

**ORDINANCE:**  
**BURGLAR/FIRE/HOLD-UP ALARMS:**

**SECTION I : AUTOMATIC DIALING DEVICES:**

- A) No automatic dialing device utilizing a recorded voice message shall be interconnected to any telephone number at the Police Department after the effective date of this ordinance.
- B) No later than six (6) months after the effective date of this ordinance, all existing automatic dialing devices utilizing a recorded voice message interconnected to any telephone number at the Police Department shall be disconnected therefrom. The user of each device shall be responsible for having the device disconnected.
- C) Automatic dialing devices utilizing a coded digital message compatible with the receiving unit housed in the Police Station will be accepted. Interconnections must be coordinated with the company maintaining the receiving equipment in the Police Station.

**SECTION II : DIRECT CONNECTIONS TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

- A) Alarm systems may be connected to the alarm panel provided in the Police Station by interfacing through the company maintaining the alarm equipment at the police station.
- B) The alarm user or alarm business contracting for servicing the alarm user shall be responsible for obtaining the necessary leased telephone lines between the alarm user's premises and the Police Station receiving equipment, and for furnishing the appropriate interface equipment, if required, to be compatible with the receiving equipment used to operate the alarm panel.

**SECTION III : CONTROL AND CURTAILMENT OF SIGNALS EMITTED BY ALARM SYSTEMS:**

- A) Every alarm user shall submit to the Police Department the names and telephone numbers of at least two persons other than the user, who can be reached at any times, day or night, and who are authorized to respond to an emergency signal transmitted by an alarm system, and who can open the premises wherein the alarm system is installed.
- B) All alarm systems shall be equipped with a test device which will give a ten (10) second delay prior to sending a signal, in order to warn the user of an open circuit.
- C) Not later than six (6) months after the effective date of this ordinance, all alarm systems which use an audible horn, siren or bell, shall be equipped with a device which will shut off such horn, siren or bell within thirty minutes after activation.

**SECTION IV : TESTING OF EQUIPMENT:**

No alarm system connected to equipment within the Police Department shall be tested, worked on or demonstrated without first notifying the Police Department.

**SECTION V : FALSE ALARMS - WARNINGS AND PENALTIES:**

- A) More than four (4) false alarms during any calendar year from any alarm system terminating in the Police Department may constitute grounds for disconnecting that alarm from the Police Department equipment.
- B) After the Police Department has recorded four "false alarms" within a calendar year, on any system interconnected to the Police Department, notification will be made to the alarm user by first class mail of such fact. The alarm user will then be requested to respond in writing within fifteen (15) days after receipt of such notice, describing efforts to discover and eliminate the cause of the false alarms. Failure to respond will be considered justification for immediate termination of interconnect of that system to the Police Department equipment.
- C) If the corrective action to be taken in the response outlined in Section V, Sub-paragraph B is not considered to be satisfactory, the alarm interconnect may be terminated.
- D) If the alarm interconnect continues in effect after such termination as outlined in Section V, Sub-paragraphs B and D, and another false alarm is received, the user will be subject to a summons for violation, with a penalty of fine not to exceed \$100.00 for the first offense, \$200.00 for multiple offenses, with such fine payable to the Town of Windham.

**SECTION VI : PENALTIES AND APPEALS:**

- A) Any alarm user who violates the provisions of this ordinance, except as provided by Section V (False Alarms), shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$25.00 for the first offense, \$50.00 for a second offense, payable to the Town of Windham. A third violation shall be considered justification for immediate termination of interconnect of that system to the Police Department Equipment.
- B) Any alarm user who has received a notice of termination of interconnect shall have the right, within ten (10) days after receiving notice of termination, to appeal such termination to the Board of Selectmen for a hearing. In the event of an appeal, termination shall be delayed until after the hearing and finding of the Board of Selectmen. Said appeal hearing shall be scheduled within thirty (30) days, with notice to the appellant of not less than ten (10) days. A decision in writing will be issued by the Board of Selectmen within ten (10) days after the hearing.
- C) Any alarm user who has received a summons and fine as outlined in this ordinance shall have the same appeal rights as outlined in Section VI, Sub-paragraph B.

**Adopted at Town Meeting - March 12, 1983**

**Re-codified and affirmed by the Board of Selectmen - May 11, 1998**

**Charles E. McMahon**  
**Douglass L. Barker**  
**Carolyn B. Webber**  
**Margaret M. Crisler**  
**Galen A. Stearns**  
Board of Selectmen