



TOWN OF HOPKINTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE
RULES & REGULATIONS – ALARM ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO: 06-02

1.01 AUTHORITY:

Pursuant to the authority of NH RSA 41:8, 47:17 and any other applicable Revised Statutes Annotated, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Hopkinton hereby ordain as follows:

1.02 PURPOSE:

In the interest of promoting public health, safety and general welfare of all citizens of Hopkinton, the Board of Selectmen hereby establish certain guidelines to govern the installation, registration and use of residential alarm systems.

1.03 REGISTRATION:

All fire alarms shall be registered with the Hopkinton Fire Department prior to use and shall comply with the applicable Fire Department standards. All intrusion alarms shall be registered with the Hopkinton Police Department prior to use and shall comply with the applicable standards. The failure to comply with such requirements shall result in fines.

1.04 FALSE ALARMS:

A false alarm is defined as the activation of an alarm system through mechanical failure, accidental tripping, mis-operation, malfunction, misuse, or the neglect of the owner or lessee of an alarm system, or of his employees or agents. Upon the failure of the affected department to find evidence of intrusion or fire, or other legitimate need or cause for activating, a presumption of “false alarm” will be made. False alarm shall not include alarms caused by earthquakes, violent winds, or external causes beyond the control of the owner or lessee of the alarm system.

1.05 FINES:

Any person who maintains or has an alarm connected to the Police or Fire alarm system, to an alarm agent, alarm business or a person responding to audible alarms, which has caused any signal, message or alarm to be transmitted to the department either by direct telephone or other communications, and which is proven to be a false alarm shall pay a false alarm charge to the Town of Hopkinton as follows:

Failure to register:

In an effort to improve efficiency with response to alarm activations, all alarm systems shall be registered with the respective town departments immediately upon installation. The failure to register an alarm system will result in a fine of \$50.00.

False alarms:

Commencing with the effective date of this ordinance, the service charge for false alarms shall be:

- First two (2) alarms.....No Charge
- Third (3) thru fifth (5) alarms.....\$25.00 per Alarm
- Any additional false alarm after the five (5) previously stated, emergency services will not respond until phone confirmation of a true emergency has been received.

1.06 NOTICE TO DISCONNECT:

Whenever an alarm system has resulted in ten (10) or more false alarms during a period of twelve (12) consecutive months, the Chief of Police and/or the Fire Chief shall send to the responsible person a notice that the alarm will be disconnected from the alarm system. Any person receiving such a disconnect notice shall have thirty (30) days to show cause why the alarm should not be disconnected. In the absence of cause, the alarm will be disconnected at the end of the thirty (30) day period. The failure to disconnect shall result in a fine of \$100.00.

1.07 PREVIOUS ORDINANCES:

The provisions of this ordinance replace all previous ordinances regulating false alarms issued by the Town of Hopkinton, and any previous false alarm ordinances are hereby rescinded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned members of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Hopkinton have hereunder set their hands this _____ day of _____, 2006.

Town of Hopkinton, NH
Board of Selectmen

Louise M. Carr, Chairman

Clarke L. Kidder

Donald K. Lane

Peter M. Russell

George A. Langwasser

A true copy, attest:

Sue B. Strickford, Town Clerk

Date