

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2009, Legislative Day No. 16

Bill No. 41-09

Introduced by Mr. Reilly, Chairman
(by request of the County Executive)
and Mr. Cohen

By the County Council, May 12, 2009

Introduced and first read on May 12, 2009
Public Hearing set for and held on June 1, 2009
Public Hearing on AMENDED BILL set for June 15, 2009
Bill Expires August 15, 2009

By Order: Judy C. Holmes, Administrative Officer

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – False Alarm Reduction

2
3 FOR the purpose of providing standards applicable to alarm businesses, alarm users, and
4 burglar and security alarm systems; controlling false alarms; establishing a law
5 requiring registration for alarm businesses and users; defining certain terms; setting
6 alarm system standards; requiring records be kept of alarm signals; establishing civil
7 penalties for false alarms; providing for monitoring and review procedures; providing
8 for civil fines; and generally relating to alarm systems.
9

10 BY renumbering: §§ 12-5-101 through 12-5-104, and the title “Title 5. Miscellaneous
11 Provisions”, to be §§ 12-6-101 through 12-6-104 and the title “Title 6. Miscellaneous
12 Provisions”, respectively
13 Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended)
14

15 BY adding: §§ 12-5-101 through 12-5-110 to be under the new title, “Title 5. Burglar and
16 Security Alarms”
17 Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended)
18

19 SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the County Council of Anne Arundel County,*
20 *Maryland,* That §§ 12-5-101 through 12-5-104 and the title “Title 5. Miscellaneous
21 Provisions” of the Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended) are hereby

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate new matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.
~~Strikeover~~ indicates matter stricken from bill by amendment

1 renumbered to be §§ 12-6-101 through 12-6-104 and the title “Title 6. Miscellaneous
2 Provisions”, respectively.

3
4 SECTION 2. *And be it further enacted*, That Section(s) of the Anne Arundel County
5 Code (2005, as amended) read as follows:

6
7 **ARTICLE 12 PUBLIC SAFETY**

8
9 **TITLE 5. BURGLAR AND SECURITY ALARMS**

10
11 **12-5-101. Definitions.**

12
13 IN THIS TITLE, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

14
15 (1) “ALARM ADMINISTRATOR” MEANS A PERSON DESIGNATED BY THE CHIEF OF
16 POLICE TO ADMINISTER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE.

17
18 (2) “ALARM BUSINESS” MEANS A PERSON WHO PROVIDES ALARM SERVICES.

19
20 (3) “ALARM MONITOR” MEANS AN ALARM BUSINESS THAT PROVIDES THE ALARM
21 SERVICE OF RECEIVING ALARM SIGNALS FROM ALARM SITES FOR THE PURPOSE OF
22 MAKING DISPATCH REQUESTS.

23
24 (4) (I) “ALARM SERVICES” MEANS THE INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE,
25 INSPECTION, SALE, SERVICE, OR REPAIR OF ALARM SYSTEMS.

26
27 (II) “ALARM SERVICES” INCLUDES RECEIVING AND MONITORING ALARM
28 SIGNALS FROM ALARM SITES AND MAKING DISPATCH REQUESTS.

29
30 (5) “ALARM SIGNAL” MEANS THE ACTIVATION, EITHER MANUAL OR AUTOMATIC,
31 OF AN ALARM SYSTEM.

32
33 (6) “ALARM SITE” MEANS A SINGLE PREMISES OR LOCATION SERVED BY ONE OR
34 MORE ALARM SYSTEMS THAT MAY BE COMPOSED OF MULTIPLE ZONES.

35
36 (7) (I) “ALARM SYSTEM” MEANS A DEVICE OR SERIES OF DEVICES AT AN ALARM
37 SITE, INCLUDING THOSE INTERCONNECTED WITH RADIO FREQUENCY SIGNALS, THAT IS
38 DESIGNED TO DISCOURAGE CRIME BY EMITTING OR TRANSMITTING A REMOTE OR
39 LOCAL AUDIBLE, VISUAL, OR ELECTRONIC SIGNAL INDICATING A CRIMINAL ACTIVITY,
40 AND THAT IS INTENDED TO SUMMON A RESPONSE FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

41
42 (II) “ALARM SYSTEM” DOES NOT INCLUDE AN ALARM INSTALLED ON A
43 VEHICLE UNLESS THE VEHICLE IS PERMANENTLY LOCATED AT AN ALARM SITE, OR AN
44 ALARM THAT IS DESIGNED TO ALERT ONLY THE INHABITANTS OF AN ALARM SITE THAT
45 DOES NOT HAVE A SOUNDING DEVICE THAT CAN BE HEARD ON THE EXTERIOR OF THE
46 ALARM SITE.

47
48 (8) (I) “ALARM USER” MEANS A PERSON WHO OPERATES AN ALARM SYSTEM OR
49 CAUSES AN ALARM SYSTEM TO BE OPERATED.

50
51 (II) “ALARM USER” INCLUDES A TENANT WHO OPERATES AN ALARM SYSTEM
52 OR CAUSES AN ALARM SYSTEM TO BE OPERATED IN THE AREA LEASED BY THE TENANT.

1 (9) "CANCELLATION" MEANS THE PROCESS BY WHICH A DISPATCH REQUEST IS
2 RESCINDED WHEN AN ALARM MONITOR NOTIFIES THE POLICE DEPARTMENT THAT
3 THERE IS NO CRIME REQUIRING RESPONSE TO AN ALARM SITE.
4

5 (10) "COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH (CAD)" MEANS A COMPUTER SYSTEM INTO
6 WHICH POLICE PERSONNEL ENTER DISPATCH REQUEST INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE
7 DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION OF THE ALARM SITE, THAT IS LINKED TO POLICE PATROL
8 CARS, AND INTO WHICH POLICE PERSONNEL RESPONDING TO THE ALARM SITE ENTER
9 THE TIME AND THE OUTCOME OF THE RESPONSE.
10

11 (11) "DISPATCH REQUEST" MEANS A NOTIFICATION TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT
12 THAT AN ALARM SIGNAL HAS BEEN ACTIVATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUMMONING A
13 RESPONSE TO THE ALARM SITE.
14

15 (12)(I) "FALSE ALARM" MEANS AN ALARM SIGNAL THAT RESULTS IN A DISPATCH
16 REQUEST THAT IS NOT CANCELED PRIOR TO THE ARRIVAL OF POLICE PERSONNEL AT THE
17 ALARM SITE, WHERE POLICE PERSONNEL FIND NO EVIDENCE OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY OR
18 ATTEMPTED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.
19

20 (II) "FALSE ALARM" INCLUDES AN ALARM SIGNAL THAT IS ACTIVATED
21 NEGLIGENTLY OR ACCIDENTALLY, THAT IS THE RESULT OF FAULTY, MALFUNCTIONING,
22 OR IMPROPERLY INSTALLED OR MAINTAINED EQUIPMENT, OR THAT IS INTENTIONALLY
23 ACTIVATED TO SUMMON POLICE PERSONNEL FOR A NON-EMERGENCY SITUATION.
24

25 (III) "FALSE ALARM" INCLUDES AN ALARM SIGNAL THAT IS ACTIVATED AS A
26 RESULT OF WEATHER OR POWER OUTAGE CONDITIONS, UNLESS THERE IS VISIBLE
27 EVIDENCE OF SEVERE CONDITIONS DIRECTLY AFFECTING THE ALARM SITE, SUCH AS A
28 TREE OR OBJECT STRIKING A BUILDING OR A WINDOW.
29

30 (IV) "FALSE ALARM" INCLUDES EACH SEPARATE FALSE ALARM OCCURRING
31 IN ONE CALENDAR DAY AT A SINGLE ALARM SITE.
32

33 **12-5-102. Alarm business registration.**
34

35 (A) **Registration required.** A PERSON MAY NOT PROVIDE ALARM SERVICES UNLESS
36 THE PERSON OBTAINS AN ALARM BUSINESS REGISTRATION.
37

38 (B) **Application.** AN APPLICATION FOR AN ALARM BUSINESS REGISTRATION SHALL
39 BE IN THE FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR AND SHALL INCLUDE THE
40 APPLICANT'S SECURITY SYSTEMS SERVICES LICENSE NUMBER ISSUED PURSUANT TO THE
41 BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS ARTICLE, TITLE 18, OF THE STATE CODE.
42

43 (C) **Duration.** AN ALARM BUSINESS REGISTRATION IS EFFECTIVE FOR A PERIOD OF
44 TWO YEARS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUANCE.
45

46 (D) **Renewal.** AT LEAST 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION DATE, THE ALARM
47 ADMINISTRATOR SHALL NOTIFY THE ALARM BUSINESS OF THE EXPIRATION DATE AND
48 THE PROCEDURES FOR RENEWAL OF THE REGISTRATION. PRIOR TO THE REGISTRATION
49 EXPIRATION DATE, THE ALARM BUSINESS SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO RENEW
50 THE REGISTRATION.
51

52 (E) **False statement.** A FALSE STATEMENT OF A MATERIAL MATTER MADE BY AN
53 APPLICANT FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING AN ALARM BUSINESS REGISTRATION IS
54 SUFFICIENT CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF REGISTRATION.
55

56 (F) **Registration not transferable.** AN ALARM BUSINESS REGISTRATION IS NOT
57 TRANSFERABLE.

1 (G) **Changes in registration information.** AN ALARM BUSINESS SHALL INFORM THE
2 ALARM ADMINISTRATOR WITHIN 10 BUSINESS DAYS OF ANY CHANGE IN ANY
3 INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE REGISTRATION APPLICATION.
4

5 (H) **Information confidential.** INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ALARM BUSINESS
6 REGISTRATION APPLICATION SHALL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL BY ALL EMPLOYEES AND
7 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNTY.
8

9 (I) **Outstanding fines and penalties.** ALL OUTSTANDING CIVIL FINES AND CIVIL
10 PENALTIES OWED BY AN ALARM BUSINESS UNDER THIS TITLE MUST BE PAID BEFORE AN
11 ALARM BUSINESS REGISTRATION IS ISSUED OR RENEWED.
12

13 **12-5-103. Alarm system registration.**
14

15 (A) **Registration required.** A PERSON MAY NOT OPERATE AN ALARM SYSTEM OR
16 CAUSE AN ALARM SYSTEM TO BE OPERATED UNLESS THE PERSON OBTAINS AN ALARM
17 SYSTEM REGISTRATION. EACH ALARM USER SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR AN
18 ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION WITHIN FIVE DAYS OF AN ALARM SYSTEM
19 INSTALLATION OR AFTER AN ALARM USER TAKES CONTROL OF AN EXISTING ALARM
20 SYSTEM.
21

22 (B) **Alarm business to provide registration information.** EACH ALARM BUSINESS
23 SHALL PROVIDE EACH ALARM USER WHOSE ALARM SYSTEM THE BUSINESS INSTALLS OR
24 MONITORS, ALL INFORMATION AND FORMS REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION.
25

26 (C) **Alarm systems in multiple tenant buildings.**
27

28 (1) IN A BUILDING OR COMPLEX OCCUPIED BY MULTIPLE TENANTS, A TENANT
29 SHALL REGISTER AN ALARM SYSTEM IF THE ALARM SYSTEM IS LOCATED IN THE AREA
30 THAT THE TENANT LEASES.
31

32 (2) IF AN ALARM SYSTEM IS LOCATED IN A NONRESIDENTIAL OR COMMON AREA
33 OF A BUILDING OR COMPLEX OCCUPIED BY MULTIPLE TENANTS, THE OWNER OR
34 MANAGER OF THE BUILDING OR COMPLEX SHALL REGISTER THE ALARM SYSTEM.
35

36 (3) IF THE OWNER OR MANAGER OF A BUILDING OR COMPLEX OCCUPIED BY
37 MULTIPLE TENANTS INSTALLS OR MONITORS AN ALARM SYSTEM IN AN AREA LEASED
38 BY A TENANT, THE OWNER OR MANAGER OF THE BUILDING SHALL PROVIDE A TENANT
39 ALL INFORMATION AND FORMS REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION.
40

41 (D) **Application.** AN APPLICATION FOR AN ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION SHALL BE
42 IN THE FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR. AN APPLICATION FOR AN
43 ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION SHALL INCLUDE:
44

45 (1) THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE ALARM USER;
46

47 (2) SPECIFIC DETAILS REGARDING THE USE AND PURPOSE OF THE ALARM
48 SYSTEM; AND
49

50 (3) SIGNED CERTIFICATION FROM THE ALARM USER INCLUDING:
51

52 (I) THE DATE OF INSTALLATION OF THE ALARM SYSTEM;
53

54 (II) THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE ALARM BUSINESS
55 THAT PERFORMED THE ALARM SYSTEM INSTALLATION AND THAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR
56 PROVIDING REPAIR SERVICE TO THE SYSTEM;

1 (III) THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE ALARM
2 MONITOR;

3
4 (IV) A STATEMENT THAT THE ALARM USER HAS RECEIVED A SET OF WRITTEN
5 OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ALARM SYSTEM, INCLUDING GUIDELINES ON HOW
6 TO AVOID FALSE ALARMS; AND

7
8 (V) THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF AT LEAST ONE
9 PERSON WHO IS ABLE TO RESPOND WITHIN 30 MINUTES TO THE ALARM SITE TO
10 DEACTIVATE THE ALARM.

11
12 (E) **Duration.** AN ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION IS EFFECTIVE FOR A PERIOD OF
13 TWO YEARS.

14
15 (F) **Renewal.** AT LEAST 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE REGISTRATION EXPIRATION DATE,
16 THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR SHALL NOTIFY THE ALARM USER OF THE EXPIRATION
17 DATE AND OF THE PROCEDURE FOR RENEWAL OF THE REGISTRATION. PRIOR TO THE
18 REGISTRATION EXPIRATION DATE, THE ALARM USER SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO
19 RENEW THE REGISTRATION.

20 (G) **False statement.** A FALSE STATEMENT OF A MATERIAL MATTER MADE BY AN
21 APPLICANT FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING AN ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION IS
22 SUFFICIENT CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF REGISTRATION.

23
24 (H) **Registration not transferable.** AN ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION IS NOT
25 TRANSFERABLE.

26
27 (I) **Changes in registration information.** AN ALARM USER SHALL INFORM THE
28 ALARM ADMINISTRATOR IN WRITING WITHIN 10 BUSINESS DAYS OF A CHANGE IN ANY
29 INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE REGISTRATION APPLICATION.

30
31 (J) **Information confidential.** INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ALARM SYSTEM
32 REGISTRATION APPLICATION SHALL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL BY ALL EMPLOYEES AND
33 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNTY.

34
35 (K) **Outstanding fines and penalties.** ALL OUTSTANDING CIVIL FINES AND CIVIL
36 PENALTIES OWED BY AN ALARM USER UNDER THIS TITLE MUST BE PAID BEFORE AN
37 ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION IS ISSUED OR RENEWED.

38
39 **12-5-104. Alarm system standards.**

40
41 (A) **Definitions.** IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
42 INDICATED.

43
44 (1) "AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE DIALING SYSTEM" MEANS ANY ELECTRONIC,
45 MECHANICAL, OR OTHER DEVICE CAPABLE OF BEING PROGRAMMED TO SEND, WHEN
46 ACTIVATED, A PRERECORDED DISPATCH REQUEST OVER A TELEPHONE LINE, RADIO, OR
47 OTHER COMMUNICATION SYSTEM DIRECTLY TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

48
49 ~~(2) "DIGITAL DIALER" MEANS A DEVICE THAT TRANSMITS DIGITAL SIGNALS~~
50 ~~DIRECTLY FROM AN ALARM SYSTEM TO AN ALARM MONITOR THROUGH THE TELEPHONE~~
51 ~~NETWORK.~~

52
53 ~~(3)~~ (2) "ONE-PLUS DURESS ALARM" MEANS A SILENT ALARM SIGNAL THAT IS
54 TRIGGERED WHEN THE ALARM USER ENTERS A CODE THAT ADDS ONE DIGIT TO THE
55 LAST DIGIT OF THE STANDARD USER CODE.

56

1 (4) (3) "SINGLE ACTION HOLD-UP ALARM" MEANS A SILENT ALARM SIGNAL
2 GENERATED BY THE MANUAL ACTIVATION OF A SINGLE ACTION, NON-RECESSED
3 BUTTON, DESIGNED TO SIGNAL A CRIME IN PROGRESS.
4

5 (B) **Installation.** AN ALARM BUSINESS THAT INSTALLS AN ALARM SYSTEM SHALL
6 HAVE AT THE ALARM SITE AT LEAST ONE EMPLOYEE TO SUPERVISE THE INSTALLATION
7 WHO HAS PASSED AND MAINTAINED A MINIMUM LEVEL-ONE CERTIFICATION BY THE
8 NATIONAL BURGLAR AND FIRE ALARM ASSOCIATION, THE MARYLAND BURGLAR AND
9 FIRE ALARM ASSOCIATION OR EQUIVALENT TRAINING AS DETERMINED BY THE ALARM
10 ADMINISTRATOR.
11

12 (C) **System standards and testing.** THE COMPONENTS OF AN ALARM SYSTEM SHALL
13 BE INCLUDED IN A LIST PUBLISHED BY THE UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES, FACTORY
14 MUTUAL, OR OTHER LIST APPROVED BY THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR, WHICH STATES
15 EITHER THAT THE COMPONENTS MEET APPROPRIATE DESIGNATED STANDARDS OR HAVE
16 BEEN TESTED AND FOUND SUITABLE FOR USE IN A SPECIFIED MANNER.
17

18 (D) **Certain dialers prohibited.** AN ALARM BUSINESS MAY NOT INSTALL, AND AN
19 ALARM USER MAY NOT OPERATE OR CAUSE TO BE OPERATED, AN ALARM SYSTEM THAT
20 UTILIZES AN AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE DIALING SYSTEM ~~OR A DIGITAL DIALER.~~
21

22 (E) **One plus duress and single action hold-up alarms prohibited.** AN ALARM
23 BUSINESS OR ALARM USER MAY NOT PROGRAM AN ALARM SYSTEM SO THAT IT IS
24 CAPABLE OF SENDING A ONE PLUS DURESS ALARM SIGNAL OR A SINGLE ACTION HOLD-
25 UP ALARM SIGNAL, EXCEPT THAT AN ALARM MAY BE ACTIVATED BY SIMULTANEOUS
26 DEPRESSION OF TWO BUTTONS, WHERE IF EITHER BUTTON HAS MULTIPLE FUNCTIONS,
27 THE TWO BUTTONS ARE NON-ADJACENT, OR BY DEPRESSION OF A SINGLE BUTTON
28 AFTER LIFTING A COVER THAT NORMALLY PROTECTS THE BUTTON FROM ALARM
29 ACTIVATION.
30

31 (F) **Same – Removal of capability.**

32
33 (1) WHEN AN ALARM USER TAKES CONTROL OF AN ALARM SYSTEM, THE ALARM
34 USER SHALL REMOVE ANY ONE-PLUS DURESS OR SINGLE ACTION HOLD-UP ALARM
35 CAPABILITIES FROM THE ALARM SYSTEM.
36

37 (2) WHEN AN ALARM MONITOR BEGINS MONITORING AN ALARM SYSTEM, THE
38 ALARM MONITOR SHALL REMOVE ANY ONE PLUS DURESS OR SINGLE ACTION HOLD-UP
39 ALARM CAPABILITIES FROM THE ALARM SYSTEM.
40

41 **12-5-105. Alarm user standards.**

42
43 (A) **Duties of alarm user.** AN ALARM USER SHALL:

44
45 (1) MAINTAIN THE ALARM SITE AND THE ALARM SYSTEM IN A MANNER THAT
46 MINIMIZES OR ELIMINATES FALSE ALARMS;
47

48 (2) TAKE REASONABLE MEASURES TO ENSURE A RESPONSE TO THE ALARM SITE
49 BY THE ALARM USER OR A DESIGNEE WITHIN 30 MINUTES AFTER NOTIFICATION BY THE
50 POLICE DEPARTMENT TO DEACTIVATE A MALFUNCTIONING ALARM SYSTEM, TO
51 PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE ALARM SITE, OR TO PROVIDE SECURITY FOR THE ALARM SITE;
52

53 (3) MAINTAIN AT EACH ALARM SITE A SET OF WRITTEN OPERATING
54 INSTRUCTIONS FOR EACH ALARM SYSTEM THAT INCLUDES GUIDELINES FOR AVOIDANCE
55 OF FALSE ALARMS; AND

1 (4) ADJUST THE COMPONENTS OF THE ALARM SYSTEM SO THAT AN ALARM
2 SIGNAL AUDIBLE ON THE EXTERIOR OF AN ALARM SITE WILL NOT SOUND FOR LONGER
3 THAN 15 MINUTES AFTER BEING ACTIVATED.
4

5 (B) **Prohibition.** AN ALARM USER SHALL NOT MANUALLY ACTIVATE AN ALARM
6 SYSTEM FOR ANY REASON OTHER THAN THE OCCURRENCE OF AN EVENT THAT THE
7 ALARM SYSTEM WAS INTENDED TO REPORT.
8

9 **12-5-106. Alarm monitoring procedures.**

10
11 (A) **Duties of alarm monitor.** AN ALARM MONITOR SHALL:

12
13 (1) REPORT ALARM SIGNALS TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IN A MANNER AND
14 FORM DETERMINED BY THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR;
15

16 (2) EXCEPT IN THE INSTANCE OF A DURESS, AMBUSH OR ROBBERY ALARM
17 ACTIVATION, MAKE AT LEAST TWO ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
18 ALARM SITE BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS AND ATTEMPT TO CONFIRM
19 A VALID ALARM BEFORE MAKING A DISPATCH REQUEST; AND
20

21 (3) REPORT VERIFIED CANCELLATIONS OF ALARM DISPATCH REQUESTS TO THE
22 POLICE DEPARTMENT IN A MANNER AND FORM DESIGNATED BY THE ALARM
23 ADMINISTRATOR.
24

25 (B) **Procedures established by alarm administrator.** THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR
26 SHALL:

27
28 (1) DESIGNATE THE MANNER, FORM, AND METHOD FOR THE COMMUNICATION OF
29 DISPATCH REQUESTS; AND
30

31 (2) DEVELOP A PROCEDURE TO ACCEPT VERIFIED CANCELLATIONS OF DISPATCH
32 REQUESTS.
33

34 **12-5-107. Alarm signals; records; false alarm reports.**

35
36 (A) **Dispatch records.** FOR EACH ALARM SIGNAL, THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR
37 SHALL KEEP A RECORD OF:

38
39 (1) THE DATE AND TIME OF RECEIPT OF THE DISPATCH REQUEST;

40
41 (2) THE LOCATION OF THE ALARM SITE;

42
43 (3) THE AREA OF THE ALARM SITE, IF APPLICABLE;

44
45 (4) THE ALARM REGISTRATION NUMBER FOR THE ALARM SITE;

46
47 (5) POLICE PERSONNEL DISPATCH TIME AND ARRIVAL TIME AT THE ALARM SITE;

48
49 (6) IDENTIFICATION OF THE RESPONSIBLE ALARM MONITOR; AND

50
51 (7) DISPOSITION OF THE RESPONSE.
52

53 (B) **False alarm reports.** THE POLICE PERSONNEL RESPONDING TO THE ALARM SITE
54 SHALL INDICATE TO THE COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH (CAD) SYSTEM WHEN AN ALARM
55 SIGNAL IS A FALSE ALARM.

1 (C) **Records of alarm monitor.** AN ALARM MONITOR SHALL MAINTAIN A RECORD
2 RELATING TO A DISPATCH REQUEST FOR A PERIOD OF AT LEAST ONE YEAR. THE RECORD
3 SHALL CONTAIN:

4
5 (1) THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE ALARM USER;

6
7 (2) THE ALARM SYSTEM ZONE OR POINT ACTIVATED;

8
9 (3) A STATEMENT WHETHER OR NOT THE ALARM MONITOR MADE TWO ATTEMPTS
10 TO VERIFY THE ALARM SIGNAL AS REQUIRED UNDER § 12-5-106 (A)(2) PRIOR TO THE
11 DISPATCH REQUEST; AND

12
13 (4) THE TIME OF THE DISPATCH REQUEST.
14

15 (D) **Records to be provided upon request.** THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR MAY
16 REQUEST COPIES OF A RECORD MAINTAINED BY AN ALARM MONITOR AND THE ALARM
17 MONITOR SHALL PROVIDE THE COPIES AT NO COST.
18

19 **12-5-108. False alarms.**

20
21 (A) **Notice.** FOR EACH FALSE ALARM SIGNAL, THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR SHALL
22 SEND A NOTICE TO THE ALARM USER BY FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID. THE
23 NOTICE SHALL STATE:

24
25 (1) THAT POLICE PERSONNEL RESPONDED TO A FALSE ALARM;

26
27 (2) THE DATE AND TIME OF POLICE PERSONNEL RESPONSE TO THE FALSE ALARM;

28
29 (3) THE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF THE RESPONDING POLICE PERSONNEL;

30
31 (4) THAT THE ALARM USER SHALL ENSURE THAT THE ALARM SYSTEM IS
32 PROPERLY OPERATED, INSPECTED AND INSTALLED;

33
34 (5) IF APPLICABLE, THE AMOUNT OF A CIVIL PENALTY ASSESSMENT AS PROVIDED
35 IN SUBSECTION (B); AND

36
37 (6) THE REVIEW PROCEDURES AVAILABLE TO THE ALARM USER.
38

39 **(B) Civil penalty for false alarms.**

40
41 (1) THE ALARM USER IS NOT SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY FOR THE FIRST AND
42 SECOND FALSE ALARMS AT A SINGLE ALARM SITE WITHIN ANY 12-MONTH PERIOD.

43
44 (2) THE CIVIL PENALTIES FOR THE THIRD OR MORE FALSE ALARMS AT A SINGLE
45 ALARM SITE IN A 12-MONTH PERIOD ARE:

46
47 (I) \$50 FOR THE THIRD AND FOURTH FALSE ALARMS;

48
49 (II) \$75 FOR THE FIFTH FALSE ALARM;

50
51 (III) \$100 FOR THE SIXTH FALSE ALARM;

52
53 (IV) \$125 FOR THE SEVENTH FALSE ALARM;

54
55 (V) \$150 FOR THE EIGHTH FALSE ALARM;

56
57 (VI) \$175 FOR THE NINTH FALSE ALARM;

1 (VII) \$200 FOR THE TENTH FALSE ALARM;

2
3 (VIII) \$225 FOR THE ELEVENTH FALSE ALARM; AND

4
5 (IX) \$250 FOR THE TWELFTH AND ANY SUBSEQUENT FALSE ALARMS.

6
7 (3) THE ALARM USER IS NOT SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY FOR THE FOURTH OR
8 MORE FALSE ALARMS IN ONE CALENDAR DAY AT A SINGLE ALARM SITE.

9
10 (4) A PENALTY IMPOSED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IS A CIVIL PENALTY
11 ADMINISTRATIVELY IMPOSED BY THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH
12 ARTICLE 24, § 14-101, OF THE STATE CODE.

13
14 (C) **Review.**

15
16 (1) AN ALARM USER MAY REQUEST REVIEW OF THE CIVIL PENALTY TO THE
17 ALARM ADMINISTRATOR WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE NOTICE ASSESSING THE
18 CIVIL PENALTY. THE REQUEST FOR REVIEW MUST BE IN WRITING AND SET FORTH ALL
19 REASONS FOR THE REQUEST.

20
21 ~~(2)~~ (2) THE COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH (CAD) RECORD SHALL BE PRIMA FACIE
22 EVIDENCE THAT A FALSE ALARM OCCURRED.

23
24 ~~(3)~~ (3) THE ASSESSMENT OF A CIVIL PENALTY SHALL BE STAYED UNTIL A FINAL
25 DECISION IS REACHED.

26
27 ~~(4)~~ (4) THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR SHALL ISSUE A WRITTEN DECISION WITHIN 60
28 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE REQUEST FOR REVIEW. THE DECISION SHALL AFFIRM OR
29 REVERSE THE ASSESSMENT OF THE CIVIL PENALTY.

30
31 (D) **Payment.** ALL CIVIL PENALTIES SHALL BE PAID BY THE ALARM USER WITHIN 30
32 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE NOTICE FROM THE ALARM ADMINSTRATOR. ALL CIVIL
33 PENALTIES UNPAID AFTER 30 DAYS MAY BE COLLECTED AS PROVIDED IN § 1-9-101 OF
34 THIS CODE.

35
36 **12-5-109. Denial or suspension of alarm system registration.**

37
38 (A) **Suspension or denial.** THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR MAY SUSPEND OR DENY AN
39 ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION IF THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR FINDS THAT:

40 (1) INSTALLATION, REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE, OR OTHER WORK ON THE ALARM
41 SYSTEM DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS TITLE;

42
43 (2) THE ALARM USER HAS NOT PAID CIVIL FINES OR CIVIL PENALTIES IMPOSED
44 UNDER THIS TITLE;

45
46 (3) THE ALARM USER HAS SUBMITTED FALSE INFORMATION OF A MATERIAL
47 MATTER IN THE APPLICATION; OR

48
49 (4) THE ALARM BUSINESS HAS VIOLATED A PROVISION OF THIS TITLE OR OF ANY
50 OTHER APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL LAW RELATING TO THE SALE,
51 INSTALLATION, MONITORING, OR MAINTENANCE OF ALARM SYSTEMS.

52
53 (B) **Notice.** IF THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR DENIES OR SUSPENDS AN ALARM SYSTEM
54 REGISTRATION, THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR SHALL SEND WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE
55 ALARM USER AND THE ALARM MONITOR BY FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID,
56 ALONG WITH A STATEMENT OF THE RIGHT TO REQUEST REVIEW.

1 (C) **Issuance of alarm system registration after denial or suspension.** THE ALARM
2 ADMINISTRATOR MAY ISSUE AN ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION TO AN ALARM USER
3 AFTER DENIAL OR SUSPENSION OF AN ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION IF THE ALARM
4 USER:

5
6 (1) SUBMITS AN APPLICATION;

7
8 (2) SATISFIES ALL OUTSTANDING CIVIL FINES AND CIVIL PENALTIES; AND

9
10 (3) SUBMITS A CERTIFICATION AS REQUIRED BY THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR
11 FROM A REGISTERED ALARM BUSINESS STATING THAT THE ALARM SYSTEM COMPLIES
12 WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS TITLE.

13
14 (D) **Review of denial or suspension of alarm system registration.**

15
16 (1) AN ALARM USER MAY REQUEST REVIEW OF THE DENIAL OR SUSPENSION OF
17 AN ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION TO THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR WITHIN 30 DAYS OF
18 THE DATE OF THE NOTICE OF DENIAL OR SUSPENSION. THE REQUEST FOR REVIEW MUST
19 BE IN WRITING AND SET FORTH ALL REASONS FOR THE REQUEST.

20
21 (2) THE ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION DENIAL OR SUSPENSION SHALL BE
22 STAYED UNTIL A FINAL DECISION IS REACHED.

23
24 (3) THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR SHALL ISSUE A WRITTEN DECISION WITHIN 60
25 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE REQUEST FOR REVIEW. THE DECISION SHALL AFFIRM OR
26 REVERSE THE DENIAL OR SUSPENSION OF AN ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION.

27
28 **12-5-110. Civil fines.**

29
30 (A) **Unregistered alarm systems.** IT IS A CLASS D CIVIL OFFENSE FOR ANY PERSON
31 TO OPERATE, OR CAUSE TO BE OPERATED, AN ALARM SYSTEM THAT IS NOT REGISTERED
32 UNDER THIS TITLE THAT RESULTS IN POLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE TO AN ALARM
33 SITE, WHETHER OR NOT IT IS A FALSE ALARM. THE CIVIL FINE IMPOSED UNDER THIS
34 SECTION IS IN ADDITION TO ANY CIVIL PENALTIES IMPOSED UNDER § 12-5-108.

35
36 (B) **Dispatch requests to unregistered alarm systems.** IT IS A CLASS D CIVIL
37 OFFENSE FOR AN ALARM MONITOR TO MAKE A DISPATCH REQUEST TO AN ALARM SITE
38 WITH AN ALARM SYSTEM THAT IS NOT REGISTERED UNDER THIS TITLE, EXCEPT WHEN
39 THE ALARM MONITOR IS NOT NOTIFIED OF A DENIAL OR SUSPENSION OF AN ALARM
40 SYSTEM REGISTRATION.

41
42 (C) **Providing alarm services without registration.** IT IS A CLASS C CIVIL OFFENSE
43 FOR A PERSON TO PROVIDE ALARM SERVICES WITHOUT AN ALARM BUSINESS
44 REGISTRATION ISSUED UNDER THIS TITLE.

45
46 (D) **Other violations.** IT IS A CLASS E CIVIL OFFENSE FOR A PERSON TO VIOLATE A
47 PROVISION OF THIS TITLE FOR WHICH A CIVIL FINE IS NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

48
49 SECTION 3. *And be it further enacted,* That this Ordinance shall take effect 45 days
50 from the date it becomes law.