

Sec. 4-1007. Duties of citizens to aid.

It shall be the duty of all persons, when called upon by a police officer, to promptly aid and assist such officer in the discharge of his duties.

(Code 1976, § 4-1007)

Sec. 4-1007.1. Burglary and robbery alarms.

(a) Definitions.

Alarm system: Any assembly of equipment or devices, mechanical or electrical, which is designed, arranged or used for the detection of a hazardous condition or an unauthorized entry or attempted entry into a building, structure or facility, or for alerting persons of a hazardous condition or the commission of an unlawful act to or within a building, structure or facility and which emits a sound or transmits a signal or message when activated, to which the police department of the city is expected to respond, but this definition shall not include an alarm system installed in a vehicle or a fire alarm.

Alarm user: Any person, as defined in Section 1-1002, in control of any building, structure, or facility or a portion thereof wherein an alarm system is maintained. However, a church or other religious organization, or any other nonprofit corporation not engaged in a regular business activity, shall be exempt from the provisions of subsection (e) of this section.

False alarm: A signal from an alarm system eliciting a response by police when an investigation indicates no criminal activity occurred to cause the alarm signal or it is otherwise determined that a situation requiring a response by the police did not, in fact, exist.

Police: The police department of the city.

(b) Alarm system operating requirements.

(1) An alarm system shall be adjusted to suppress false indications due to:

- a. Transient pressure changes in water pipes,
- b. Flashes of light,
- c. Wind noise caused by rattling or vibration of windows or doors,
- d. Vehicular noise,
- e. Electrical power fluctuations,
- f. Other forces unrelated to an actual emergency.

(2) All alarm users shall provide the police with the name, telephone number and address of at least one authorized person, who shall be available to respond and shall arrive at the building, structure or facility where an alarm has been activated within thirty (30) minutes, when requested to do so by the police. All alarm users shall promptly notify the police of any change in the designation or manner of contacting an authorized person.

(3) Audible alarms shall be adjusted so that the alarm will sound for no longer than thirty (30) minutes, and must be reset before sounding again.

(c) False alarms.

(1) Whenever an alarm system is activated in the city, thereby requiring an emergency response to the location by the police, and the police do respond, a police officer on the

scene of the activated alarm system shall inspect the area protected by the system and shall determine whether the alarm was a false alarm. However, an alarm user shall not be held accountable for a false alarm caused by:

- a. Natural or man-made catastrophe,
- b. Vandalism,
- c. Telephone line outage,
- d. Severe weather conditions causing damage to the premises.

The alarm user shall have the burden of proving these causes.

(2) If the police officer at the scene of the activated alarm system determines the alarm to be a "false alarm," the officer shall make a report of the false alarm, and if the alarm user is determined to be held accountable, a notification of the false alarm shall be mailed or delivered to the alarm user, at the address of the alarm system installation location. The determination of the police officer may be appealed to the chief of police. The decision of the chief of police shall be the final administrative decision. However, nothing contained herein shall prevent an alarm user from pursuing any matter that is the subject of this section in any of the several courts of this state.

(3) The chief of police, or his designee, shall have the right to inspect any alarm system on the premises to which a response has been made and he may cause an inspection of such system to be made at any reasonable time thereafter to determine whether the alarm system is being operated in conformity with the provisions of this section.

(d) *Assistance.* Persons in, about, or who respond by coming to the site of an alarm activation shall obey all reasonable requests for assistance by the police including, but not limited to, identifying themselves to police officers, or leaving the building upon request. Such persons will also promptly notify the police of any and all hazards to the officer which exist within the building, structure, facility or area.

(e) *Service fees for false alarm notifications.*

(1) The alarm user shall be charged a service fee for false alarms pursuant to the following schedule:

- a. One through three (3), no charge. A warning will be included in the notification to the alarm user.
- b. Four (4) to six (6), twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) each occurrence.
- c. Six (6) to twenty-four (24), fifty dollars (\$50.00) each occurrence.
- d. Twenty-five (25) or more, two hundred dollars (\$200.00) each occurrence.

(2) Alarms will be counted for the twelve (12) month period previous to the date of any false alarm.

(3) The chief of police shall have the ability to waive any service fee for any false alarm based upon any facts or in any situation he deems appropriate.

(Ord. No. 2325, § 1, 10-10-89)

Editor's note: Section 1 of Ord. No. 2325, adopted Oct. 10, 1989, enacted provisions designated § 4-1008. Inasmuch as there existed a § 4-1008, the editor has redesignated the provisions as § 4-1007.1.