



TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Phone: 732-531-1803
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FALSE ALARM REDUCTION PROGRAM SUMMARY TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN ALARM ORDINANCE SUMMARY NO. 2199

False alarms cost the Township of Ocean and its citizens thousands of dollars per year and can take the police officers away from actual emergencies. To prevent unnecessary emergency response to false alarms, the Alarm Ordinance was adopted to reduce the number of false alarms and encourage alarm users to maintain the mechanical reliability of and to properly use their alarm equipment.

Township of Ocean Ordinance No. 2199 establishes requirements for business and residential monitored burglar and fire alarm systems.

Initial and Renewal Alarm Permit Fees

- Residential - \$25.00
- Commercial - \$50.00
- A person or business that operates a non-permitted alarm system will be subject to a fee of \$100 for each false alarm in addition to any other fee(s).

Fire Alarms

- Fire alarms are required to be registered annually.

False Alarm Service Fees

Definition of a false alarm: A false alarm means an alarm dispatch request to the police department which results in the responding officer finding no evidence of a criminal offense or attempted criminal offense after completing an investigation of the alarm site. This includes any alarm activated by inadvertence, negligence or the unintentional act of someone other than an intruder and includes alarms caused by the malfunctioning of the alarm device or other relevant equipment.

False Alarm Fees (With the exception of false fire alarms)

- **First** false alarm – Will Not Be Billed
- **Second and Third** false alarm - \$ 50.00 each
- * **Fourth and Fifth** false alarm - \$100.00 each
- **Sixth** false alarm and any additional - \$150.00 each

Additional Information

- * All permit fees, service fees or penalties assessed under this Ordinance are due within thirty (30) days of written notice unless otherwise noted.
- Do not call 911 or the police department to cancel your alarm. Only your monitoring center can cancel the alarm dispatch request once made.
- Cancellation of a false alarm response prior to an officer arriving at the alarm site will count as a false alarm.

For Information Contact:
Ocean Township Police Department
732-531-1803
Fax 732-531-0624
alarms@oceantwp.org

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What Can You Do To Prevent False Alarms?

- Instruct all alarm users on the proper operation of your alarm system
- Secure all windows and doors before activation
- Keep pets, balloons, fans, heaters, plants, curtains, seasonal decorations, etc. away from motion sensor areas
- Know and rehearse the process to cancel an accidental alarm
- Notify your alarm company of any changes in responsible parties or problems with your system immediately
- Have your alarm system checked annually by your alarm company
- Battery backup should be checked annually or after a storm-related false alarm

Some Common Problems That Cause False Alarms

- Weak alarm system backup batteries
- Open, unlocked or loose fitting doors and windows
- Helium-filled balloons
- Wandering pets
- Improper application or installation of motion detectors
- Failure to properly train other users

When you purchase a private security alarm system or contract to have a private security system monitored by a security alarm business, you are entering into a private contract with that business only. Your security alarm purchase and/or monitoring contract is not a contract with the Township of Ocean, its police department or with any other law enforcement agency.

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