



City of St. Louis
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
SAFETY
PO Box 4664
St. Louis, MO 63108

Dear Alarm Owner:

On June 1, the City of St. Louis will begin enforcing its new burglar alarm ordinance, ordinance #66264 (the "Ordinance"). The Ordinance, which was passed by the Board of Aldermen and signed by Mayor Francis Slay last May, will help reduce the high number of false alarms and allow police to respond more quickly to real emergencies.

Last year alone the St. Louis Police Department responded to over 60,000 burglar alarms, the vast majority of which were false. In addition to the significant cost and drain on police resources, responding to false alarms can jeopardize the police department's ability to respond quickly to real emergencies.

The Ordinance requires that all residential and commercial burglar alarm systems (monitored and non-monitored) be registered with the City of St. Louis **prior to the June 1 deadline** or police response will be suspended. Alarm businesses are responsible for registering the alarm subscribers that they monitor and collecting the annual registration fees: \$25 for a residential systems, \$50 for a commercial systems. (Customers with self-installed systems or who are not using alarm businesses to monitor their systems must pay these registration fees directly to the City.) These fees will allow City police to continue to respond directly to burglar alarms and the Department of Public Safety to establish an alarm tracking system to hold alarm owners accountable for false alarms.

There will be no fines for alarms activated due to criminal activity, nor from false alarms due to bad weather, power outages, police radio interference and/or malfunction due to a manufacturer's faulty alarm equipment. Owners will be fined for alarm sounding resulting from all other false alarms beginning with the second occurrence in any 12 month period. The penalties will be \$25 for the second false alarm, \$50 for the third, \$50 plus a 30-day suspension of alarm services for the fourth, \$100 for the fifth, \$100 for the sixth, \$100 for the seventh, and \$100 and a one-year suspension for the eighth false alarm within a 12-month period. The 12-month period starts from the day a subscriber registers his or her alarm system. At the end of every 12 months, the false alarm count will be reset to zero. Subscribers will be billed directly or false alarm fine.

If you have any questions, please contact your alarm company or write the Department of Public Safety, PO Box 4664, St. Louis, MO 63108. For a copy of the Ordinance, go to www.slpl.lib.mo.us/cco/ords/data/ord6264.htm.

Sincerely,

Sam Simons
DIRECTOR