

## Alarm Systems Ordinance Amendment

### TOWN OF ENFIELD LEGAL NOTICE

THE FOLLOWING AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 34 EMERGENCY SERVICES, ARTICLE II, ALARM SYSTEMS, SECTION 34-31 through 34-37 was adopted by the Enfield Town Council at a Regular Meeting held on March 1, 2010 pursuant to Chapter III Section 6 of the Enfield Town Charter. Said ordinance shall become effective on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March 2010, that day being the fifteenth day following final passage.

#### ARTICLE II. ALARM SYSTEMS\*

\*State law references: Transmittal of false alarms, G.S. § 7-148(c)(7)(H)(14).

##### Sec. 34-31. Purpose.

The purpose of this article is to reduce needless alarms to which the division of police or other emergency service responds as a result of the activation of burglar, holdup, panic and fire alarms that automatically summon the division of police or other emergency service either via a central station, the division of police or automatic dialers.

##### Sec. 34-32. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Alarm system* means an assembly of equipment and devices arranged to signal the presence of a hazard requiring urgent attention and to which the division of police or other emergency service is expected to respond. In this article, the term "alarm system" shall include but not be limited to the terms "automatic holdup alarm systems," "burglar alarm systems," "holdup alarm systems," "manual holdup alarm systems," "audible alarm systems" and "fire alarm systems." "Alarm systems" which monitor temperature, humidity or any other condition not directly related to the detection of an unauthorized intrusion into a premises or any attempted robbery or a fire or smoke condition at a premises are specifically excluded from the provision of this article, as are alternative "alarm systems" designed to notify of medical emergencies.

*False alarm* means the activation of any alarm system to which the division of police or other emergency service responds which is not caused by:

- (1) Fire, a criminal act or other emergency.
- (2) An act of nature, such as an earthquake, tornado or hurricane.
- (3) Circumstances occurring off the protected property and within the control of either the subscriber, his alarm business or his answering service.
- (4) A person motivated solely by criminal, malicious or mischievous intent.

*Protected Property* means any property which is monitored by, protected by or maintains an

Alarm System as defined above.

*Subscriber* means a person who buys and/or leases or otherwise obtains an alarm system and thereafter installs it or has it installed. The term "subscriber" shall also mean a person who has control of premises in which an operable alarm system exists, with the ultimate responsibility for the alarm system being with the property owner.

Sec. 34-33. Registration; Notifications; Imposition of Penalties.

(a) Existing alarm systems must, within ninety (90) days of adoption of Ordinance, March 16, 2010, be registered with the Town of Enfield. Alarm registration forms will be provided by the Town. [Download the form](#)

(b) For new alarms installed after the adoption of Ordinance, March 16, 2010, the protected property must, in addition to obtaining any building, electrical or other permits, register with the Enfield Police Department.

(c) Upon a police or other emergency service response to a false alarm at a Protected Property, a notice of such response shall be left at the property or mailed to the property owner as shown on the Assessor's records of the Town of Enfield, noting the date and time of the response and that a false alarm was noted. Said notice shall also include a notification of the penalties that may be imposed as set forth below.

(d) The town will charge the subscriber of an alarm system a penalty of \$15.00 for the first emergency services or police response to a false alarm, and a penalty of \$90.00 for each subsequent false alarm for a registered protected property, and a penalty of \$90.00 for the first and any subsequent false alarm for any unregistered protected property.

(e) The provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to alarms owned or used by the Town of Enfield or its agencies, including the Board of Education, the State of Connecticut or the United States of America.

Sec. 34-34. Right to appeal.

Any person issued a citation pursuant to this section shall be entitled to a hearing to contest the citation pursuant to the provisions of G.S. § 7-152c. The Town Manager shall appoint a hearing officer. The hearing officer shall not be a police officer or any other town employee.

Sec. 34-35. Payment of fines.

(a) All fines payable under this article will be made to the Town of Enfield and, unless appealed pursuant to section 34-34, will be due and payable immediately upon the issuance of the citation, subject to the abatement and waiver provisions as set forth in section 34-33. If a registrant or property owners fails to pay any fine within thirty (30) days of when it is due, the levied fine shall be increased by \$100.00

(b) Continued failure to pay the fine may result in an Infraction (State/Court ticket) being issued to the registrant or property owner for failure to comply with a Town ordinance.

Sec. 34-36. Administration and enforcement.

The chief of police will enforce and administer this article and any rules and regulations promulgated. The chief of police shall also report to the town council on an annual basis.

Sec. 34-37. Violation of article.

A violation of this article shall be an infraction pursuant to G.S. § 51-164p.

Ordinance #10-1

Proposed By:	By Request
Approved By:	Matthew W. Coppler, Town Manager
Reviewed By:	Kevin M. Deneen, Town Attorney
Proposal Introduced to Council:	February 1, 2010
Date for Public Hearing Set:	February 1, 2010
Proposed Ordinance Posted:	February 2, 2010
Newspaper Warning:	February 5, 2010
Council Holds Public Hearing	February 16, 2010
Date of Final Passage by Council:	March 1, 2010
Date Published:	March 9, 2010
Effective Date:	March 16, 2010

[Enfield Police Department Alarm User Applicant Registration Form](#)