

**CITY OF FERGUSON  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE**

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Alarms

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**ALARM ACTIVATION**

**465.00 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this General Order is to establish procedures for enforcing Ferguson Ordinance 29-249, entitled "Alarm Systems" which regulates the installation and use of alarm systems within the city limits.

**465.01 AUTHORITY**

Ordinance 29-240 reads as follows; "False Alarm" means any activation of an alarm system intentionally or by inadvertence, negligence, unintentional action to which the city police department responds, including activation caused by the malfunction of the alarm system, except that the following shall not be considered false alarms:

- A. When the chief of police determines that an alarm has been caused by the malfunction of the indicator at the police department;
- B. When the chief of police determines that an alarm has been caused by damage, testing or repair of telephone equipment or lines by the telephone company, provided that such incidents are promptly reported to the telephone company;
- C. When an alarm is caused by an attempted and unauthorized or illegal entry or which there is visible evidence;
- D. When an alarm is followed by a call to the police department canceling the alarm by giving proper information, prior to the arrival of the police department at the source of the alarm;
- E. When the chief of police determines that an alarm has been caused by a malfunction of electrical power beyond the control of the alarm user.

**465.02 PROHIBITIONS**

Sec. 29-242. No person shall install or use an automatic dialing device or quasi-public body, including 911, for the purpose of obtaining emergency service.

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Sec. 29-243. No person shall install or use an audible alarm which is equipped with an exterior sound producing device such as a gong, buzzer, siren, bell, or horn, unless the same shall be equipped with a fifteen-minute timer.

465.03 COMMISSIONED OFFICER RESPONSIBILITY

- A. Respond to and investigate all alarm activations.
- B. Complete a C.A.D. (Computer Aided Dispatch) system entry on all alarm activations NOT involving a criminal offense. These entries will include information that was acquired at the scene and activity by the officer upon arrival. The C.A.D. entry will also include the officer's recommendation regarding service charge, following ordinance guidelines.
- C. If a criminal offense has occurred or is suspected, an appropriate I.T.I. offense report will be completed. (No C.A.D. entry will be completed.).

465.04 COMMUNICATIONS BUREAU RESPONSIBILITY

Upon receipt of an alarm sounding, the dispatcher will:


- A. Take the name of the alarm agency, person reporting and a call back number. Obtain the name of the home owner, home phone, area of alarm activated (if available) and if there are pets on premises.
- B. Notify the units to respond.
- C. Add all the information into the C.A.D. system
- D. Provide the above information to the officer handling the alarm.

465.05 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

It will be the supervisor's responsibility to ensure the C.A.D. entry is completed.

Watch Commanders or supervisors have the discretion to suspend repeated calls of service in the event that numerous alarms are activated as a result of general power failure or inclement weather.

By order of:



COLONEL THOMAS JACKSON  
Chief of Police

Distribution  
All Department Personnel