

ALARMS

§ 1. Title.

This local law shall be known as the “Town of Cairo Alarm Devices and Systems Law.”

§ 2. Definitions.

As used in this local law, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

ALARM SYSTEMS – A device or an assembly of equipment which is designed to detect smoke, abnormal rise in temperature, fire, medical emergency or any entry into or exit from a building, structure or facility and by reason thereof emits an audible response intended to alert persons outside of the premises and/or transmit a signal or message to an emergency agency either directly or through private answering point.

EMERGENCY AGENCY – Any fire, police, 911 or other dispatch center or public or private response agency, without regard as to whether such agency is paid or volunteer.

FALSE ALARM – Any signal activated by a police, fire or medical emergency alarm device, devices or system of police, fire or medical emergency alarm devices which is not the result of natural disaster, act of God, criminal act, fire or other emergency, resulting in police, fire or other emergency services or personnel response. The term “false alarm” shall include human error and equipment malfunction causing the alarm to be activated and which results in the above emergency response. The term “false alarm” shall also include any alarm that is activated and deemed to be excessive or negligent by the respective Fire Chiefs within the Town of Cairo.

§ 3. Registration Required.

A. Effective December 1, 2025, the owner or occupant of any premises in the Town of Cairo upon which a burglar or fire alarm system is operated shall provide the following information, in writing, to the Cairo Town Clerk:

- (1) The name, address and business and residence telephone numbers of the property owner and occupant;
- (2) The property location both by street or postal address and tax roll identification number;
- (3) The number of individual tenants or subtenants occupying the premises; and
- (4) The name, address and business and residence telephone numbers of at least one other person to receive notice of the activation of the alarm system if the owner or occupant of the premises is not available.

B. The Cairo Police Department shall be notified by the owner or occupant within 15 days of any change in the information previously provided.

§4. Automatic cutoff required.

- A. No person shall install or maintain an external audible alarm device which does not contain an operation automatic cutoff system which turns off the external audible alarm after a period not to exceed 15 minutes.
- B. An automatic dialer connected directly to an emergency agency shall automatically disconnect and/or terminate its message after the message has been transmitted a maximum of two times. Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, the total transmission time of all messages shall not exceed five minutes.

§ 5. Record of false alarms to be maintained

A. A member of the Police or Fire Department who proceeds to a premises in response to the communication of a signal which is determined to be a false alarm shall, within two hours thereafter, file a written report with the Cairo Town Clerk setting forth the date, time, premises, location, whether an owner or occupant was present, whether there appeared to be any fire, unlawful entry, intrusion or other damage to the premises and whether it appeared that the alarm signal was activated by a natural disaster as above described.

B. Any Fire Department, Company or District in the Town of Cairo shall maintain a record of the reports of false alarms transmitted to them from premises in the Town of Cairo.

§ 6. Civil Fee.

The owner and/or lessee of real property to which an emergency agency responds as a result of a false alarm shall pay a fee, after a hearing and determination by the Cairo Town Board, for each such response in each calendar year as set forth below. The Town Clerk shall collect all such fees and shall distribute same in accordance with a motion of the Town Board to be set from time to time.

- A. First false alarm: no fee.
- B. Second false alarm: \$75.
- C. Third false alarm: \$100.
- D. Fourth false alarm: \$500 each.

§ 7. Assessment of costs and expenses

All costs and expenses incurred by the Town of Cairo in connection with any civil fee or penalty for a false alarm, including attorneys' fees, court costs and other professional fees, and which are unpaid for a period in excess of six (6) months shall be assessed to and levied against the real

property involved and shall be added to, relieved and included in the Town of Cairo real property tax.

§8. Penalties for offenses.

Any person that does not pay the fee established in this local law or which violates any other provisions of this local law shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for each offense. A separate offense shall be deemed committed upon each day during which a violation occurs, continues or is permitted.

§ 9. Enforcement

The Town of Cairo Code Enforcement Officer or any other peace officer or police officer is hereby authorized to enforce this local law.