

LARIMER COUNTY SECURITY ALARM ORDINANCE

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LARIMER COUNTY SECURITY ALARM ORDINANCE

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

(A) The purpose of this Ordinance is to encourage Alarm Users and alarm companies to properly use and maintain the operational effectiveness of Security Alarm Systems in order to improve the reliability of Security Alarm Systems and reduce or eliminate False Alarms.

(B) This Ordinance governs Security Alarm Systems intended to summon law enforcement response, and requires registration, establishes fees, provides for penalties for violations, establishes a system of administration, and sets conditions for suspension of law enforcement response or revocation of registration. This ordinance does not include, cover or regulate fire alarms, smoke detectors or other devices used to monitor and alert authorities regarding fires.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

In this Ordinance the following terms and phrases shall have the following meanings:

(A) **Alarm Administrator** means the Sheriff's designee responsible to administer, control and review False Alarm reduction efforts and administer the provisions of this Ordinance.

(B) **Alarm Installation Company** means a Person in the business of selling, providing, maintaining, servicing, repairing, altering, replacing, moving or installing a Security Alarm System in an Alarm Site.

(C) **Alarm Dispatch Request** means a notification to the Sheriff's Office that an alarm, either manual or automatic, has been activated at a particular Alarm Site.

(D) **Alarm Registration** (or Permits) means authorization granted by the Alarm Administrator to an Alarm User to operate a Security Alarm System.

(E) **Alarm Site** means a single fixed premises or location served by an Security Alarm System or Systems. Each unit, if served by a separate Security Alarm System in a multi-unit building or complex, shall be considered a separate Alarm Site.

(F) **Security Alarm System** means a device or series of devices, including, but not limited to, hardwired systems and systems interconnected with a radio frequency method such as cellular or private radio signals, which emit or transmit a remote or local audible, visual or electronic signal indicating an alarm condition and intended to summon law enforcement

response, including Local Security Alarm Systems. Security Alarm System does not include an alarm installed in a vehicle or on someone's Person unless the vehicle or the personal alarm is permanently located at a site.

(G) **Alarm User** means any Person, who has contracted for Monitoring, repair, installation or maintenance service from an Alarm Installation Company or Monitoring Company for an Security Alarm System, or who owns or operates a Security Alarm System which is not monitored, maintained or repaired under contract.

(H) **Arming Station** means a device that allows control of a Security Alarm System.

(I) **Automatic Voice Dialer** means any electrical, electronic, mechanical, or other device capable of being programmed to send a prerecorded voice message, when activated, over a telephone line, radio or other communication system, to a law enforcement, public safety or emergency services agency requesting dispatch.

(J) **Cancellation** means the process where response is terminated when a Monitoring Company (designated by the Alarm User) for the Alarm Site notifies the Sheriff's Office that there is not an existing situation at the Alarm Site requiring a deputy's response after an Alarm Dispatch Request.

(K) **Conversion** means the transaction or process by which one Alarm Installation Company or Monitoring Company begins the servicing and/or Monitoring of a previously unmonitored Security Alarm System or a Security Alarm System previously serviced and/or monitored by another alarm company.

(L) **Duress Alarm** means a silent Security Alarm System signal generated by the entry of a designated code into an Arming Station in order to signal that the Alarm User is being forced to turn off the system and requires a deputy's response.

(M) **False Alarm** means an Alarm Dispatch Request to the Sheriff's Office, when the responding deputy finds no evidence of a criminal offense or attempted criminal offense after having completed a timely investigation of the Alarm Site.

(N) **Holdup Alarm** means a silent alarm signal generated by the manual activation of a device intended to signal a robbery in progress.

(O) **License** means a license issued by the State of Colorado or Larimer County to an Alarm Installation Company or Monitoring Company to sell, install, monitor, repair, or replace Security Alarm Systems.

(P) **Local Security Alarm System** means any Security Alarm System, which is not monitored, that annunciates an alarm only at the Alarm Site.

(Q) **Monitoring** means the process by which a Monitoring Company receives signals from a Security Alarm System and relays an Alarm Dispatch Request to the Sheriff's Office for the purpose of summoning a deputy to the Alarm Site.

(R) **Monitoring Company** means a Person in the business of providing Monitoring services.

(S) **One Plus Duress Alarm** means the manual activation of a silent alarm signal by entering at an Arming Station a code that adds one to the last digit of the normal arm/disarm code (e.g., normal code = 1234, One Plus Duress Code = 1235)

(T) **Panic Alarm** means an audible Security Alarm System signal generated by the manual activation of a device intended to signal a life threatening or emergency situation requiring a deputy's response.

(U) **Person** means an individual, corporation, partnership, association, organization or similar entity.

(V) **Responder** means an individual capable of reaching the Alarm Site within [30] minutes and having access to the Alarm Site, the code to the Security Alarm System and the authority to approve repairs to the Security Alarm System.

(W) **Sheriff** means the Sheriff or other authorized representative of the Sheriff's Office as designated by the Sheriff.

(X) **SIA Control Panel Standard CP-01** means the ANSI – American National Standard Institute approved Security Industry Association – SIA CP-01 Control Panel Standard, as may be updated from time to time, that details recommended design features for security system control panels and their associated arming and disarming devices to reduce the incidence of false alarms. Control panels built and tested to this standard by Underwriters Laboratory (UL), or other nationally recognized testing organizations, will be marked to state: "Design evaluated in accordance with SIA CP-01 Control Panel Standard Features for False Alarm Reduction".

(Y) **Takeover** means the transaction or process by which an Alarm User takes over control of an existing Security Alarm System, which was previously controlled by another Alarm User.

(Z) **Verify** means an attempt by the Monitoring Company, or its representative, to contact the Alarm Site and/or Alarm User by telephone and/or other electronic means, whether or not actual contact with a Person is made, to determine whether an alarm signal is valid before requesting law enforcement dispatch, in an attempt to avoid an unnecessary Alarm Dispatch Request. For the purpose of this ordinance, telephone verification shall require, as a minimum, that a second call be made to a different number if the first attempt fails to reach an Alarm User who can properly identify themselves to determine whether an alarm signal is valid before requesting a deputy dispatch.

(AA) **Zones** means division of devices into which a Security Alarm System is divided to indicate the general location from which a Security Alarm System signal is transmitted.

SECTION 3. REGISTRATION REQUIRED; APPLICATION; FEE; TRANSFERABILITY; FALSE STATEMENTS

(A) No Alarm User shall operate, or cause to be operated, a Security Alarm System at its Alarm Site without a valid Alarm Registration. A separate Alarm Registration is required for each Alarm Site.

(B) The fee for an Alarm Registration or an Alarm Registration renewal is set forth below and shall be paid by the Alarm User. No refund of a registration or registration renewal fee will be made.

Existing Security Alarm Systems.

Any Security Alarm System which has been installed before the effective date of this ordinance shall be registered by the Alarm User within sixty (60) days of such effective date. Within (15) days of an Alarm Installation Company or Monitoring company being notified in writing from the Alarm Administrator shall provide a list of existing Alarm Users in the unincorporated limits of the County of Larimer.

New Security Alarm Systems.

Any Alarm Installation company that installs a Security Alarm System on Protected premises located within the unincorporated boundaries of Larimer County shall have five (5) days from the date of installation to notify the Alarm Administrator that a Security Alarm System has been installed and send the Alarm Administrator the name and address of the Alarm User and a copy of the Customer False Alarm Prevention Checklist. Failure of an Alarm Installation Company to notify the Alarm Administrator of a new Security Alarm System installation within five (5) days following installation shall result in a \$100 fine to the Alarm Installation Company.

The initial Alarm Registration fee must be submitted to the Alarm Administrator within five (5) days after the Security Alarm System installation or Security Alarm System Takeover.

It shall be the responsibility of the Alarm Installation company to forward to the Alarm Administrator the application completed by the Alarm User, the notice of new system and the appropriate fees within five (5) days of installation.

- (1) Registration Fees – **\$50.00**
- (2) Renewal Fees – **\$25.00**
- (3) **Late fee for non-payment within 30 days of initial Alarm Installation or Renewal deadline - \$25.**

(C) Upon receipt of a completed Alarm Registration application form and the Alarm Registration fee, the Alarm Administrator shall register the applicant unless the applicant has:

- (1) failed to pay a fee or fine assessed under Section 7; or
- (2) had an alarm registration for the Alarm Site suspended or revoked, and the violation causing the suspension or revocation has not been corrected.

(D) Each Alarm Registration application must include the following information:

- (1) the name, complete address (including apt/suite number), and telephone numbers of the Person who will be the registration holder and be responsible for the proper maintenance and operation of the Security Alarm System and payment of fees assessed under this article;
- (2) the classification of the Alarm Site as either residential (includes apartment, condo, mobile home, etc.) or commercial;
- (3) for each Security Alarm System located at the Alarm Site, the classification of the Security Alarm System (i.e. burglary, Holdup, Duress, Panic Alarms or other) and for each classification whether such alarm is audible or silent;
- (4) mailing address, if different from the address of the Alarm Site;
- (5) any dangerous or special conditions present at the Alarm Site;
- (6) names and telephone numbers of at least two individuals who are able and have agreed to: (a) receive notification of a Security Alarm System activation at any time; (b) respond to the Alarm Site within **30 minutes** at any time; and (c) upon request can grant access to the Alarm Site and deactivate the Security Alarm System if necessary;

- (7) type of business conducted at a commercial Alarm Site;
- (8) signed certification from the Alarm User stating the following:
 - (a) the date of installation, Conversion or Takeover of the Security Alarm System, whichever is applicable;
 - (b) the name, address, and telephone number of the Alarm Installation Company or companies performing the Security Alarm System installation, Conversion or Takeover and of the Alarm Installation Company responsible for providing repair service to the Security Alarm System;
 - (c) the name, address, and telephone number of the Monitoring Company if different from the Alarm Installation Company;
 - (d) that a set of written operating instructions for the Security Alarm System, including written guidelines on how to avoid False Alarms, have been left with the applicant by the Alarm Installation Company; and
 - (e) that the Alarm Installation Company has trained the applicant in proper use of the Security Alarm System, including instructions on how to avoid False Alarms.
- (9) that the Sheriff's Office response may be influenced by factors including, but not limited to the availability of deputies, priority of calls, weather conditions, traffic conditions, emergency conditions, staffing levels, etc.

(E) Any false statement of a material fact made by an applicant for the purpose of obtaining an Alarm Registration shall be sufficient cause for refusal to issue a registration.

(F) An Alarm Registration cannot be transferred to another Person or Alarm Site. An Alarm User shall inform the Alarm Administrator of any change that alters any of the information listed on the Alarm Registration application within five (5) business days of such change.

(G) All fines and fees owed by an applicant must be paid before an Alarm Registration may be issued or renewed.

SECTION 3.1. ALARM REGISTRATION DURATION AND RENEWAL

An Alarm Registration shall expire **one year** from the last day of the month of the date of issuance, and must be renewed annually by submitting an updated application and a registration renewal fee to the Alarm Administrator. The Alarm Administrator shall notify each Alarm User of the need to renew thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of the registration. It is the responsibility of the Alarm User to submit an application prior to the registration expiration date. Failure to renew will be classified as use of a non-registered Security Alarm System and citations and penalties shall be assessed without waiver. A **\$25** late fee may be assessed if the renewal is more than thirty (30) days late.

SECTION 4. DUTIES OF THE ALARM USER

(A) An Alarm User shall:

- (1) maintain the Alarm Site and the Security Alarm System in a manner that will minimize or eliminate False Alarms;
- (2) make every reasonable effort to have a Responder to the Security Alarm System's location within **30 minutes** when requested by the law enforcement agency in order to:
 - (a) deactivate a Security Alarm System;
 - (b) provide access to the Alarm Site; and/or
 - (c) provide alternative security for the Alarm Site.
- (3) not activate a Security Alarm System for any reason other than an occurrence of an event that the Security Alarm System was intended to report.

(B) An Alarm User shall adjust the mechanism or cause the mechanism to be adjusted so that an alarm signal audible on the exterior of an Alarm Site will sound for no longer than ten (10) minutes after being activated.

(C) An Alarm User shall have an Alarm Installation Company inspect the Security Alarm System after two (2) False Alarms in a one (1) year period. The Alarm Administrator may waive a required inspection if it determines that a False Alarm(s) could not have been related to a defect or malfunction in the Security Alarm System. After four (4) False Alarms within a one (1) year period, the Alarm User must have an Alarm Installation Company modify the Security Alarm System to be more false alarm resistant or provide additional user training as

appropriate. [See Appendix A for Installers False Alarm Prevention Checklist or an equivalent checklist approved by the Alarm Administrator.]

(D) An Alarm User shall not use Automatic Voice Dialers.

(E) An Alarm User shall maintain at each Alarm Site, a set of written operating instructions for each Security Alarm System.

(F) All Alarm Users shall agree with their Alarm Installation Company and/or Monitoring Company to go through an "acclimation period" for the first seven (7) days after installation of a Security Alarm System during which time the Alarm Installation Company and/or Monitoring Company will have no obligation to and will not respond to any Alarm Signal from the Alarm Site and will not make an Alarm Dispatch Request to law enforcement, even if the Alarm Signal is the result of an actual alarm event.

SECTION 5. DUTIES OF ALARM INSTALLATION COMPANY AND MONITORING COMPANY

(A) The Alarm Installation Company shall provide written and oral instructions to each of its Alarm Users in the proper use and operation of their Security Alarm Systems. Such instructions will specifically include all instructions necessary to turn the Security Alarm System on and off and to avoid False Alarms.

(B) Upon the effective date of this Ordinance, Alarm Installation Companies shall not program Security Alarm Systems so that they are capable of sending One Plus Duress Alarms. Monitoring Companies may continue to report One Plus Duress Alarms received from Security Alarm Systems programmed with One Plus Duress Alarms prior to enactment of this Ordinance. However, upon the effective date of this Ordinance, when a Takeover or Conversion occurs or if an Alarm User requests a Security Alarm System inspection or modification pursuant to Section 4(C) of this Ordinance, an Alarm Installation Company must remove the One Plus Duress Alarm capability from such Security Alarm Systems.

(C) Upon the effective date of this Ordinance, Alarm Installation Companies shall not install a device to activate a Holdup Alarm, which is a single action, non-recessed button.

(D) Ninety (90) days after enactment of this Ordinance the Alarm Installation Companies shall, on new installations, use only alarm control panel(s) which meet SIA Control Panel Standard CP-01.

(E) An alarm company shall not use Automatic Voice Dialers.

(F) After completion of the installation of a Security Alarm System, an Alarm Installation Company employee shall review with the Alarm User the **Customer False Alarm Prevention Checklist (Appendix B) or an equivalent checklist approved by the Alarm Administrator.**

(G) The Monitoring Company shall not make an Alarm Dispatch Request of a deputy's response to a security alarm signal, excluding Panic, Duress and Holdup signals, during the first seven (7) days following an Security Alarm System installation. The Alarm Administrator may grant an Alarm User's request for an exemption from this waiting period based upon a determination that special circumstances substantiate the need for the exemption.

(H) A Monitoring Company shall:

- (1) report alarm signals by using telephone numbers designated by the Alarm Administrator;
- (2) Verify every alarm signal, except a Duress or Holdup Alarm activation before requesting a deputy's response to a Security Alarm System signal;
- (3) communicate Alarm Dispatch Requests to the Sheriff's Office in a manner and form determined by the Alarm Administrator;
- (4) communicate Cancellations to the Sheriff's Office in a manner and form determined by the Alarm Administrator;
- (5) ensure that all Alarm Users of Security Alarm Systems equipped with a Duress, Holdup or Panic Alarm are given adequate training as to the proper use of the Duress, Holdup or Panic Alarm;
- (6) communicate any available information (north, south, front, back, floor, etc.) about the location on all alarm signals related to the Alarm Dispatch Request;
- (7) communicate type of alarm activation (silent or audible, interior or perimeter);
- (8) provide an Alarm User registration number when requesting a deputy's dispatch;
- (9) after an Alarm Dispatch Request, promptly advise the Sheriff's Office if the Monitoring Company knows that the Alarm User or the Responder is on the way to the Alarm Site;

- (10) attempt to contact the Alarm User or Responder within 24 hours via mail, fax, telephone or other electronic means when an Alarm Dispatch Request is made; and
- (11) upon the effective date of this Ordinance, Monitoring Companies must maintain for a period of at least one (1) year from the date of the Alarm Dispatch Request, records relating to Alarm Dispatch Requests. Records must include the name, address and telephone number of the Alarm User, the Security Alarm System Zone(s) activated, the time of Alarm Dispatch Request and evidence of an attempt to Verify. The Alarm Administrator may request copies of such records for individually named Alarm Users. If the request is made within sixty (60) days of an Alarm Dispatch Request, the Monitoring Company shall furnish requested records within three (3) business days of receiving the request. If the records are requested between sixty (60) days to one (1) year after an Alarm Dispatch Request, the Monitoring Company shall furnish the requested records within thirty (30) days of receiving the request.

(I) An Alarm Installation Company and/or Monitoring Company that purchases Security Alarm System accounts from another Person shall notify the Alarm Administrator of such purchase and provide details as may be reasonably requested by the Alarm Administrator.

SECTION 5.1 LICENSE OR LICENSING

All Alarm Installation Companies and Monitoring Companies shall maintain a License, if required by the State of Colorado and pay an annual registration fee of \$100 to Larimer County. Failure to pay the annual registration within 30 days of notice shall result in a late fee of \$25.

SECTION 6. DUTIES AND AUTHORITY OF THE ALARM ADMINISTRATOR

- (A) The Alarm Administrator shall:
 - (1) designate a manner, form and telephone numbers for the communication of Alarm Dispatch Requests; and
 - (2) establish a procedure to accept Cancellation of Alarm Dispatch Requests.

(B) The Alarm Administrator shall establish a procedure to record such information on Alarm Dispatch Requests necessary to permit the Alarm Administrator to maintain records, including, but not limited to, the information listed below.

- (1) identification of the registration number for the Alarm Site;
- (2) identification of the Alarm Site;
- (3) date and time Alarm Dispatch Request was received, including the name of the Monitoring Company and the Monitoring operator name or number;
- (4) date and time of a deputy's arrival at the Alarm Site;
- (5) Zone and Zone description, if available;
- (6) weather conditions;
- (7) name of Alarm User's representative at Alarm Site, if any;
- (8) identification of the responsible Alarm Installation Company or Monitoring Company;
- (9) whether a deputy was unable to locate the address of the Alarm Site; and
- (10) cause of alarm signal, if known.

(C) The Alarm Administrator shall establish a procedure for the notification to the Alarm User of a False Alarm. The notice shall include the following information:

- (1) the date and time of a deputy's response to the False Alarm;
- (2) the identification number of the responding deputy; and
- (3) a statement urging the Alarm User to ensure that the Security Alarm System is properly operated, inspected, and serviced in order to avoid False Alarms and resulting fines.

(D) The Alarm Administrator may require a conference with an Alarm User and the Alarm Installation Company and/or Monitoring Company responsible for the repair or monitoring of the Security Alarm System to review the circumstances of each False Alarm.

(E) The Alarm Administrator may require an Alarm User to remove a Holdup Alarm that is a single action, non-recessed button, if a false Holdup Alarm has occurred.

(F) The Alarm Administrator will make a copy of this Ordinance and/or an Ordinance summary sheet available to the Alarm User.

SECTION 7. FINES and FEES FOR SERVICES

(A) An Alarm User shall be subject to fees for services, depending on the number of False Alarms within a 12-month period based upon the following schedule:

(1) False Alarm Fees

# of False Alarms	Fees for service
1	Complimentary
2	\$50
3	\$75
4	\$100
5 or more	\$200

Each False Alarm Event resulting in a Fee, is subject to a one time \$25 late fee if not paid within 30 days of invoice.

(B) In addition, any Person operating a non-registered Security Alarm System will be subject to a fee of **\$100** for each False Alarm in addition to any other fee. The Alarm Administrator may waive this additional fee for a non-registered system if the Alarm User submits an application for Alarm Registration within ten (10) days after of notification of such violation.

(C) If Cancellation occurs prior to law enforcement arriving at the scene, this is not a False Alarm for the purpose of fees, and no fee will be assessed.

(D) The Alarm Installation Company shall be assessed a fee of **\$100** if the deputy responding to the False Alarm determines that an on-site employee of the Alarm Installation Company directly caused the False Alarm. In this situation, the False Alarm will not be counted against the Alarm User.

(E) The Monitoring Company shall be issued a fine of **\$100** for each failure to Verify Security Alarm System signals as specified in Section 5(H)(2).

(F) The Alarm Installation Company shall be issued a fine of **\$200** if the Alarm Administrator determines that an Alarm Installation Company employee knowingly made a false statement concerning the inspection of an Alarm Site or the performance of a Security Alarm System.

(G) Notice of the right of Appeal under this ordinance will be included with any fees or fines.

SECTION 8. NOTIFICATION

The Alarm Administrator shall notify the Alarm User in writing after each False Alarm. The notification shall include: the amount of the fee for the False Alarm, the fact that response will be suspended after the **5th** False Alarm, excluding Duress, Holdup and Panic Alarms, and a description of the appeals procedure available to the Alarm User.

The Alarm Administrator will notify the Alarm User and the Alarm Installation Company or Monitoring Company in writing after alarm response has been suspended, except to Duress, Holdup and Panic Alarms. This notice of suspension will also include the amount of the fine for each False Alarm and a description of the appeals procedure available to the Alarm User and the Alarm Installation Company or Monitoring Company.

SECTION 9. SUSPENSION OF RESPONSE

(A) The Alarm Administrator may suspend Sheriff's Office response to an Alarm Site by revoking the Alarm Registration if it is determined that:

- (1) the Alarm User has **5** or more False Alarms in a twelve (12) month period;
- (2) there is a statement of a material fact known to be false in the application for a registration;
- (3) the Alarm User has failed to make timely payment of a fee or fine assessed under Section 7 or fee assessed under Section 3; or
- (4) the Alarm User has failed to submit a written certification from an Alarm Installation Company, that complies with the requirements of this article, stating that the Security Alarm System has been inspected and repaired (if necessary) and/or additional training has been conducted by the Alarm Installation Company.
- (5) the Alarm User has submitted a written notification to remove their address from the Alarm Registry, terminating law enforcement response to that location for an alarm subject to this ordinance.

(B) A Person commits an offense if he/she operates a Security Alarm System during the period in which the alarm registration is revoked and is subject to enforcement and penalties set in Sections 7 and 12. A Monitoring Company commits an offense if it continues Alarm Dispatch Requests to an Alarm Site after notification by the Alarm Administrator that the registration has been revoked. The Monitoring Company will receive a \$50 fine for each dispatch to an Alarm Site that has its registration revoked and is subject to enforcement and

penalties set forth in Section 12.. If the \$50 fine is not paid within 30 days the Monitoring Company will be charged a \$25 late fee.

(C) Unless there is separate indication that there is a crime in progress, the Sheriff will refuse a deputy response to an Alarm Dispatch Request at an Alarm Site for which the Alarm Registration is revoked.

(D) If the Alarm Registration is reinstated pursuant to Section 11, the Alarm Administrator may again suspend Sheriff's Office response to the Alarm Site by again revoking the Alarm Registration if it is determined that two (2) False Alarms have occurred within one hundred eighty (180) days after the reinstatement date.

SECTION 10. APPEALS

(A) If the Alarm Administrator assesses a fine or denies the issuance, renewal or reinstatement of an Alarm Registration, the Alarm Administrator shall send written notice of the action and a statement of the right to an appeal to either the affected applicant or Alarm User and the Alarm Installation Company and/or Monitoring Company.

(B) The Alarm User, Alarm Installation Company or Monitoring Company may appeal an assessment of a fine or the revocation of an Alarm Registration to the Alarm Administrator by setting forth in writing the reasons for the appeal within fifteen (15) business days after receipt of the fine or notice of revocation.

(C) The Alarm User or the Alarm Installation Company or Monitoring Company may appeal the decision of the Alarm Administrator to the Sheriff as follows:

- (1) The applicant, Alarm User, Alarm Installation Company or the Monitoring Company may file a written request for a review by paying an appeal fee of \$25 and setting forth the reasons for the appeal within twenty (20) business days after the date of notification of the decision from the Alarm Administrator. Appeal fees will be returned to the appealing Alarm User, Alarm Installation Company or Monitoring Company if the appeal is upheld.
- (2) The Sheriff shall conduct a formal hearing within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the request and consider the evidence by any interested Person(s). The Sheriff shall make his decision on the basis of the preponderance of evidence presented at the hearing. The Sheriff must render a decision within fifteen (15) days after the date of the hearing. The Sheriff shall affirm or reverse the decision of the Alarm Administrator.

(D) Filing of a request for appeal shall stay the action by the Alarm Administrator revoking an Alarm Registration or requiring payment of a fine, until the Sheriff has completed

his review. If a request for appeal is not made within the twenty (20) business day period, the action of the Alarm Administrator is final.

- (E) Alarm Administrator or Sheriff may adjust the count of False Alarms based on:
- (1) Evidence that a False Alarm was caused by an Act of God;
 - (2) Evidence that a False Alarm was caused by action of the telephone company;
 - (3) Evidence that a False Alarm was caused by a power outage lasting longer than four (4) hours;
 - (4) Evidence that the Alarm Dispatch Request was not a False Alarm;
 - (5) Evidence that the deputy response was not completed in a timely fashion; and/or
 - (6) In determining the number of False Alarms, multiple alarms occurring in any twenty-four (24) hour period shall be counted as one False Alarm; to allow the Alarm User time to take corrective action unless the False Alarms are directly caused by the Alarm User.

(F) With respect to fines of an Alarm Installation Company or Monitoring Company the Alarm Administrator or Sheriff may take into consideration whether the alarm company had engaged in a consistent pattern of violations.

SECTION 11. REINSTATEMENT

(A) A Person whose Alarm Registration has been revoked may, at the discretion of the Alarm Administrator or the Sheriff, have the Alarm Registration reinstated by the Alarm Administrator or the Sheriff if the Person:

- (1) submits a new application and pays a **\$50** reinstatement fee;
- (2) pays, or otherwise resolves, all outstanding citations and fines; and
- (3) submits a certification from an Alarm Installation Company, stating that the Security Alarm System has been inspected and repaired (if necessary) by the Alarm Installation Company;

(B) In addition, the Alarm Administrator may require one or more of the following as a condition to reinstatement:

- (1) proof that an employee of the Alarm Installation Company or Monitoring Company caused the False Alarm;
- (2) upgrade the alarm control panel to meet SIA Control Panel Standard CP-01;

- (3) a written statement from an independent inspector designated by the Sheriff that the Security Alarm System has been inspected and is in good working order;
- (4) confirmation that all motion detectors are “dual technology” type;
- (5) confirmation that the Security Alarm System requires two independent zones to trigger before transmitting an alarm signal to the Monitoring Company;
- (6) confirmation that the Security Alarm System requires two independent detectors to trigger before transmitting an alarm signal to the Monitoring Company;
- (7) certification that the Monitoring Company will not make an Alarm Dispatch Request unless the need for a deputy is confirmed by a listen-in device;
- (8) certification that the Monitoring Company will not request an Alarm Dispatch unless the need for a deputy is confirmed by a camera device; or
- (9) certification that the Monitoring Company will not make an Alarm Dispatch Request unless the need for a deputy is confirmed by a Person at the Alarm Site.

SECTION 12. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

Penalties and enactment authority for this Ordinance are pursuant to C.R.S. 30-15-401(1)(o) and C.R.S. 30-15-401(o.5).

SECTION 13. CONFIDENTIALITY

In the interest of public safety, all information contained in and gathered through the Alarm Registration applications and applications for appeals shall be held in confidence by all employees or representatives of the Sheriff’s Office or County and by any third-party administrator or employees of a third-party administrator with access to such information.

SECTION 14. GOVERNMENT IMMUNITY

Alarm Registration is not intended to, nor will it, create a contract, duty or obligation, either expressed or implied, of response. Any and all liability and consequential damage resulting from the failure to respond to a notification is hereby disclaimed and governmental immunity as provided by law is retained. By applying for an Alarm Registration, the Alarm User

acknowledges that Sheriff's Office response may be influenced by factors such as: the availability of deputy units, priority of calls, weather conditions, traffic conditions, emergency conditions, staffing levels and prior response history.

SECTION 15. SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable. If a court determines that a word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, subsection, section, or other provision is invalid or that the application of any part of the provision to any Person or circumstance is invalid, the remaining provisions and the application of those provisions to other Persons or circumstances are not affected by that decision.

Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

This Ordinance will take effect 30 days from the date of publication after its second reading.

Appendix A:

INSTALLER FALSE ALARM PREVENTION PROGRAM CHECKLIST

- | Yes | No | |
|-----|-----|---|
| ___ | ___ | 1. If a duress feature was installed, I thoroughly explained it and I did <u>not</u> program the system so that the duress code is only one digit different than the normal code. |
| ___ | ___ | 2. I checked that the control panel has been programmed so that: |
| ___ | ___ | a. it will not transmit more than one (1) alarm signal from the same zone until manually restored at the premises; |
| ___ | ___ | b. it will delay at least fifteen seconds before initiating dialing on intrusion alarm signals; |
| ___ | ___ | c. it has adequate delay time on entry/exit doors (delay of 45 seconds or more is recommended); and |
| ___ | ___ | d. a cancel code can be entered by the customer to cancel accidental alarms. |
| ___ | ___ | 3. I checked that police and fire panic buttons cause a siren or speaker to sound and that medical panic buttons cause an audible signal. |
| ___ | ___ | 4. I checked that the Arming Station(s) emit sound to inform occupants when an entry/exit door sensor has been triggered. |
| ___ | ___ | 5. I installed and tested standby/backup power. |
| ___ | ___ | 6. I reviewed the "Customer False Alarm Prevention Checklist" with the customer. |
| ___ | ___ | 7. I determined whether the customer had special telephone features, such as call waiting or DSL, and took appropriate steps to allow proper control panel dialing and monitoring center verification. (Such as *70 for call waiting, etc.) |
| ___ | ___ | 8. I checked the control panel was properly grounded to the manufacturer's specifications. |
| ___ | ___ | 9. I checked that all door and window contacts were properly selected, installed and tested. I considered loose fitting doors and windows, whether wide gap contacts were needed, and steel doors and windows. I followed the manufacturer's installation instructions. |
| ___ | ___ | 10. I checked all glass breakage sensors were properly selected, installed and tested. I gave consideration to pets, on-site noises and the general environment. I followed the manufacturer's installation instructions. |
| ___ | ___ | 11. All motion type detectors were properly selected, properly installed and tested. I gave consideration to pets, sunlight, other heat sources, and harsh environments. I followed the manufacturer's installation instructions. |

Please explain if you answered "No" to any of the above items: _____

Installation Technician

Printed Name

Signature

Date

Appendix B:

CUSTOMER FALSE ALARM PREVENTION CHECKLIST

- Yes No
- ___ ___ 1. I have been made aware of the applicable alarm ordinance and I will comply with its requirements.
- ___ ___ 2. I understand it is my responsibility to prevent false alarms, and I understand it is critical and my responsibility to assure that all users of the system (such as residents, employees, guests, cleaning people, and repair people) are trained on the proper use of the system.
- ___ ___ 3. I understand that there is a 7-day no dispatch period for intrusion alarms during which time the alarm company will have no obligation to and will not respond to any alarm signal from an alarm site and will not make an alarm dispatch request to law enforcement, even if the alarm signal is the result of an actual alarm event.
- ___ ___ 4. I have been trained in the proper operation of the system and have been given an operating sheet summarizing the proper use of the system, as well as the security system operating manual.
- ___ ___ 5. I know how to turn off motion detectors while leaving other sensors on. (Residential Only)
- ___ ___ 6. I know how to test the system, including the communication link with the monitoring center.
- ___ ___ 7. I understand that my entry time is ___ and my exit time is ___.
- ___ ___ 8. I have the alarm company phone number to request repair service or to ask questions about the Security Alarm System.
- ___ ___ 9. I know how to cancel an accidental alarm activation and have the system cancellation code or code word.
- ___ ___ 10. I understand that indoor pets can cause false alarms and I will contact my alarm company to adjust the system if I acquire any additional indoor pets.
- ___ ___ 11. I understand that the main control panel and transformer are located in _____.
- ___ ___ 12. I have received an alarm sheet, which describes how the alarm company will communicate with me in the event of various alarm signals.
- ___ ___ 13. I understand the importance of:
- keeping my emergency contact information updated and I know how to do this;
 - immediately advising the alarm company if my phone number changes (including area code changes); and
 - immediately advising the alarm company of any other changes to my telephone service such as call waiting or a fax line.
- ___ ___ 14. I will advise the alarm company if I do any remodeling (such as painting, moving walls, doors or windows).
- ___ ___ 15. I understand that certain building defects (such as loose fitting doors or windows, rodents, inadequate power, and roof leaks) can cause false alarms. I will correct these defects as I become aware of them.
- ___ ___ 16. The alarm company has given me written false alarm prevention techniques to help me prevent false alarms.

Comments: _____

ALARM COMPANY

By: _____

CUSTOMER

Print Name(s)

Signature(s)

Date

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE FOR THE REGULATION OF SECURITY
ALARMS**

Larimer County, Colorado Ordinance 09142010O001 for the Regulation of Security Alarms, was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Larimer County, Colorado at a Public Hearing on September 14th, 2010.

The Ordinance was originally published on August 25th, 2010.

Final publication date of this Ordinance, including any modifications adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on the September 14th hearing date, was September 16th, 2010. This Ordinance will take effect 30 days from the date of this publication.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO**

By: _____
Steve Johnson, Chair