

City of Albuquerque

Alarm System Ordinance - Information Sheet

PURPOSE – The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish criteria governing the installation, use and maintenance of Alarm Systems within the city of Albuquerque in order to reduce the False Alarms that consume public safety resources. Nothing in this Ordinance is intended to discourage proper use of Alarm Systems.

ALARM SYSTEM – For the purpose of this Ordinance an Alarm System is defined as any device designed to detect an unauthorized entry or emergency situation on real property that emits sound or transmits an electronic signal off premises.

ALARM USER – An Alarm User is any person, firm, partnership, corporation or other entity that is in control of a location served by an Alarm System. In the case of a rental property, the renter is considered the Alarm User.

ALARM USER PERMIT – All Alarm Users are required to obtain an annual Alarm User Permit from the City of Albuquerque. The cost of the permit is \$25.00 for the issuance and each annual renewal of each Alarm User Permit. Alarm User Permit Fees are used to financially support the False Alarm Reduction Unit (organizational entity within the City of Albuquerque established for the purposes of implementation and enforcement of the Albuquerque Alarm System Ordinance).

Your Alarm Company should provide an Alarm User Permit Application to you at the time your system is installed or activated.

DUTIES OF AN ALARM USER;

1. Comply with the Alarm User Permit requirements
2. Instructing all persons who are authorized operate the Alarm System in the proper method of operation.
3. Maintaining the Alarm System in a manner that will reasonably eliminate False Alarms.
4. Responding to or causing a representative to respond within 30 minutes when requested by city officials to provide access to an Alarm Site where an alarm signal is being emitted.
5. Notifying your Alarm System Company of any malfunctioning, test, etc. of your Alarm System.
6. Paying all fees and fines under this Ordinance within 90 days of the date assessed.

EXCESSIVE FALSE ALARMS SERVICE FEES

1. A permitted Alarm User will not be assessed a service fee for the first three False Alarm responded to within a permit year.
2. An excessive false alarm fee of \$150 will be assessed for each false alarm in excess of three per permit year.
3. After ten False Alarms in a permit year, the excessive false alarm fee will be increased to \$500 for each additional False Alarm in excess of ten.

FALSE ALARM NOTIFICATIONS – The False Alarm Reduction Unit will provide every Alarm User a written notification of all false alarms at your Alarm Site. This is to provide you an opportunity to have your alarm system serviced and provide additional training to persons authorized to operate the system in order to prevent future false alarms.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – If you have any questions concerning your obligations as an Alarm User under the Alarm Systems Ordinance you can either contact the False Alarm Reduction Unit at (505) 768-2144 or go to the web site; <http://www.cabq.gov/police/alarm>.

