

**ORDINANCE NO: 48****AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE PRIVATE ALARM SYSTEMS.****48.1 Definitions**

For the purpose of this ordinance, the following terms are defined:

- A. Alarm System - An assembly of equipment installed for the purpose of notifying a dispatch center of urgent attention to an intrusion and/or robbery and/or Fire at the location.
- B. Alarm User - An alarm user is any business or citizen in the Town of Grand Rapids that installs or maintains an alarm system, designed to transmit directly over phone lines a pre-recorded message to the Wood County Sheriff's Department dispatch center.
- C. Automatic Dialing Service - Automatic Dialing Service is an alarm system which creates and sends a pre-recorded message that is transmitted directly over phone lines to the Wood County Sheriff's Department and/or Grand Rapids Police Department indicating the existence of an emergency situation.
- D. On-Premise Alarm - This type of alarm generates a signal on or about the premises to notify that an intrusion is occurring. This is a visual or audible alarm signal that does not connect directly to any answering panel or service.
- E. Alarm Permits - All persons or entities installing or maintaining an alarm system shall first obtain a permit from the Wood County Sheriffs Department.

**48.2 Permit Requirements**

All businesses or citizens installing or maintaining an automatic service shall first obtain a permit from the Wood County Sheriffs Department. A permit will be granted by the Wood County Sheriffs Department after approval of the application and payment of the annual permit fee. If at any time the alarm user does not comply with the regulations set forth in this policy, the alarm permit may be revoked by the Grand Rapids Police Chief or the Wood County Sheriff.

**48.3 Central Answering Station Alarms**

- A. This type of alarm is programmed directly to a private central answering station. The private central answering station is responsible for the monitoring of said alarm and notifying the Wood County Sheriff's Department Dispatch Center when an alarm is transmitted from the user to the service.
- B. The private central answering station will advise the Wood County Sheriff's Department of which particular alarm user had transmitted the signal. The Wood County Sheriff's Department will advise Grand Rapids Police Department of which area on the premise is experiencing the intrusion.

- C. The private central answering station will be responsible for maintaining a current contact notification list for each user. The private central answering station will contact a key holder or other representative to meet the Town of Grand Rapids Police Department responding officer to determine cause of alarm. Representative contacts must be advised to respond to every alarm location in a very timely fashion.
- D. Any alarm user using a private central answering station is subject to all of the regulations located within this ordinance.

#### **48.4 Automatic Dialing Service Prohibition**

- A. No automatic dialing service with a pre-recorded message shall terminate on any of the telephone lines into the Wood County Sheriff's Department and/or Grand Rapids Police Department.
- B. No person will be allowed to use an alarm system which creates a pre-recorded message that is transmitted directly over phone lines to the Wood County Sheriff's Department and/or Grand Rapids Police Department.

#### **48.5 False Alarm**

A false alarm means a signal from an alarm system resulting in a response by the Grand Rapids Police Department or the Wood County Sheriffs Department when an emergency situation does not exist.

- A. False alarms exceeding two in a calendar year are violations and will result in a citation.
- B. An alarm will not be counted as a false alarm if it was due to a power outage or power interruption.

#### **48.5 Notification of Testing**

It is the responsibility of the alarm user and/or central answering station to notify the Wood County Sheriff's Department of intentions to test an alarm system. In the event of an alarm test and no prior notification of testing exists, the alarm test shall be considered a "false alarm".

#### **48.7 Penalties**

A violation of this ordinance shall result in a forfeiture per Ordinance 39 "Schedule of Fees and Forfeitures" together with the costs of prosecution.

- A. Violations of Ordinance No. 48 Utilizing an alarm without a permit:
  - 1. The first violation will result in a written warning.
  - 2. All subsequent violations will result in a forfeiture per Ordinance 39 "Schedule of Fees and Forfeitures"

B. Violations of Ordinance No. 48.4 – Automatic Dialing Prohibition:

1. The first violation will result in a written warning.
2. All subsequent violations will result in a forfeiture per Ordinance 39 “Schedule of Fees and Forfeitures”

C. Violations of Ordinance No. 48.5 False Alarms:

False alarms will be recorded on the Central dispatch computer. Statistics will be available to the Officer or Deputy assigned to respond to an alarm. If the Officer/Deputy determines that the user has exceeded the allowed number of false alarms within a 12-month period, a citation may be issued using the following schedules. A 12-month period in the ordinance will be defined as a calendar year.

1. The first two violations under this ordinance will result in a written warning to the alarm user.
2. All subsequent violations will result in a forfeiture per Ordinance 39 “Schedule of Fees and Forfeitures”

**This ordinance shall take effect from and after the date of its passage and publication as provided by law.**

**HISTORY**

<b>Declaration/Ordinance/Resolution No</b>	<b>Dated</b>
<b>RESOLUTION NO:</b> 2005-03	12-April-2005
2005-08	13-September-2005
2006-07	23-May-2006
2008-33	28-October-2008