

Summary of Greenville County Ordinance No 3354

§ 11-46 ALARM USERS AND ALARM USER PERMITS

(a) An alarm user shall:

- (1) Maintain the premises and security alarm system in a manner that will minimize or eliminate false alarms.
- (2) Review all alarm system operating instructions, including those for verification of an alarm.
- (3) Notify the alarm system monitoring company of a false alarm activation as soon as the user is aware of the false alarm.
- (4) Not manually activate an alarm except when needing immediate Sheriff's Office response to an emergency.
- (5) Obtain all required permits under county ordinance.

(b) In order to ensure that alarm system users have necessary information properly documented and that violations can be accurately billed and proper notification sent out, all alarm users shall be required to obtain an alarm user permit from the sheriff's office. The alarm user permit shall be effective so long as the permitted remains at the address that is the subject of the permit. The cost of the alarm user permit shall be \$10 and it does not expire.

(1976 Code, § 11-46) (Ord. No. 3354, § 1, 4-18-00)

§ 11-50 DETERMINATION OF FALSE ALARM; REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION

For the purposes of this article, there is a rebuttable presumption that the following determinations made by the Sheriff or a Sheriff's deputy dispatched to the premises reporting an alarm signal are correct:

- (1) There is no evidence of a crime or other activity that would warrant a call for the immediate sheriff's office assistance at the premises.
- (2) No individual who was on or near the premises or who has viewed a video communication from the premise called for a sheriff's office dispatch or verified a need for an immediate sheriff's office response.
- (3) There is no evidence that the violent conditions of nature or other extraordinary circumstances beyond the control of the alarm user caused the activation of the alarm.

(1976 Code, § 11-50) (Ord. No. 3354, § 1, 4-18-00)

§ 11-51 PENALTY FOR FALSE ALARM

Every establishment in the unincorporated area of Greenville County having a security alarm system shall be entitled to report 2 false alarms to which the sheriff's office will respond without charge in each calendar year. After 2 false alarms within a calendar year, all additional false alarms during the calendar year shall be considered a violation of this article and shall be deemed a civil infraction and the alarm system user shall be subject to the following fines:

- (1) Three to five false alarms per calendar year shall be punishable by a fine of \$50 per occurrence;
- (2) Six and seven false alarms per calendar year shall be punishable by a fine of \$100 per occurrence;
- (3) Eight and nine false alarms per calendar year shall be punishable by a fine of \$250 per occurrence, and
- (4) Ten or more false alarms per calendar year shall be punishable by a fine of \$500 per occurrence.

(b) A 30-day grace period should be afforded to new alarm system users after the installation of a new system and not be subject to subsection (a). Proper documentation, however, must be provided in order to have the fine waived.

(1976 Code, § 11-51) (Ord. No. 3354, § 1, 4-18-00) ; Ord. No. 4888, § 2, 3-21-17)

§ 11-54 VIOLATION – CIVIL PENALTIES

There shall be a maximum penalty of \$50 for any of the following:

- (1) Failure to respond to a false alarm notice within 15 days of receipt of the notice
- (2) Failure to appear for a hearing requested pursuant to this article
- (3) *Failure to pay any fine imposed pursuant to this article*

(1976 Code, § 11-54) (Ord. No. 3354, § 1, 4-18-00)

Full Ordinance www.greenvillecounty.org Ordinance 3354 Security Alarms