

**An Ordinance Amending Chapter 12, Article III, of the
East Haven Code regarding Alarm Systems**

WHEREAS, Chapter 12, Article III, of the East Haven Code presently addresses the topic of "Alarm Systems;"

AND WHEREAS, the Town wishes to update and amend all of the regulations contained therein

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that Chapter 12, Article III and all sections contained therein, including the respective titles of said sections, are hereby repealed in their entirety and the following shall be deemed to replace the same:

ARTICLE III: ALARM SYSTEMS

Sec. 12-41. Intent and Purpose.

It is the intent and purpose of this article to provide minimum standards and regulations applicable to users and installers of burglar, fire, hold-up and automatic telephone dialer alarms within the town; to provide penalties for noncompliance; and to encourage the installation of protective alarm systems in all dwelling and commercial structures.

Section 12-42. Definitions.

As used in this article:

Alarm system means an assembly of equipment and devices (or a single device, such as a solid state unit, which may operate from a 110-volt AC line) arranged to signal the presence of a hazard requiring urgent attention and to which police or fire department personnel are expected to respond. This includes all burglar alarms, fire alarms, hold-up alarms and automatic telephone dialer alarms, except this does not include smoke detectors which do not signal outside an alarmed premises or alarm systems on motor vehicles.

Alarm user means any person, firm or corporation on whose premises any alarm system is maintained within the town.

Automatic telephone dialing device refers to an alarm system which automatically sends, over regular telephone lines, by direct connection or otherwise, a prerecorded voice message indicating the existence of the emergency situation that the alarm system is designed to detect.

False alarm means the activation of an alarm system through mechanical failure, malfunctions, improper installation, or the negligence of the owner or lessee of an alarm system or of his employees or agents. Such terminology does not include, for example, alarms caused by hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes or other normally infrequent violent conditions or acts of God. Excluded from this section are false alarms which are transmitted with a criminal, malicious or mischievous intent. Such violations will be prosecuted under the applicable General Statutes of the State of Connecticut.

In the event of any dispute as to the interpretation or applicability of any provision of this article, or as to the amount of any fee or fine payable hereunder, the determination of the chief of police shall be final.

Sec. 12-43. Registration Requirements; Penalties for Failure to Register

(a) Any person, firm or corporation installing an alarm system within the town shall register with the police department at least ten (10) days prior to the anticipated installation. All alarm systems in existence as of the passage of this ordinance shall be registered with the police department within 120 days of passage of this ordinance.

(b) Residential Properties

(i) With regard to any residential property for which an alarm system is registered, a one-time registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per location, payable to the town, shall be payable at the police department at the time of registration.

(ii) Any person, firm, or corporation that fails to register an alarm system installed at a residential property within the applicable time periods prescribed in Section 12-43(a) shall be fined one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each month the alarm remains unregistered.

(iii) In the event that an unregistered alarm system at a residential property becomes activated during the perpetration of an actual crime, no fine for failure to register the system will be charged provided that the person, firm, or corporation owning the property registers the system within five (5) business days. Any person, firm, or corporation that fails to register an alarm system following activation during the perpetration of an actual crime shall be fined one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) and an additional one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each month the alarm remains unregistered thereafter.

(c) Non-residential Properties

(i) With regard to any non-residential property for which an alarm system is registered, a one-time registration fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per location, payable to the town, shall be payable at the police department at the time of registration.

(ii) Any person, firm, or corporation that fails to register an alarm system installed at a non-residential property within the applicable time periods prescribed in Section 12-43(a) shall be fined one-hundred-fifty dollars (\$150.00) for each month the alarm remains unregistered.

(iii) In the event that an unregistered alarm system at a non-residential property becomes activated during the perpetration of an actual crime, no fine for failure to register the system will be charged provided that the person, firm, or corporation owning the property registers the system within five (5) business days. Any person, firm, or corporation that fails to register an alarm system following activation during the perpetration of an actual crime shall be fined two-hundred dollars (\$200.00) and an additional one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each month the alarm remains unregistered thereafter.

