

Chapter 43

ALARMS

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[HISTORY: Adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Patterson 8-22-2001 by L.L. No. 4-2001¹; amended in its entirety 5-22-2002 by L.L. No. 2-2002.(readopted 4-13-2005 by L.L. No. 9-2005) Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Fire Prevention – See Ch. 90.

¹ **Editor's Note: This local law was adopted as Chapter 3 but was renumbered to place it in the General Legislation part of the Code.**

§ 43-1. Definitions

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meaning indicated:

FALSE ALARM - Any signal actuated by a police or fire alarm device, devices or system of police or fire alarm devices which is not the result of a natural disaster, act of God, a criminal act, fire or other emergency requiring police or fire response. The term "false alarm" shall include human error and equipment malfunction causing the alarm to be activated, except when the owner or lessee of such equipment has telephoned or otherwise informed the Police Department of a possible "false alarm" to shortly ensue, resulting from equipment servicing, opening and/or closing the establishment or residence, or similar activity,

§ 43-2. False alarms; fines; issuance of appearance tickets.

A. The transmission of more than two false alarm signals within any twelve-month period shall make the owner subject to a fine of not less than \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for the second offense and \$300 for the third and any subsequent offenses. Fines are to be levied against the owner of the property from which said alarm emitted, whether the alarm was caused by human error or malfunction of equipment, except such penalty shall not apply to false alarms intentionally initiated by a person or a condition not under the control or supervision of the property owner or representative.

B. If the Fire Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer or the Fire Chiefs of the fire district in which the premises is located investigates and determines that the alarm system is malfunctioning, false in nature, causes a dangerous situation for the men and equipment of any fire district, and no valid attempt has been made to correct the problem, the system shall be ordered disconnected, constituting a violation. The Fire Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer may issue an appearance ticket(s) for the violator(s) to appear in Patterson Town Court to answer the charges. The system shall not be reconnected until the system is deemed to be in proper operating condition by a qualified installer submitting a certificate so stating to the Fire Inspector or Code Enforcement Officer and Fire Chief of the appropriate fire district.

§ 43-3. Notification of owner; owner to respond.

Each and every fire alarm system which terminates in any manner at any alarm company or at the central station (facility responsible for monitoring such alarm system) must have the capability to provide notification to the owner or a designated representative of the subject premises, and such owner or representative must immediately report to the scene of the alarm.

§ 43-4. Testing.

There shall be no testing of emergency fire alarms which would normally summon the appropriate fire company unless such test is first cleared, verified and authorized by all entities and

or agencies where such alarm terminates, including but not limited to the volunteer Fire Department servicing the property and the Fire Control Center (Putnam County 911).

§ 43-5. List of responsible persons.

The owner of each property which contains an emergency fire alarm as herein set forth must provide the Town Fire Inspector, the Code Enforcement Officer and the Fire Control Center (Putnam County 911) with a list of three people, their addresses and telephone numbers, who may be contacted in the event that an alarm is received, who will be able to grant access to the subject premises.

§ 43-6. Town Liability.

A. The Town of Patterson or the volunteer fire Department serving the call shall not be liable for any defects in operation of emergency fire alarm systems nor for failure to respond appropriately nor for any erroneous response pursuant to the provisions of this chapter with respect to the installation, operation and maintenance of equipment, the transmission of alarm systems or messages or the relaying of such systems or messages.

B. In the event that the Town of Patterson or the appropriate Fire Department finds it necessary to disconnect any signaling device, said Town of Patterson and/or said appropriate fire Department shall incur no liability therefrom.