



**Tucson Police Department**  
**Alarm Unit**  
1310 W. Miracle Mile  
Tucson, AZ 85705  
(520) 837-7318

## **Alarm User/Alarm Company Information**

**In efforts to further reduce the number of false alarms and provide for cost recovery for police response to false alarms, the City of Tucson Mayor and Council approved a new Alarm Ordinance.**

**This ordinance will take effect April 1, 2012, and requires a \$20.00 annual registration fee.**

**For your convenience, we have abbreviated the ordinance below. A full version of the ordinance and registration form can be found at: [www.tucsonaz.gov/police](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/police)**

### Sec. 7-467. Alarm User's and Proprietor Alarm Owner Duties

- Instruct all persons in the appropriate method of operation, the provisions of this chapter, and emphasize the importance of avoiding false alarms.
- Apply for an Alarm User Registration from the Alarm Administrator within ten (10) days of commencement of alarm service.
- Respond to or make arrangements for a responsible person to respond to the scene of an activated alarm within sixty (60) minutes of the alarm activation.
- User will be responsible for any costs to secure the property if the Police Department has been dispatched.
- Maintain the Alarm or Alarm System in good working order and take reasonable measures to prevent the occurrence of false alarms.

### Sec. 7-474. Alarm User Registration

- Alarm User shall not operate, or cause to be operated, an Alarm System without a valid Alarm Registration.
- Operating an alarm while an Alarm Registration is suspended is deemed to be operating an alarm without an Alarm Registration.
- Each Alarm User and Proprietor Alarm owner shall apply for and receive an Alarm User Registration from the Police Department.
- A separate Registration is required for each address or separate units.
- An Alarm Registration Application and Fee shall be submitted within ten (10) calendar days of the installation or system takeover.
- Registrations are valid for 365 days unless suspended pursuant to Section 7-477.
- Alarm User is responsible to submit an application prior to the registration expiration date.
- Failure to renew will be classified as use of a non-registered Alarm System and citations and penalties shall be assessed without waiver.
- Fee for an Alarm Registration/renewal shall be \$20.00.
- If an Alarm User has multiple Alarm Systems at one location, an Alarm User Registration is required for each System.
  - Owner of an apartment complex or other residential rental property that has an existing Alarm system shall be deemed to be the Alarm User.
  - Each unit shall be considered a separate address.
  - Tenant of an apartment or other residential rental property who installs, purchases, or rents an Alarm system or initiates monitoring services, shall be deemed to be the Alarm User and must apply for an Alarm User Registration.

### Sec. 7-475. Excessive False Alarms/Failure to Register

- It is found that two (2) or more False Alarms within a 365-day period is excessive and constitutes a public nuisance. A fee for False Alarms within a 365-day period shall be assessed as follows:



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### **Alarm User/Alarm Company Information**

| <b>False Alarm Type</b> | <b>False Alarm Number</b> | <b><u>Registered</u><br/>False Alarm Fee</b> | <b><u>Non Registered</u><br/>False Alarm Fee</b> |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--|--|
| Burglary Alarm          | 1                         | 0  | \$100.00**/\$100.00 service fee                  |
| Burglary Alarm          | 2                         | \$100.00*                                    | \$200.00   |
| Burglary Alarm          | 3 - 7                     | \$100.00                                     | \$200.00   |
| Burglary Alarm          | 8 +                       | \$200.00                                     | \$300.00   |

| <b>False Alarm Type</b>         | <b>False Alarm Number</b> | <b><u>Registered</u><br/>False Alarm Fee</b> | <b><u>Non Registered</u><br/>False Alarm Fee</b> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--|
| Hold-up, robbery, panic, duress | 1                         | 0  | \$100.00**/\$100.00 service fee                  |
| Hold-up, robbery, panic, duress | 2                         | \$100.00*                                    | \$200.00   |
| Hold-up, robbery, panic, duress | 3 - 7                     | \$200.00                                     | \$300.00   |
| Hold-up, robbery, panic, duress | 8 +                       | \$300.00                                     | \$400.00   |

\* Waived if Alarm User Awareness Class completed within 90 days

\*\* Alarm fee may be waived if the user applies for and obtains an Alarm User Registration within 10 days of receipt of the invoice and completes an Alarm User Awareness Class within 90 days

#### Sec. 7-476. Assessment Petition

- The Alarm User or Proprietor Alarm Owner may appeal an assessment of a fee or the suspension of an Alarm Registration by setting forth in writing the reasons for the appeal to the Alarm Administrator. The appeal must be filed with the Administrator within ten (10) business days after receipt of the fee or notice of suspension.

*Prior to written appeal – contact TPD Alarm Unit*

#### Sec. 7-477. Suspension of response.

- The Alarm Administrator may suspend law enforcement response to an Alarm Site by suspending the Alarm Registration if it is determined that:
  - The Alarm User has seven (7) or more False Alarms in a 365-day period;
  - There is a statement of a material fact known to be false in the registration application;
  - The Alarm User has failed to make timely payment of a fee assessed under Section 7-475
  - A Person commits a civil offense if he/she operates an Alarm System during the period in which the Alarm Registration is suspended and may be fined in an amount not to exceed \$250.00 for each violation

#### 7-466(A)(5)(i). Alarm Business Duties

The User may choose not to register and forego a police response except for a fire, holdup, robbery, panic, or duress alarm activation. In such instances, if a dispatch request is made in an instance other than a fire, holdup, robbery, panic, or duress situation the Alarm User shall be considered to be unregistered and subject to Section 7-475.

- *You must make this arrangement with your alarm company – this means that you are foregoing police response to all burglary alarms. TPD will still respond to verified criminal activity.*

**A full version of the ordinance can be found at: [www.tucsonaz.gov/police](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/police)**