



Oakland Police Department

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For Immediate Release

OAKLAND TO ENFORCE ALARM ORDINANCE

The City of Oakland intends to start the enforcement of their alarm ordinance that was updated and revised last year. Oakland police officers have handled more than 70,000 alarm calls over the past three years, of which 98% were false. The main purpose of the enforcement action is to reduce the number of false alarms and the cost of the officer's time and expense to the City and its taxpayers.

The ordinance was adopted to hold the alarm company and the alarm user responsible for the installed alarm system and the alarm owner accountable for the alarm systems operation.

The required permit system has been retained. The cost of the annual permit has remained the same for residential alarm users at \$25 and commercial \$35. Presently more than 13,000 alarm users are registered with the City. They will receive their annual renewal notices 30 days prior to their expiration. Alarm users not yet registered will be contacted by their respective alarm company to assist them in registering and collecting the permit fee.

The established fee schedule for false alarms is \$84 for a general false alarm and \$156 for robbery and panic false alarms. The ordinance provides for an appeal process for alarm users. Alarm calls cancelled by the alarm monitoring company prior to an officer's arrival are not counted as a false alarm and no fee will be assessed.

Alarm users who have experienced a false alarm in the past year are encouraged to contact their alarm company to assist them in repairing the alarm system or providing them with the proper alarm system training.

The City of Oakland has contracted with ATB Services to assist them in the management of the False Alarm Reduction Program. An easy to use online alarm school and tips on how to prevent future false alarms are available at www.atbservices.com/oakland. For further information regarding the program or questions call 1-866-950-9902.

For more information, please contact the Media Relations Office at 510.238.7230 or opdmedia@oaklandnet.com.