

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE CONTROL OF BURGLARY AND ROBBERY ALARMS, PROVIDING FOR STANDARDS AND ADMINISTRATION OF ALARM SYSTEMS, PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION.

THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: POLICY.

This ordinance governs burglary and robbery alarms, sets requirements, establishes acceptable standards, and establishes a system for administrations.

Section 2: DEFINITIONS.

"Alarm System" means any assembly of equipment, mechanical or electrical, arranged to signal the occurrence of an illegal entry or other activity requiring urgent attention to which police are expected to respond.

"Alarm User" means the person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company, or organization of any kind in control of any building, structure, or facility wherein an alarm system is maintained.

"Communication Center" is the City facility used to receive emergency and general information from the public to be dispatched to the Police Department.

"Burglary Alarm System" means an alarm signaling an entry or attempted entry into the area protected by the system.

"False Alarm" means any alarm signal, eliciting a response by police, when a situation requiring a response by police does not in fact exist; but does not include an alarm signal caused by violent conditions of nature or other extraordinary circumstances not reasonably subject to control by the alarm user. Unfounded alarms received at a location other than the communication center and relayed to the Police Department shall be considered false alarms and the responsibility of the Alarm User.

"Local Alarm" means alarms which, when activated, emit a signal at the premises protected.

"Robbery Alarm System" means as alarm system signaling a robbery or attempted robbery.

Section 3: COMMUNICATIONS CENTER TERMINAL.

a) Persons wishing to terminate an alarm system in the Communications Center shall apply in writing to the Chief of Police stating the nature of the alarm system, address of the premises to be protected, and identification of the alarm user and concern if other than the user, who would install and/or maintain the system.

b) The Chief of Police shall review all applications and conduct such other inquiry as appropriate to be satisfied that the proposed system and equipment is acceptable. Upon satisfactory review, a permit describing the premises to be protected and conditions of the permit may be prepared; and when acknowledged by the applicant in writing, becomes valid.

c) All alarm installations and maintenance in the Communications Center shall meet requirements as prescribed by the Chief of Police and shall be made by qualified personnel at no expense to the City of Albany.

Section 4: LOCAL ALARMS.

a) Alarm users with local alarms shall provide the Police Department a current list of at least three persons who have authority to enter the protected premises and keep the list current.

b) Local alarms must be silenced/extinguished within 15 minutes of the initial signal.

c) It shall be unlawful for local alarms to utilize any lights similar to those used on emergency vehicles.

Section 5: FALSE ALARMS.

a) Signals from an alarm system which are false are hereby declared a nuisance.

b) For a police response to any false alarm, the Chief of Police shall collect/receive from the person having or maintaining such burglary/robbery alarm on premises owned or operated by him the following:

(1) For a response to premises at which no other false alarm has occurred within the preceding six months period, hereinafter referred to as a "first response," no fee shall be charged, but the person having or maintaining such burglary and/or robbery alarm shall, within ten working days after notice to do so, make a written report to the Chief of Police on forms prescribed by him setting forth the cause of such false alarm, the corrective action taken, whether such alarm has been

inspected by an authorized service person and such other information as the Chief of Police may reasonably require to determine the cause of such false alarm and corrective action necessary.

(2) For a second response to premises within six months after a first response, no fee shall be charged, but a written report shall be required as for a first response and the Chief of Police shall be authorized to inspect or cause to be inspected the alarm system at such premises, prescribe necessary corrective action, and shall give notice to the person having or maintaining such alarm system of the conditions and requirements of this section.

(3) For a third or subsequent response to premises within six (6) months, a fee of twenty-five (\$25.00) shall be charged, and if such third false alarm or any such succeeding false alarm is as a result of failure to take necessary corrective action prescribed by the Chief of Police, said Chief of Police may order the disconnection of such alarm system and it shall be unlawful to reconnect such alarm system until such corrective action is taken; provided, that no disconnection shall be ordered as to any premises required by law to have an alarm system in operation.

Section 6: ALARM EQUIPMENT TESTING.

Whenever a user of an alarm system deems it necessary to test or otherwise intentionally set off or activate an alarm system located on his premises, he shall notify the Police Communication Center that he intends to test or otherwise intentionally activate that alarm prior to actual testing being conducted. Failure to do so will result in that user being considered as having had a false alarm.

Section 7: ADMINISTRATION - APPEALS.

a) The Chief of Police shall administer the alarm program and be the determining authority in matters in question regarding removal and status of alarm signals.

b) Installation shall be as required by ORS. 479.510 to 479.850, National Electrical Code, and the Oregon Administrative Rules, Department of Commerce Electrical Standards, as adopted by the City of Albany. Electrical permits are requires.

c) At such time an alarm user disagrees with determinations relating to the alarm program, he may appeal in writing to the City Council and shall receive a hearing on the matter. The decision of the City Council will be final.

Section 8: PENALTY.

An person or firm violating any of the provisions or failing to comply with any provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to penalties as imposed by Section 1.04.010 of the Albany Municipal Code.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL: February 27, 1980

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR: February 27, 1980

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 28, 1980

Richard S. Olsen  
Mayor

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
City Recorder