

PROPOSED ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDING CHAPTER 70, ARTICLE I,
UNINTENTIONAL OR FALSE ALARMS

WHEREAS, Chapter 70, Article I, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Stamford generally addresses private alarms and the required registration with the City; and

WHEREAS, Section 70-5 specifically addresses the matter of Unintentional or false alarms and provides for fees and fines; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Representatives believes it is in the best interest of the City of Stamford to amend this ordinance as well as re-establish new fees and fines.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT:

Chapter 70, Section 5 of the Code of Ordinance is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 70-5. - Unintentional or false alarms.

- (1) All commercial and residential properties that are either existing or properly approved by the city for new construction are required to register that alarm system with the City of Stamford, in a manner and on a form determined by the Alarm Administrator. Property owners are required to notify the Alarm Administrator of changes to alarm registration information within thirty (30) days of such changes. Such registration shall have no cost for the alarm user.
- (2) If either the Police Department or any of the Fire Departments organized within the City of Stamford shall respond to an alarm and the property is not registered, the alarm user of record, for that location, will be fined ~~ninety-one hundred and ten~~ dollars (\$~~11090~~.00) for failing to register. Additionally, if the activation of the alarm is determined to be an unintentional or false alarm the alarm user will be fined ~~ninetyone hundred and fifty~~-dollars (\$~~15090~~.00) for triggering a False Alarm. Such fine shall be issued and determined by the Alarms Administrator or an established designee. No unregistered alarm user shall be entitled to the relief referred to for First Time False Alarm Users regarding their First False Alarm.
- (3) When any alarm is reported by an alarm company to any emergency telephone number of the City of Stamford, that alarm company must provide the name and address of the alarm user of record, along with other information required to assist in responding to the alarm.
- (4) All commercial and residential alarm users that are properly registered with the City of Stamford shall not be fined for their first occurrence of a False Alarm that occurs during any particular calendar year. All users that experience a second False Alarm or more thereafter, during the same calendar year shall be fined ~~one hundred and ten ninety~~-dollars (\$~~11090~~.00) for each False Alarm response or activation.
- (5) The Alarm Administrator shall notify the alarm user of record of any false alarm charges by mail. Said notification process shall advise the alarm user of the appeal process as stated in Sec. 70-6

and, if the charge is for a false alarm from an unregistered alarm, of the registration requirement described in this section.

- (6) The Alarm Administrator shall notify the alarm user of record within forty-five (45) days of the false alarm. If said notification is not made within forty-five (45) days, there shall be no charge for the alarm, and the alarm shall not be counted as the first unintentional or false alarm within a particular calendar year.
- (7) If the fine for an unintentional or false alarm is not paid within sixty (60) days of notification by the Alarms Administrator, a late penalty of twenty-five (25) percent of the fine shall be assessed for non-payment of said fine.

(8) The city may withhold the issuance of a building permit to any alarm user of record who has five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or more in unpaid fines.

(9) The city may place a lien, in the manner authorized by law, on any property which has five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or more in unpaid fines.

(10) The fines set forth in this section may be modified by Resolution of the Board of Representatives.

_____This ordinance shall become effective on January 1, 2019 or on the 1st of the month 30 days after enactment, whichever occurs later.
