

CHAPTER 8.08

PUBLIC ALARM SYSTEMS

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8.08.010 TITLE OF PROVISIONS

This chapter shall be known as the "Public Alarm Code." (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.020 PURPOSE OF PROVISIONS

1. The purpose of this chapter is to protect the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) and Emergency Services from misuses of automatic emergency alarm reporting systems.
2. The Code governs fire, medical, burglar, and hazard monitoring alarm systems, requires permits, establishes fees, provides for revocation of permits, and provides for punishment of violations. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.030 DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter, the following mean:

ALARM SYSTEM: A device or system of interconnected devices, including hardware and related accessories, designed to give warning of a fire, burglary, robbery, medical emergency, or other hazardous conditions occurring on the protected premises, except residential smoke detectors which are not connected to a receiving panel at an alarm reception point and does not emit sound outside the residence.

AUTOMATIC DIALER: A device programmed to select a telephone number and deliver a warning message or signal over standard telephone lines.

DIGITAL COMMUNICATOR: An automatic dialer specially designed and programmed to deliver an alarm signal to compatible receiving equipment located at an alarm reception point by telephone line.

CITY: City of Stayton, Oregon

PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT (PSAP): The emergency communication center also known as the 911 Center that is used to receive transmissions and general information from the public to be dispatched to the respective emergency services agencies utilizing the center.

FALSE ALARM: Any activation of any alarm system which results in the dispatch of emergency personnel to the protected premises where they are unable to discover any evidence of an emergency condition, but it does not include an alarm signal caused by violent conditions or nature of other extraordinary circumstances not reasonably subject to control by the alarm user.

HARD-WIRE SYSTEM: An alarm system that detects and transmits alarms using direct leased lines to a receiving panel at an alarm reception point.

LOCAL ALARMS: Systems or devices that sound audibly on the premises of the user, but are not connected to a receiving panel at an alarm reception point.

PROTECTED PREMISES: All of that contiguous area including buildings protected by a single alarm system and under common ownership and use.

PERSONS: Any alarm user, be it a natural person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company, utility, or organization, profit or nonprofit, public or private. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.040 GENERAL SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

1. No alarm system shall be installed, used, or maintained in violation of any of the requirements of adopted provisions of the Uniform Fire Code or of any applicable statute, law, or administrative regulation of the State or of the City.
2. Any alarm user required by federal, state, county, or municipal , regulation, rule,

code, or ordinance to install, maintain, and operate an alarm system shall be subject to this chapter. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.050 DIGITAL COMMUNICATOR RESTRICTIONS

Any alarm system that incorporates a digital communicator shall be programmed to select an emergency communication center phone line specifically designed for this purpose. No automatic dialer shall be programmed to select the emergency communication center trunk phone lines. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.060 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

The holder of an alarm system permit shall be responsible for training and retraining of employees, family members, and other persons who make regular use of the protected premises and who may, in the normal course of their activities, be in a position to accidentally trigger an alarm device. Such training shall include procedures to avoid accidental alarms and steps to follow in the event the system is accidentally triggered. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.070 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR RESPONSIBILITY

The holder of an alarm system permit shall, at all times, be responsible for the proper maintenance and repair of the system and for the repair or replacement of any component, method of installation, design feature, or like condition which may give rise to a false alarm. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.080 TESTING OF SYSTEMS

All alarm system testing shall be conducted in accordance with the following: All service and tests of any alarm system that may result in transmission of alarm signals to the emergency communication center shall be conducted only after notification to the emergency communication center of the intention to conduct such service or tests. Failure to so notify will result in a false alarm assessment. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.090 FIRE DRILLS: PRIOR NOTIFICATION REQUIRED

Fire drills that incorporate activation of the alarm system with resultant transmission of alarm signals to the emergency communication center shall not be conducted without prior notification to the emergency communication center. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.100 RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALARM DEACTIVATION

All permit holders shall furnish and update names and phone numbers of at least two responsible persons having access to the premises who may be notified to assist personnel in the event the alarm is activated. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.110 SOUND LIMITATIONS

Local alarms other than fire alarms shall not make a sound similar to that of sirens on emergency vehicles or of civil defense warning systems. Owners of local alarms shall be responsible to maintain and turn the alarm system off in case of malfunction, and are subject to Section 8.08.570 of this chapter. No local alarm sounding device shall sound for more than five minutes and shall incorporate an automatic cutoff. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.120 PERMIT: REQUIRED

No person shall install, use, or maintain any alarm system without first obtaining a permit for such system from the City. Systems approved and installed prior to the adoption of this chapter shall be governed by such rules and regulations contained in this chapter. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.130 PERMIT: APPLICATION, ISSUANCE

1. Each application for an alarm system permit shall be made on a form prescribed by the city.
2. Each permit application shall be accompanied by the fee set by Stayton City Council Resolution.
3. Upon receipt of the permit application and fee, the city shall undertake such investigation as is deemed necessary. If it appears that the proposed system will comply with the provisions of this chapter and any other applicable rules and regulations, the city shall issue to the applicant a permit bearing an identifying number and specifying the type of alarm system for which it is issued. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.140 FEE SCHEDULE

The alarm system fees designated in Title 8 shall be set by Stayton City Council Resolution and are not refundable:

1. The initial fee for a permit application is set by Stayton City Council Resolution.
2. An additional charge shall be assessed in addition to the initial permit application fee if a user fails to obtain a permit prior to activation of the alarm.

3. False Alarm Fees will be charged based on the number of false alarms received per year. There is no charge for the first five false alarms. False Alarm fees are set by Stayton City Council Resolution and may go up incrementally based on the number of false alarms received per year at a given location.

8.08.150 PERMIT: GROUNDS FOR REVOCATION

1. The following shall be grounds for revoking any permit issued pursuant to this chapter:
 - a. Any false or incomplete statement made on the permit application;
 - b. Substantial alteration of alarm transmitting devices other than those approved at the time of the permit application;
 - c. Testing or deliberate activation of the alarm system without following the provisions set forth in sections 8.08.480 and 8.08.490 of this chapter;
 - d. Failure to properly maintain the system;
 - e. Failure to pay a false alarm fee as prescribed in Section 8.08.540 of this chapter within thirty days of demand. Noncompliance shall subject the protected property to a lien on the property, as well as to the penalties prescribed in Section 8.08.590 of this chapter.
 - f. Any permit for an alarm system that has ten or more false alarms within a permit year may be revoked and the system shall be disconnected.
2. An alarm user shall immediately discontinue use of the alarm system upon being notified by certified mail of the revocation of the permit. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.160 PERMIT: APPEALS

Any party whose alarm system permit has been revoked under SMC Section 8.08.550 of this Chapter may appeal the action to the Stayton City Council by giving written notice to the City Administrator within thirty days after receipt of the notice of revocation. The filing of a notice of appeal shall stay the action appealed until disposition of the appeal by the Council. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.170 FALSE ALARMS

As a condition of any alarm system permit issued under the provisions of this chapter and for maintenance of any similar system installed prior to adoption of this chapter, the

permittee shall pay the city fees for false alarms generated by the permittee's alarm system according to the schedule in Section 8.08.540 of this chapter. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)

8.08.180 RESERVED

8.08.190 VIOLATION: PENALTY

1. A violation of a provision of this chapter is punishable by a fine adopted by Stayton City Council Resolution.
2. In addition to other remedies and fees provided for in this chapter, any person authorized to enforce the provisions of this chapter may issue an enforcement complaint, as defined in section 6.04.020, to any person found in violation of the provisions of this chapter. (Ord. 711, November, 1992)