

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REENACT, AND RECODIFY CHAPTER 33, ARTICLE III, SECTION 33-14 OF THE ARLINGTON COUNTY CODE RELATING TO EXCESSIVE FALSE ALARM RESPONSE PENALTIES.

BE IT ORDAINED that Chapter 33, Article III of the Arlington County Code is amended, reenacted, and recodified as follows, effective July 1, 2008.

§ 33-14. Excessive false alarm responses prohibited; penalties.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any alarm user in the county to allow an excessive number of false alarm responses to occur at a protected premise for which they are responsible. It is hereby found and determined that false alarm responses to a protected premise in excess of two (2) in a twelve-month calculation period are deemed to be an excessive number and shall be a violation of this chapter. When involving apartment complexes, a protected premise shall be determined on a "per unit" basis. The first twelve-month period shall commence on the date of original registration issuance. Subsequent twelve-month periods shall be established successively.

(b) A false alarm response fee shall be assessed against the alarm user for false alarm responses in excess of two in a twelve-month calculation period, in accordance with the following fee schedule:

- (1) Third response ~~\$50.00~~ \$100.00
- (2) Fourth response ~~\$100.00~~ \$150.00
- (3) Fifth response ~~\$150.00~~ \$200.00
- (4) Sixth response~~\$200.00~~ \$250.00
- (5) Seventh response ~~\$250.00~~ \$300.00
- (6) Eighth response.~~\$300.00~~ \$400.00
- (7) Ninth response and each response thereafter. \$500.00

(c) The failure of an alarm user to make payment of any fee imposed under this section within sixty (60) days from the date of receipt may result in the suspension of the alarm user registration and a discontinuance of police response to alarms that may occur at the protected premises described in the alarm user's registration until such time that payment is received.

(d) To ensure that the assessed amounts are representative of the costs incurred by the county to provide alarm responses and to administer this chapter, the amounts contained in the false alarm fee schedule shall be evaluated and amended, as necessary, on an annual basis.