

TOWN OF JONESVILLE
ORDINANCE RECURRING FALSE FIRE AND BURGLAR
ALARMS

Purpose and Scope. The Purpose of this ordinance is to encourage alarm users to assume increased responsibility for maintaining the mechanical reliability and proper use of alarm systems, to prevent unnecessary police and fire emergency response to false alarms, and thereby protect the emergency response capabilities of the Town of Jonesville and/or the Town's duly recognized emergency response providers from misuse.

For business and private residences that are equipped with a fire/burglar alarm systems there will be the following number of free alarm responses in a 12 month period allowed by the town of Jonesville before \$25.00 charge for false alarms after the allowed alarms. Business - 3 free false alarms in a 12-month period. Private residence - 5 free false alarms in a 12-month period.

Sec. 9-133. General regulations.

- (a) The alarm user shall maintain the premises and the alarm system in a manner that will minimize or eliminate false/accidental alarm dispatches and activate the alarm code only for the occurrence of events it was designed to report.
- (b) The alarm user shall respond or cause a responsible representative to respond to the alarm site within thirty (30) minutes when notified by officials.
- (c) Each alarm user shall furnish Arlington Fire and Rescue, Inc. in writing, the name and telephone numbers of at least one (1), but no more than five (5), persons authorized and able to deactivate the alarm system.
- (d) The alarm user shall adjust the mechanism or cause the mechanism to be adjusted so that an alarm signal on the exterior of the alarm site shall sound not longer than fifteen (15) minutes, requiring an automatic reset.

(Res. No. 2002-23, § 3, 8-6-02)

Alarm

Sec. 9-134. Alarm response.

- (a) For the fourth (4) false alarm for business and the sixth (6) false alarm for private residences a civil citation in the amount of \$25.00 will be issued and for each subsequent false alarm. The civil citation will increase in \$25.00 increments until problem is fixed.

TABLE INSET:

# of False Alarms	Penalty
4th False Alarm	\$50.00
5th False Alarm	75.00
6th False Alarm	100.00
7th False Alarm	150.00
8th False Alarm	200.00
9th False Alarm	250.00
10th or More False Alarms	500.00

- (b) No fee shall be assessed if the false/accidental alarm dispatch is:
- (1) Caused by a hurricane, tornado or lightning strikes where there is clear evidence of physical damage to the alarm system.
 - (2) Activated by an electrical power outage to the electric meter on the commercial or residential building housing the activated alarm system.
 - (3) An alarm system activated during an alarm system tests conducted by the fire marshal's office or chief of police for the purpose of computing alarm times.

- (c) No fee shall be assessed if the alarm is caused by:
- (1) Actual fire.
 - (2) Smoke condition without fire.
 - (3) Sprinkler water flow has tripped system due to sprinkler head activating with or without fire.
 - (4) Attempted or actual breaking and entering.

(Res. No. 2002-23, § 4, 8-6-02)

Sec. 9-136. Enforcement of violations.

- (a) This article shall only apply and be enforced within the incorporated Town Limits of Jonesville. The fire department shall submit violations to the police chief within two (2) days of any violation so the police department can follow up with the issuance of a citation.

- (b) Civil penalties under section 9-134, if not paid within fifteen (15) days of issuance of the citation, may be recovered by the city in a civil action in the nature of a debt.
- (c) As of the effective date of this article [August 5, 2002], alarm users shall be deemed to have a zero alarm responses for the purposes of section 9-134.

(Res. No. 2002-23, § 6, 8-6-02; Res. No. 04-30, § 1, 11-3-04)

Sec. 9-137. Collected funds.

All collected funds shall be placed in the Town of Jonesville's General Fund. All funds collected due to a false alarm caused by a malfunctioning burglar alarm shall be retained by the Town. All funds collected due to a false alarm caused by a malfunctioning fire alarm shall be remitted to Arlington Fire and Rescue, Inc.

This Ordinance is effective upon adoption. This 9th day of June 2008.

Amended this 9th day of July 2012.

Lindbergh Swaim, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lynn Trivette, Clerk