

City of Providence

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

CHAPTER 2003-54

No. 568

AN ORDINANCE

AMENDING SECTION 16-129 IN
ARTICLE IV OF CHAPTER 16 OF THE CODE OF
ORDINANCES ENTITLED "OFFENSES AND
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS" (AS AMENDED)

Approved August 18, 2003

Be it ordained by the City of Providence:

SECTION 1. The Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence is amended as

follows:

Sec. 16-128. Response to alarm--Determination and validity.

(a) A false alarm means activation of an alarm system, which results in an arrival at the alarm site by the police department when an emergency does not exist. It includes an alarm signal caused by conditions of nature, which are normal for that area. "False alarm" does not include an alarm signal caused by extraordinarily violent conditions of nature such as tornadoes, floods and earthquakes. "Duress alarm" means a silent alarm signal generated by the manual activation of a device intended to signal a crisis situation requiring police response. "Holdup alarm" means a silent alarm signal generated by the manual activation of a device intended to signal a robbery in progress. "Panic alarm" means an audible alarm system signal generated by the manual activation of a device intended to signal a life-threatening or emergency situation requiring police response.

(b) If a police officer must respond to the scene of the activated alarm system, the officer shall inspect the area protected by the system and shall determine whether the emergency response was in fact required as indicated by the alarm system or whether in some way the alarm system malfunctioned and thereby activated a false alarm. If Should
the police officer at the scene of the activated alarm system determines the alarm to be false, said officer shall make a report of the false alarm, a notification of which shall be mailed or delivered to the alarm user, at the address of the said alarm system installation

No.

CHAPTER
AN ORDINANCE

IN CITY COUNCIL

~~MAY 15~~ 2003

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON
ORDINANCES

Michael R. Clement
and

THE COMMITTEE ON

Ordinances

Recommends

Ann M. Steh
6-9-03 CLERK

Be Continued

THE COMMITTEE ON
ORDINANCES

Approves Passage of
This Within Ordinance

Ann M. Steh
6-19-03 CLERK

Councilman Jackson and Councilwoman Williams (By Request)

location, advising the alarm user of the false alarm. This report shall be kept, by address, at the police department.

Section 16-129. False alarm assessment schedule.

After ~~the chief of police has recorded three (3)~~ two (2) separate security alarm system false alarms ~~from a security alarm system~~ from ~~one~~ an individual user at a single address have been placed in the file, ~~then~~ the alarm user will be notified by the chief of police, via certified mail, ~~of such facts and require the alarm user to submit within ten (10) working days, of receipt of such notice, a report describing the alarm users efforts to discover and eliminate the cause or causes of the false alarms. This notice shall contain the dates and time of each alleged false alarm. In the event that the chief of police determines that a report submitted in accordance with the preceding paragraph is unsatisfactory or that the alarm user has failed to show, by the report that reasonable steps have been taken to eliminate or reduce false alarms, then the chief of police will inform the alarm user that subsequent false alarms will cause the alarm user to be assessed monetary charges as follows:~~

~~\$25.00 for the fifth false alarm in a calendar year.~~

~~\$50.00 for the sixth false alarm in a calendar year.~~

~~\$100.00~~ \$50.00 for each subsequent false alarm in the ~~calendar~~ fiscal year (beginning July 1 through June 30).

All charges assessed hereunder shall be made payable to the city for deposit into the general fund.

~~If the alarm user submits a report as required, the chief of police shall determine whether or not the action taken or to be taken within reasonable period of time constraints will substantially reduce the likelihood of false alarms. The chief of police shall then notify the alarm user, in writing, that no assessment will be made at that time, the alarm user will however, be subject to assessment procedures on the next false alarm signal transmitted.~~

The provisions of this section shall not apply to security alarm systems owned and/or operated by agencies of the City.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

IN CITY COUNCIL
JUL 28 2003
FIRST READING
READ AND PASSED

Michael R. Clement

IN CITY
COUNCIL
AUG 7 2003
FINAL READING
READ AND PASSED

Barbara Young
PRESIDENT ACTING
Michael R. Clement
CLERK CB

APPROVED

[Signature]

MAYOR

8/18/03