

## CHAPTER 6.00 COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL ALARM ORDINANCE

### Index to Chapter 6.00

- 6.01 Policy
- 6.02 Purpose
- 6.03 Definitions
  - 6.0301 Alarm System
  - 6.0302 Alarm User
  - 6.0303 Automatic Dialing Service
  - 6.0304 On-Premises Alarm
- 6.04 Procedure
  - 6.0401 Alarm Registration
  - 6.0402 Central Answering Station Alarm
  - 6.0403 Automatic Dialing Service Prohibition
  - 6.0404 On-Premises Alarms
  - 6.0405 False Alarms
  - 6.0406 Deputy Response To Alarms
  - 6.0407 Alarm testing
- 6.05 Penalties
  - 6.0501 Violation of Alarm Registration
  - 6.0502 Violation of Automatic Dialing Service Prohibition
  - 6.0503 Violation of False Alarms

6.01 POLICY This ordinance is established to create procedures that all users of alarms that alert the Marquette County Sheriff's Department must follow. These procedures provide for penalties when the alarm systems are activated through human error, neglect or malfunction. By this policy the response times to crimes in progress shall be enhanced and the incidents of false alarms reduced.

6.02 PURPOSE The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish regulations, standards and controls relating to the type, use, and installation of police alarm devices.

### 6.03 DEFINITIONS

6.0301 ALARM SYSTEM An assembly of equipment installed for the purpose of notifying authorities of urgent attention to either an intrusion and/or a robbery on said location.

6.0302 ALARM USER Any business or citizen within the jurisdiction of the Marquette County Sheriff's Department that installs or maintains an alarm system.

An entity or person shall be considered an alarm user when the Marquette County Sheriff's Department receives notification of an alarm signal from their premises. How the signal is reported to the Department shall not determine whether the entity or person is an alarm user.

6.0303 AUTOMATIC DIALING SERVICE An automatic dialing service is an alarm system that creates and sends a pre-recorded message transmitted through phone lines directly to the Marquette County Sheriff's Department alerting the Department of the existence of an emergency situation.

6.0304 ON-PREMISES ALARM An on-premises alarm generates a signal on or about the premises designed to notify of an ongoing intrusion. This is a visual or audible alarm not connected to any answering panel or service.

#### 6.04 PROCEDURE

6.0401 ALARM REGISTRATION All persons or entities installing or maintaining an alarm system in Marquette County shall register it with the Marquette County Sheriff's Department. The Department shall provide an application for registration and the application must be fully completed by the applicant. Upon the presentation of a properly completed application the Department shall register the applicant. The Department at any time may revoke this registration if the applicant or the equipment fails to comply with the language of this Ordinance.

6.0402 CENTRAL ANSWERING STATION ALARM Alarms that are programmed directly to a private central answering station shall be monitored by the personnel of the answering station. The personnel shall advise the Marquette County Sheriff's Department of which particular alarm had transmitted the signal and its location. The personnel shall further advise the Department which area on the premises is experiencing the intrusion. If the report is of a robbery in progress the personnel shall provide all available information to the Department. The central answering station will maintain current contact information for all premises that it monitors. The station will contact a key holder or other representative to meet the Sheriff's Department to determine the cause of the alarm. Any alarm user utilizing a private central answering station shall be subject to all of the regulations set forth in this ordinance.

6.0403 AUTOMATIC DIALING SERVICE PROHIBITION No automatic dialing service with a pre-recorded message shall be forwarded on the phone lines to the Marquette County Sheriff's Department. No person will be allowed to utilize an alarm system, which creates a pre-recorded message that is transmitted to the Marquette County Sheriff's Department through phone lines. Registration

for a system with automatic dialing as set forth in this subsection will be denied. This ordinance does not prohibit automatic dialers that are installed or owned by the Marquette County Sheriff's Department.

6.0404 ON-PREMISE ALARMS Visual and/or audible alarms that are not connected to an answering service are "on-premise alarms". On-premise alarms generate a signal on or about the premises to notify authorities of an on-going intrusion. If this signal is reported to the Marquette County Sheriff's Department then the regulations set forth in this ordinance apply.

6.0405 FALSE ALARMS False alarms occur when a signal from an alarm system results in a response by the Marquette County Sheriff's Department finding no emergency situation. More than two false alarms in any calendar year will be considered excessive and will result in the issuance of a citation. Signals caused by power outage or power interruption shall not be counted.

6.0406 DEPUTY RESPONSE TO ALARMS The Deputy responding to an alarm shall determine and record if it is a false alarm. All incidents reported as false alarms shall be recorded with the Marquette County Sheriff's Department. This record will form the basis for any citation for excessive false alarms.

6.0407 ALARM TESTING It is the responsibility of the alarm user and/or the central answering station to notify the Marquette County Sheriff's Department of intentions to test an alarm system. In the event an alarm test is conducted without prior notification the alarm test will be recorded as a false alarm.

## 6.05 PENALTIES

6.0501 VIOLATION OF ALARM REGISTRATION: Utilizing an alarm without an approved application:

- a. The first 2 violations within the calendar year will result in a written warning.
- b. The 3<sup>rd</sup> violation within a calendar year will result in a citation being issued with a penalty of \$25.00 plus costs.
- c. 4<sup>th</sup> and subsequent violations within the calendar year will result in a citation being issued with a penalty of \$50.00 plus costs.
- d. The calendar year shall be January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>.

## 6.0502 VIOLATION OF AUTOMATIC DIALING PROHIBITION

- a. The first 2 violations within the calendar year will result in a written warning.

- b. The 3<sup>rd</sup> violation within a calendar year will result in a citation being issued with a penalty of \$25.00 plus costs.
- c. 4<sup>th</sup> and subsequent violations within the calendar year will result in a citation being issued with a penalty of \$50.00 plus costs.
- d. The calendar year shall be January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### 6.0503 VIOLATION OF FALSE ALARMS

- a. The first 2 violations within the calendar year will result in a written warning.
- b. The 3<sup>rd</sup> violation within a calendar year will result in a citation being issued with a penalty of \$25.00 plus costs.
- c. 4<sup>th</sup> and subsequent violations within the calendar year will result in a citation being issued with a penalty of \$50.00 plus costs.
- d. The calendar year shall be January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>.