

SECURITY ALARM PERMIT AND FALSE ALARM INFORMATION

Question: Who needs to apply for a security alarm permit?

Answer: Anyone operating a security alarm system (monitored or non-monitored) if police would be requested to respond.

Question: How much does the permit cost? Is this a yearly fee?

Answer: The permit is \$40.00 and is renewed yearly.

Question: How will I know when I need to renew my security permit?

Answer: A notice will be mailed or emailed to you the month of your renewal.

Question: Where does the alarm permit sticker go?

Answer: The sticker needs to be displayed on or near the main entrance to the premise where it is clearly visible to responding officers. The permit sticker must be displayed at the address listed on the application or it is not valid

Question: What if my permit sticker is no longer readable or was on a window that has been replaced and the sticker couldn't be removed.

Answer: Call 253.798.3206 or email gpauthorize@cityofup.com and state that you need a new sticker, one will be mailed to you at no cost.

Question: What happens if I do not comply and obtain a permit?

Answer: The Police Department will discontinue responding to alarms that occur at the premise until a permit is obtained.

Question: What if I move or no longer have an active alarm system

Answer: If you move, sell your home or business or no longer have an active alarm system you need to contact the alarm permit department and cancel your permit so that you will not be responsible for the yearly renewal fee.

Alarm permit department 253.798.3206 or gpauthorize@cityofup.com

Question: What is a "false alarm?"

Answer: An alarm is presumed to be false if the officers cannot find any evidence of intrusion or other unlawful act which might have caused the alarm to sound.

Question: What causes false alarms?

Answer: The largest single cause of false alarms is human error. Ensure that everyone who uses the alarm system knows how it works, how to turn it on and off, and what to do should anyone accidentally set it off. Everyone should practice using the system until they feel confident about its operation. Test your alarm system at least once each month to confirm that it is in correct working order. When testing your alarm system, notify your monitoring center before beginning the test. If you have any doubts about your alarm system, call your alarm company immediately for service.

Another common cause of false alarms is weak batteries. Make sure batteries are fully charged or replaced on a regular basis. Check sensors, make sure doors fit well in casings, have animals contained so they do not set off the alarm, and do not leave balloons floating in the house.

Question: What if I accidentally set off my alarm?

Answer: First, turn off (disarm) your alarm. If your alarm is monitored, immediately telephone the monitoring company and have them cancel the police response. **Do not assume that the police were not notified if your alarm went off for only a few seconds.**

The 911 Center will only take cancellation calls from monitoring companies. If you have a monitored system: Remember that no alarm system rings directly to the Police Department. When your alarm is activated, the signal is sent to your alarm monitoring company. It is your alarm company that contacts 911 dispatch and informs them of your name, address, and telephone number, as well as the nature of the alarm being received. NOTE: Your monitoring company is providing a service you pay for and is responsible for following procedures given by you regarding your alarm system. Call your monitoring company. Make sure they have step-by-step instructions on what you want done when your alarm goes off. Ensure they have accurate information of names and telephone numbers to call. Find out all you can about your alarm system and how to work with your monitoring company.

Question: What happens if a police officer responds to a false alarm?

Answer: You will be mailed copies of a False Alarm Compliance Report written by the officer who responds to your alarm. If you find there is something different from what the officer wrote there is an area at the bottom of the form that you can fill out, sign, and return.

Question: What can I do to assist the Police Department?

Answer: Cancel police response immediately through your monitoring company when false alarms occur. Make sure your alarm company decal and your alarm system permit are visible and easy to locate. Supply emergency contact names and telephone numbers to your alarm monitoring company in case you cannot be located at the time your alarm system is activated.

Question: How much are false alarm fees?

Answer: \$100 per alarm and \$150 if it is a panic and/or robbery. An invoice will be mailed to you if you owe for a false alarm.