

NOTICE

TO: THE RESIDENT VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF ARLINGTON, VERMONT

On March 7, 1983, the Selectmen of the Town of Arlington duly adopted the following alarm system ordinance and the same has been posted in five (5) conspicuous places within the Town of Arlington. This publication and notice is being given pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 1972. Unless a petition signed by five (5) percent of the registered voters of the Town of Arlington is filed with the Town Clerk within forty-five (45) days of the date the Selectmen adopted the ordinance, the ordinance will be in full force and effect sixty (60) days from the date Selectmen adopted same. If a petition to disapprove the ordinance is filed with the forty-five (45) day period the Selectmen shall call a special meeting within sixty (60) days of the receipt of the petition and a majority of the qualified voters voting at said meeting may defeat the adoption of the ordinance.

TOWN OF ARLINGTON FIRE ORDINANCE

ALARM SYSTEM ORDINANCE

For the purpose of promoting the public health, safety, welfare and convenience of the citizens of the Town of Arlington and to provide procedures to allow warning devices that directly notify Fire, Rescue, Police or other emergency services, the Selectmen of the Town of Arlington have adopted the within Ordinance:

SECTION I. Definitions. For the purposed of this Ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meaning given herein. The work "shall" is to be construed as mandatory and merely directory.

- (a) "Alarm System" Any alarm device which automatically dials the Fire Department Red Phone Alerting System or other emergency telephone number and uses a pre-taped or prerecorded message to alert that an emergency exists or that the services of such department are needed. "Alarm system" shall also mean any alarm device which automatically emits an audible, visual or other response upon the occurrence of any hazard or emergency and is intended to alert persons outside the building to the existence of said hazard or emergency. The term includes fire alarms but does not include alarm signals transmitted to privately operated central stations.
- (b) "Dial Alarm or Dialing Device" Any alarm device which is a telephone device or telephone attachment which automatically or electronically selects a telephone line connected to the fire department or other emergency services and reproduces a prerecorded message to report an emergency requiring Fire Department or Rescue Squad response.
- (c) "False Emergency Alarm" Any signal actuated by an emergency alarm to which the Fire Department or Rescue Squad responds which is not the result of a fire, accident or other emergency.
- (d) "Excessive False Alarms" Two (2) false alarms within six (6) calendar months.

- (e) “Emergency Number” Fire Department Red Phone Alerting System”
Any telephone number designated by the Fire Chief as a telephone number through which members of the public may report an emergency or request public assistance.

SECTION II. Dialing Devices. All dialing devices operated by automatic means shall transmit messages only to such numbers as may be designated for that purpose by the Fire Chief. After six(6) months following the effective date of this ordinance, no person shall use, operate or install any device which will, upon activation by automatic means initiate the dialing, calling or other connection with the Fire Department or Rescue Squad either at its regularly constituted telephone number or any other number which may be designated by said Fire Chief as an emergency number hereunder, except in accordance with this Ordinance.

SECTION III Procedures. Any person or persons who shall install or have installed any type of fire or smoke detection system which is linked to the Fire Department Red Phone Alerting System (375-2500), shall comply with the following:

- (a) Said person or persons shall notify the Fire Department prior to the hook-up
- (b) Said person or persons shall notify the telephone company when alarms are connected to their phone number.
- (c) Said person or persons shall furnish to the Fire Department floor plans of the building with the type of detectors and the location of each.
- (d) Indicate the main control box for the system on the floor plan.
- (e) Furnish and emergency telephone number and/or keys to the Fire Department for access and notification of the alarm.
- (f) Agree to disconnect the alarm system from the Red Phone System in the event of excessive false alarms.

SECTION IV Limitations on Dialing Devices. No person shall use, operate or install any dialing device that will, upon activation, automatically dial, call or connect with the telephone number designated by the Fire Chief, for the purpose of receiving such alarm messages, more than twice for any one (1) incident. Any system installed on or after the effective date of this Ordinance must comply with this Section. Pre-existing installations must comply with this Section. Pre-existing installations must comply within six (6) months of the effective date of the Ordinance.

SECTION V Delay. When the alarm system permits, upon activation of the alarm, there shall be a mandatory delay of at least fifteen (15) seconds before the transmission of a signal to the Fire Department to enable the user to abort the signal in the event that it was triggered inadvertently. This delay shall not be applicable to a fire, robbery (holdup) or medical emergency alarm. Any system installed on or after the effective date of this Ordinance must comply within six (6) months of the effective date of this Ordinance.

SECTION VI Timing Device. The user of any alarm system emitting an audible, visual or other response shall, at the time such system is installed, or within six (6) months of the effective date of this Ordinance in the case of existing systems, install or cause to be installed an automatic timing device which shall deactivate such alarm so that it will be and remain activated for no more than thirty (30) minutes.

SECTION VII Filing Requirements. In addition to the requirements set forth in Section III "Procedures" hereof, the user of any alarm system shall, within ten (10) days of the installation thereof or within sixty (60) days of the enactment of this Ordinance, file the following information with the Fire Chief of the Town:

- (a) Type of alarm system.
- (b) Street address and / or nearest cross street of the building which houses the alarm.
- (c) In the case of a commercial premises, the name, address and telephone number of an authorized representative and /or alternative who will be able to respond when called by the fire department to deactivate the alarm system, if necessary.
- (d) In the case of a private residence, the name, address and telephone number of a person residing within ten miles of the alarm who is not a resident of the private residence in question and who will be able to deactivate the alarm system.

Such filing requirements are applicable to all alarm systems, whether the same are or are not directly connected to the fire department or are merely audible alarms. Such filing must be made within the time period specified above even though there shall have been previous notification of the existence of such alarm system to the Fire Department.

SECTION VIII Permit; Fee; Revocation.

- (a) The fire Chief is hereby authorized to grant a revocable permit to any owner, lessee or occupant of property located in the Town to operate, maintain, install or modify a fire or smoke detection device which is linked to the Fire Department Red Phone Alerting System, and no such device shall be operated unless such permit shall have first been issued.
- (b) The Fire Chief shall charge a fee of One Dollar (\$1.00) for the issuance of any such permit.
- (c) A permit issued pursuant to this ordinance may be revoked for good cause at any time or from time to time by the Fire Chief upon the giving of ten (10) days' notice in writing, by registered or certified mail, to the permittee, sent to the address shown on any such permit. The violation of this Ordinance, following conviction therefore, shall constitute grounds for the revocation of the permit; The failure of the Fire Chief to revoke the permit following finding that there has been a violation of this Ordinance shall not be deemed a waiver of the right to revoke the permit.

SECTION IX False Alarms. It shall be a violation of this Ordinance to intentionally cause a false alarm, and any person who intentionally causes a false alarm shall be subject to the penalty provisions hereof.

SECTION X Disconnection. In the event that an alarm system emitting an audible, visual or other similar response shall fail to be deactivated within the time limitation specified above, the Town shall have the right to take such action, including entry, as may be necessary in order to disconnect any such alarm.

SECTION XI Penalties for Offenses. Any person who violates the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a violation and, shall be subject to such fine as may be imposed by the Board of Selectmen or Justice of the Peace or Vermont District Court in accordance with the provisions of law. Failure to comply with the requirements set forth above shall result in a fine of \$25.00 for each violation.

SECTION XII Severability. If any part or parts of this Ordinance are for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The Board of Selectmen hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and Section, subsection, sentence, clause and each phrase irrespective of the fact that any one (1) or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases might be declared invalid.

TOWN OF ARLINGTON ALARM SYSTEM ORDINANCE
ARLINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Clarence Curtis, Chairman
Ralph Sherwin
Lawrence E. Molloy
Keith Squires
Philip Pugliese

Dated this 7th of March, 1983, Arlington, Vermont