

## **SECURITY ALARMS**

### **§ 111.150 PURPOSE AND SCOPE.**

This subchapter is intended to protect the public safety and to avoid misuse and careless or negligent operation of certain security alarms.

(1993 Code, § 540.01)

### **§ 111.151 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purpose of this subchapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

**ALARM.** A mechanical, electrical, or electronic device designed to detect unauthorized entry, but excluding such a device affixed to a motor vehicle.

**ALARM AGENT.** A person employed by or contracting with an alarm business, either directly or indirectly, whose duties include selling, maintaining, leasing, servicing, repairing, altering, replacing, moving, or installing any alarm.

**ALARM BUSINESS.** Any person engaged in selling, leasing, maintaining, servicing, repairing, altering, replacing, moving, installing, or monitoring any alarm for another person for compensation.

**ALARM USER.** A person in control of any building, structure, or facility wherein an alarm is maintained.

**AUDIBLE ALARM.** A device designed for the detection of unauthorized entry at a building by an audible signal at the building.

**AUTOMATIC DIALING DEVICE.** A device connected with a telephone line and designed or programmed to automatically select a predetermined telephone number and transmit a message or signal indicating the need for emergency police assistance.

**FALSE ALARM.** An alarm signal when a response by police is not in fact required, but excluding an alarm caused by storm or other conditions beyond the reasonable control of the alarm and alarm user.

**PROPRIETOR ALARM.** An alarm which is not serviced by an alarm business.

**SUBSCRIBER.** A person contracting with a business for the leasing, servicing, or maintenance of an alarm.

(1993 Code, § 540.02)

### **§ 111.152 ALARM REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS.**

(A) *Alarm standards.* The Chief of Police may recommend to the City Council minimum standards for the construction, maintenance, inspection, and approval of alarms. The standards will become effective upon adoption by City Council resolution, and thereafter all alarms must meet or

exceed the standards before being licensed.

(B) *False alarm reports required.* A report must be filed with the Chief of Police by the alarm user within 10 working days after any false alarm transmitted to the Police Department. The report must contain information specified by the Chief of Police.

(C) *Audible alarm requirements.* Audible alarms must meet the following requirements.

(1) An audible alarm user must post a notice, containing the name and telephone number of persons to be notified for repairs or service, to the alarm during any hour of the day or night that the alarm may be activated. This information may alternatively be on file with the Police Department. The notice must be posted at the main entrance to the building or near the alarm in a position legible from ground level.

(2) No audible alarm may have a signal similar to police or fire sirens.

(3) Audible alarms must have an automatic shut-off to silence the alarm within a period not to exceed 20 minutes.

(D) *Automatic dialing device.* No person may install, use, or maintain an automatic dialing device.

(E) *Alarm agent.* No person may act as an alarm agent unless employed by a licensed alarm business.

(1993 Code, § 540.03) Penalty, see § 10.99

### **§ 111.153 LICENSE REQUIRED.**

(A) *Alarm business.* No person may own or operate an alarm business without the license required under this subchapter.

(B) *Alarm users.* No person may install or use an alarm without the license required under this subchapter.

(1993 Code, § 540.04)

### **§ 111.154 APPLICATION AND ISSUANCE.**

(A) *Issuing authority.* Licenses under this subchapter will be issued by the City Manager after approval by the approving authority.

(B) *Approving authority.* The approving authority must be the Chief of Police for all alarm users.

(C) *Applications.* Applications for licenses must be filed with the City Manager on forms provided by the City Manager. The application must include the following:

(1) Name and address of applicant and telephone number of the premises in which the alarm is installed;

(2) Name and address of maker, owner, lessor, or other person responsible for the installation, maintenance, or operation of the alarm;

- (3) Type, make, and location of each alarm; and
- (4) Any other pertinent information as may be from time to time required by the city.

(D) *Investigations.* The Police Department will review the application of an alarm user, and investigate the alarms to be licensed by the alarm user and their locations.

(1993 Code, § 540.05)

### **§ 111.155 FEES.**

(A) *Alarm business license.* The annual license fee stated in Chapter 33 is due and payable on July 1 of each year for each alarm business. The license fee will not be prorated.

(B) *Alarm user.* The annual license fee stated in Chapter 33 is due and payable on July 1 of each year by each alarm user. License fees will be prorated on a monthly basis. When the annual permit is not paid to the city in accordance to the annual fee stated in Chapter 33, the annual fee will be added to the alarm user's utility bill.

(C) *Fee exemptions.* The United States Government, the State of Minnesota, the Counties of Hennepin and Ramsey, the City of St. Anthony, or any departments thereof, are exempt from the fee requirements of division (B) above.

(D) *Responses to false alarms.*

(1) Fees for false alarms must be paid to the city by the alarm user in accordance with this section. If fee is not paid to the city in accordance with this section, the fee will be added to the alarm user's utility bill by the City Finance Director. No fee will be charged for a response to a false alarm where not more than 2 false alarms occur within a 12-month period.

(2) The sum of \$75 must be paid to the city by the alarm user for each false alarm response after the second response within a 12-month period. This fee increases by \$25 for each subsequent alarm thereafter in the same period.

(1993 Code, § 540.06)

### **§ 111.156 SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF LICENSES.**

(A) *Basis for suspension and revocation.* The city may revoke or suspend a license for any 1 or more of the following reasons:

- (1) Violation of this subchapter;
- (2) The actions of the licensee or the licensee's alarm agent are contrary to the public safety or general welfare;
- (3) False alarms in excess of 3 in a 6-month period are the result of the failure to take necessary corrective action prescribed by the Chief of Police; and/or

(4) Six or more false alarms in a 6-month period.

(B) *Disconnection of alarms.* Upon suspension or revocation of an alarm user's license, the Chief of Police may order disconnection of the alarms unless the premises are required by law to have the alarms.

(1993 Code, § 540.07)

#### **§ 111.157 CONFIDENTIALITY.**

(A) *Submitted information confidential.* All information submitted under this subchapter is confidential and exempt from discovery.

(B) *Statistics.* Subject to the requirements of confidentiality, the City Manager or a designated representative may develop, maintain, and publish statistics pertaining to this subchapter.

(1993 Code, § 540.08)