

## CHAPTER 46. OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

### ARTICLE I.            In General

#### **Section 46-1.            False alarms by alarm system.**

- (a)        *Definitions.* For the purpose of this section, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them by this section:

*Alarm system* means any assembly of equipment or devices, either mechanically or electronically operated, which signals either audibly or in any other manner so as to be seen, heard, or otherwise detected outside the protected area for the purpose of summoning a response by public safety personnel.

*Alarm users* means a person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company, or organization of any kind in control of any building, residence, structure, vehicle, or facility where an alarm system is maintained.

*False alarm* means an alarm signal eliciting a response by public safety personnel when a situation requiring a response does not, in fact, exist and which is caused by the activation of the alarm system through mechanical failure, alarm malfunction, improper installation, or the inadvertence of the alarm user, or employees or agents of the alarm user. A false alarm does not include an alarm caused by climatic condition or utility line mishaps or other conditions determined to be beyond the control of the alarm manufacturer, installer, or user.

*Police response* means whenever a police department employee or designee arrives at the location of the false alarm in response to it.

- (b)        *Service fee for false alarms.* Any alarm under whose alarm system reports more than three false alarms in a calendar year which result in police response, shall pay service fees as determined by the council. Notice of false alarm charges shall be sent to the user of the alarm system and the owner of the property where the system is installed, if different from the user. Payment of such charges shall be made to the city within 30 days of the date of notice. Unpaid charges shall be annually certified to the county auditor and shall be collected in the same manner as special assessments against the property. No licenses, permits, or other city approval shall be granted to any person, firm, or company which has unpaid false alarm charges.

**Sections 46-2 thru 46-30.            Reserved.**