



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

## ALARM PERMIT OVERVIEW



False alarms cost the Unified Government and its citizens thousands of dollars per year and take police officers and firefighters away from actual emergencies. To prevent unnecessary emergency response to false alarms, an ordinance was adopted to encourage all alarm users to maintain the mechanical reliability of, and to properly use their alarm equipment.

This alarm ordinance applies to all alarm users with systems which dial a monitoring service (which then dials the Police or Fire Department) or those that dial the Police or Fire Department directly (radio room alarms) This ordinance does not apply to "local" alarms-those on motor vehicles or other property which merely emit a noise. There is no fee for an alarm permit if it is applied for within 10 days of installation or conversion of the alarm system. A late fee of \$25.00 will be charged if an alarm user does not obtain a permit within those 10 days.

Residential and not-for-profit alarm users are allowed 3 free false alarms per calendar year. After the third false alarm, any additional false alarm incidents will be assessed a penalty fee as follows:

- 4-6 false alarms-\$50 each incident
- 7-9 false alarms-\$75 each incident
- 10-12 false alarms-\$100 each incident
- 13 and each subsequent incident-\$125

Business alarm users are allowed 3 free false alarms per calendar year. After the third false alarm, any additional false alarm incidents will be assessed a penalty fee as follows:

- 4-6 false alarms-\$100 each incident
- 7-9 false alarms-\$150 each incident
- 10-12 false alarms-\$200 each incident
- 13 and each subsequent incident-\$250

Radio room alarm users are allowed 6 free false alarms per calendar year. After the sixth false alarm, any additional false alarm incidents will be assessed a penalty fee as follows:

- 7-9 false alarms-\$100 each incident
- 10-12 false alarms-\$200 each incident
- 13 and each subsequent incident-\$250

Multiple false alarm incidents occurring on the same calendar day constitute one false alarm. Failure to obtain a permit is a misdemeanor. Alarm permits are not transferable. Permits are valid for a calendar year and must be renewed by January 31 of each year. If any information furnished on the applications changes, the alarm user must notify the Alarm Coordinator in writing within 10 days of the change. This is also necessary if an alarm monitoring service is disconnected.

If you have any questions about the alarm ordinance, call the **Alarm Coordinator** at **(913) 573-6109**.