

**TEMPLE TERRACE CODE**  
**CHAPTER 6 – BURGLAR AND FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS**

**Section 6.600                    DEFINITIONS.**

***Alarm system.*** Any mechanical, electrical or radio-controlled device which is designed for detection of any fire or unauthorized entry into a building, structure or facility, for alerting others of a fire or the commission of an unlawful act within a building, structure or facility, or both; which emits a sound or transmits a signal or message when activated. Alarm systems include, but are not limited to, direct dial telephone devices, audible alarms and proprietor alarms; excluded from the definition of alarm systems are devices which are designed or used to register alarms that are audible, visible or perceptible in or from any motor vehicle or auxiliary devices installed by telephone companies to protect telephone systems from damage or disruption of service.

***Automatic dialing device.*** An alarm system which automatically sends over regular telephone lines, by direct connection or otherwise, a prerecorded voice message or coded signal indicating the existence of an emergency situation; excluding such telephone lines exclusively dedicated to an alarm system which are permanently active and terminate within the communication center of the Temple Terrace Fire or Police Department, or that of any other fire or law enforcement agency.

***City.*** The City of Temple Terrace, Florida.

***Commercial premises.*** Any structure or area other than a residential premise.

***False alarm.*** Any activation of an alarm system not caused by a fire or by forced entry or attempted forced entry, robbery or attempted robbery.

***Fire Officer.*** The Fire Chief of the City of Temple Terrace Fire Department.

***Law Enforcement Officer.*** The Chief of Police of the City of Temple Terrace Police Department.

***Person.*** Any natural person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company or organization of any kind.

***Police Department.*** The City of Temple Terrace Police Department.

***Residential premises.*** A structure or combination of structures which serve as dwelling units, including both single-family and multi-family units.

***Response.*** When Fire Units or a Police Officer or other law enforcement personnel are dispatched pursuant to an alarm.

**Section 6.605                    REGISTRATION OF ALARM SYSTEMS.**

Every person who now owns, operates or leases any alarm system within the City or who shall own, operate or lease an alarm system in the future, shall, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Chapter or installation of the alarm system, register the system on a form to be provided by the Police or Fire Department, which shall include the following information:

- (a) The type, make and model of the alarm system;
- (b) Whether installed in residential or commercial premises;
- (c) The name, address, business and/or home telephone number of the owner, operator or lessee of the alarm system;
- (d) The names, addresses and telephone numbers of not less than two (2) persons to be notified in the event of an alarm activation.

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**Section 6.610                   PROCEDURE AND PENALTIES FOLLOWING FALSE ALARMS;  
CORRECTIVE ACTION.**

(a)     The following procedure and/or penalties shall be prescribed for each response to a false alarm:

- (1)     First through third false alarm. The occupant of the premises or, if it is unoccupied, the owner of the premises, shall, within ten (10) days after the response to the false alarm, file a written report, on forms provided by the Police or Fire Department, whichever responds to the alarm, setting forth the cause of such false alarm and the corrective action taken.
  
- (2)     Fourth and succeeding false alarm response. For each response to a false alarm occurring within six (6) months after such third response to a false alarm and for each succeeding response within six (6) months of the preceding response, the occupant of the premises or, if it is unoccupied, the owner of the premises will be charged twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars and shall be required to take corrective action.

(b)     If such fourth false alarm or any succeeding false alarm results from the failure to take necessary corrective action, the Law Enforcement Officer or Fire Officer may order disconnection of such alarm system; provided, however, that no disconnection shall be ordered on any premises required by law to have an alarm system in operation. An order of disconnection shall be rescinded by the Law Enforcement Officer or Fire Officer upon presentation of evidence of corrective action, subsequent inspection, and finding by the Law Enforcement Officer or Fire Officer that adequate corrective action has been taken.

**Section 6.615                   RIGHT TO HEARING UPON ASSESSMENT OR DISCONNECTION.**

Any person who shall be assessed a penalty for multiple false alarms or who shall be ordered to disconnect any alarm system shall be entitled to an administrative hearing before the Fire Officer or Law Enforcement Officer or his designee to show cause why such assessment or disconnection should not be made.

**Section 6.620                   NOTIFICATION AND RETURN TO PREMISES UPON ALARM ACTIVATION;  
PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO RETURN.**

The persons listed on the registration form shall be notified of any activation of an alarm system. Any persons so notified, who knowingly or purposefully fails or refuses to return to the premises within one (1) hour after notification of the activation of an alarm system, whether false or not, will be charged twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars.

**Section 6.625                   AUTOMATIC DIALING DEVICES.**

No person shall install, maintain, own, possess or operate any automatic dialing devices regulated or programmed to make connection with any telephone number installed in any fire or law enforcement facility for more than one (1) minute, except to such telephone number as determined and designated by the Fire Officer or Law Enforcement Officer. In addition thereto, the Law Enforcement Officer or Fire Officer may establish a reasonable fee to defray the installation and recurring charge for such special telephone equipment.

*(Ord. No. 424, 10-6-81)*

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