

## CITY OF PALMER, ALASKA

## ORDINANCE NO. 393

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 8.40.010, 8.40.020(D), 8.40.030 AND 8.40.040 OF CHAPTER 8.40 FALSE ALARMS OF THE PALMER MUNICIPAL CODE.

THE CITY OF PALMER, ALASKA, ORDAINS:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance shall be of a permanent nature and shall become a part of the City of Palmer Code of Ordinances.

Section 2. Severability. If any provisions of this ordinance, or any application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this ordinance and the application to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Section 3. Section 8.40.010 of Chapter 8.40 of the Palmer Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

8.40.010 Definitions. A. "Alarm" means any operable device except an official municipal fire alarm, but including without limitation, automatic dialing devices which telephone a prerecorded message or transmit a signal or message directly or indirectly, to the Palmer police department or fire department and devices that produce an audible or visible signal which is intended to alert the police or some other person that a criminal act, fire or other emergency exists and requires assistance. Devices commonly known as "smoke alarms" intended primarily for residential use and designed to emit a signal upon the detection of smoke, fumes or heat shall not be considered alarms for purposes of this chapter.

B. "Chief of police" means the chief of the City of Palmer police department or his designee.

C. "Fire chief" means the chief of the City of Palmer fire department or his designee.

D. "False alarm" means an alarm signal that the chief of police or fire chief determines is caused by a reason other than that condition for which the alarm is designed or a natural phenomenon beyond the control of the owner.

E. "Owner" means a person who is responsible for the proper operation of an alarm under this chapter and who has registered with the chief of police pursuant to Section 8.40.030 of this chapter.

Section 4. Section 8.40.020(D) of Chapter 8.40 of the Palmer Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

8.40.020(D). No person shall install, connect, own or possess an automatic direct dial alarm in such a fashion as to ring any telephone number at the Palmer police or fire department other than those which the chief of police or fire chief may designate for such use.

Section 5. Section 8.40.030 of Chapter 8.40 of the Palmer Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

8.40.030 Alarm registration. A person who owns or possesses an alarm shall register immediately certain information required by the chief of police or fire chief with the chief of police or fire chief including without limitation, the identity of the owner, location of the alarm, and the name and telephone number of a responsible individual for that alarm. An owner is under a continuing obligation to keep the information on his registration current by reporting any change to the chief of police or fire chief within ten days.

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Section 6. Section 8.40.040 of Chapter 8.40 of the Palmer Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

8.40.040 False alarm charges. A. The owner of an alarm shall pay a progressive charge in accordance with this section for each and every false alarm to which the police/fire respond within a twelve month period.

	<u>Burglar Alarm Charges</u>	<u>Fire Alarm Charges</u>
First false alarm	No charge	No charge
Second false alarm	No charge	\$125.00
Third false alarm	No charge	150.00
Fourth false alarm	No charge	175.00
Fifth false alarm	\$50.00	200.00
Sixth false alarm	75.00	225.00
Seventh false alarm	100.00	250.00
Eighth false alarm	125.00	275.00
Ninth false alarm	150.00	300.00
Tenth false alarm	175.00	325.00
Each false alarm in excess of ten	300.00	400.00

B. The police/fire department, individually, shall bill the owner for false alarms and the owner shall pay those charges within thirty days of receipt of said bill.


C. New alarm installations and existing alarm upgrades shall have a thirty-day grace period before charges begin.

Section 7. Publication and Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption and publication and shall be by posting a copy hereof on the City Hall bulletin board for a period of ten (10) days following its adoption, and it shall be published by being printed and included in the Palmer Municipal Code at its next regular supplementation and printing. A notice of public hearing shall be given by such posting at least five (5) days before final passage.

First Reading: December 13, 1988

Public Hearing &  
Second Reading: December 27, 1988

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Palmer, Alaska, this 27th day of December, 1988.

  
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GEORGE W. CARTE, MAYOR

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DAVID L. SOULAK, CITY CLERK