotel room block is “sold out,” and that if you do not book with them immediately, you may not get a room. Additional deceptive tactics include distributing forms or promotional materials that appear to be issued by us.

- Room poachers make it more difficult for us to meet our room block commitments and expose us to penalties and increased room rates for our events.
- Room poachers often don't deliver on promises to customers. When customers arrive, reservations are non-existent, or the hotels are not conveniently located. Sometimes the rooms have been cancelled and hefty cancellation fees have been placed on the customer's credit card.
- Poachers often represent themselves as being affiliated with us by illegally using our logo.

How you can help

Don't be misled! If you are contacted by anyone asking if you need a room for the SHPE National Convention, please get as much information as you can (phone number, e-mail, name of company) and provide it to events@shpe.org.