

CHAPTER 42A

ALARM SYSTEMS

§ 42A-1. Purpose.

The purpose of this section is to establish provisions, including penalties, for false alarms from alarm systems within the Township.

§ 42A-2. Definitions.

For the purpose of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

ALARM DEVICE – Any type of alarm-actuating equipment which provides warning of intrusion, fire, smoke, burglary, flood or like perils, including dial alarms (devices using normal telephone lines or other telephony, such as wireless, cable or VOIP mechanisms, transmitting notification directly to Communications Center) and direct alarms (devices using telephone lines or other telephony, such as wireless, cable or VOIP mechanisms, terminating at Communications Center). The term, alarm device, shall not include a personal medical alert device.

ALARM SYSTEM – An installation, on premises within this Township, in or near one or more buildings or structures on said premises, of one or more alarm devices or local alarms for the express purpose of giving warning of an intrusion, fire, smoke, burglary, flood or like perils, to which the local or state police or other Township agency, or a fire company, rescue squad, or other emergency responder, may be expected to respond.

AUDIBLE ALARM – A device that emits an audible signal from the premises that is designated to protect.

CHIEF OF POLICE – The Chief of Police of the Township.

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER – The Hunterdon County dispatch center, responsible for dispatching police, fire, and rescue, in the event of any type of emergency where a request is made for assistance.

FALSE ALARM – An alarm signal resulting in a response by the police, or a rescue squad and/or fire department operating in the Township, where an emergency does not exist.

LOCAL ALARM – An alarm device which emits an audible alarm or emits a flashing light or other warning, not transmitted beyond the immediate area. The term “local alarm” shall not include an alarm system solely connected to a registered motor vehicle, nor shall the term include equipment designated to signal solely within a building or series of buildings and which does not emit signals, visible or audible, to persons outside such building or buildings, e.g., independent smoke detector.

PERSON – Any natural person, partnership, corporation, association or other legal entity.

TOWNSHIP – The Township of Holland, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey.

§ 42A-3. False alarms and penalties.

- A. It shall be the responsibility of the record owner of a property from which a false alarm is generated as well as all persons maintaining an alarm system on such property within the Township to prevent the transmission of false alarms through such alarm system.

- B. NOTIFICATIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS; ENFORCEMENT – In the case of a false alarm, any person having knowledge that such alarm is false and also owning or occupying the premises where such alarm system is located, shall immediately notify the Township Police Department. In the case of false alarms, the Chief of Police shall cause an investigation to be made and shall keep a record of false alarms on file. The Township Police Department is designated to enforce the penalty provisions of this Chapter.
- C. PENALTIES FOR FALSE ALARMS – In any consecutive 12-month period, the following penalties shall apply to a false alarm [whether or not there was prior knowledge by a party owning or occupying the premises that the alarm was false]:
1. For the first alarm, a written warning shall be issued by the Chief of Police.
 2. For the second false alarm, a fine of \$100.00 shall be paid to the Township.
 3. For the third false alarm, a fine of \$250.00 shall be paid to the Township.
 4. In the event of a fourth or subsequent false alarm, a fine of \$500.00 shall be paid to the Township for each such false alarm, and, in addition to such fine, an investigation may be conducted by the Police Department.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by said Township Committee that this Ordinance shall take effect on September 1, 2009, following final adoption and publication, according to law.