

**SUPERIOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
ORDINANCE NO. 167**

**FALSE ALARM ORDINANCE**

An Ordinance to protect the public health, safety and general welfare by the adoption of regulations concerning the cost of responding to false alarms and to discourage the continuation of repeat false alarms.

**THE TOWNSHIP OF SUPERIOR ORDAINS:**

**SECTION 1 Title**

This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the Superior Township False Alarm Ordinance.

**SECTION 2 Purpose and Preamble**

The Township is empowered to act by Act 246 of the Public Acts of 1945, as amended (now MCL 41.181), and by Act 33 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended (now known as MCL 41.806a), to adopt Ordinances regulating the public health, safety, and general welfare of persons and property, including but not limited to regulations concerning the cost of responding to false alarms and to discourage the continuation of repeat false alarms, and to provide fees for responses to false alarms.

The purpose of this Ordinance is to defray the cost of responding to false alarms and to discourage the continuation of repeat false alarms.

**SECTION 3 Definitions**

As used in this Ordinance, the terms below shall be defined as follows:

*Alarmed premises* means any building, property, or premise(s) equipped with an alarm system.

*Alarm system* means an assembly of equipment and devices arranged to signal the presence of a hazard requiring urgent attention by the police department (or other agency with whom the Township contracts for police services, including the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department).

*False alarm* means a bell, mechanical, electrical, or telephone apparatus, or combination thereof, which is activated for the purpose of summoning the police department (or other agency with whom the Township contracts for police services, including the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department) to respond to a holdup, break-in, burglary, unauthorized

entry, destruction of property, fire alarm, smoke alarm, or flow alarm, or other similar such event requiring police department response, when in fact the service called for is not needed.

#### **SECTION 4 Regulations**

The owner and lessee of any alarmed premise(s) shall be jointly and severally responsible to pay the Township fees for each occasion on which the Township Police Department (or other agency with whom the Township contracts for police services, including the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department) responds to a false alarm from an alarmed premises. The Township Board shall establish from time to time a schedule of fees for such false alarm responses.

The police department (or other agency with whom the Township contracts for police services, including the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department) shall report, monthly, a list of false alarms, identifying the alarmed premises and the responsible owners and lessees. The Township Treasurer shall bill each responsible owner and lessee for the amounts due in accordance with the established schedule of fees. All amounts billed by the Township Treasurer under this Ordinance shall be due within 30 days after each billing. The Township Treasurer is authorized to place any overdue amounts on the current tax roll.

#### **SECTION 5 Appeals**

- (a) *Appeal.* Any owner or lessee of an alarmed premise(s) may appeal the assessment of a false alarm fee to the Township Board. Such appeal shall be in writing, shall be filed with the Township Clerk within ten (10) days after written notification of the assessment by the Township Treasurer, and shall state adequate, verifiable facts showing that the false alarm occurred under circumstances that could not be reasonably anticipated or controlled by the owner or lessee of the alarmed premise(s). The Township Board shall render a decision on the appeal within forty-five (45) days following the receipt the written appeal, and shall notify the appellant and the Township Treasurer of the decision in writing.
- (b) *Exceptions.* The following circumstances shall not constitute a false alarm, and no fee under this section shall be assessed:
  - (1) Alarm conditions activated by a person working on the alarm system with prior notification to the Township Police Department (or other agency with whom the Township contracts for police services, including the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department).
  - (2) Alarms activated by damage to public utility lines, when the affected public utility corroborates that the damage to such lines caused the alarm.

**SECTION 6 Saving Clause**

The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable, and if any clause, sentence, word, section, or provision is declared void or unenforceable for any reasons by any court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not affect any portion of the Ordinance other than said part or portion thereof.

**SECTION 7 Repeal**

All Ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 8 Effective Date**

This Ordinance shall become effective thirty days (30) after publication in a newspaper in general circulation within Superior Charter Township.

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William McFarlane, Township Supervisor

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Kay Williams, Township Clerk

**STATE OF MICHIGAN            )**  
  **) SS**  
**COUNTY OF WASHTENAW    )**

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Charter Township of Superior, Washtenaw County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of an Ordinance adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 5th day of June, 2006, and that such Ordinance was duly published as proscribed by law.

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Kay Williams, Township Clerk

**SUPERIOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
MAY 15, 2006**

**A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH FEES FOR FALSE ALARMS FOR POLICE  
SERVICE**

WHEREAS, the Township recognizes that substantial Township police resources are consumed each year by police responses to false alarms; and

WHEREAS, the Township seeks to make the users of such alarm systems more responsible for its proper use and installation and to recover the Township's costs in needlessly responding to such false alarms; and

WHEREAS, the Township has adopted Ordinance No. 167, being the Superior Township False Alarm Ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVLED, that the fees provided for in Section 4 of said Superior Township False Alarm Ordinance be established as follows:

- |    |   |           |
|----|---|-----------|
| 1. | First false alarm requiring response by a police department (or other agency with whom the Township contracts for police services, including the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department) in a calendar year.                   | No charge |
| 2. | Second false alarm requiring response by a police department (or other agency with whom the Township contracts for police services, including the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department) in a calendar year.                  | \$25      |
|    | If not paid within thirty (30) days   | \$35      |
| 3. | Third false alarm requiring response by a police department (or other agency with whom the Township contracts for police services, including the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department) in a calendar year.                   | \$100     |
|    | If not paid within thirty (30) days   | \$120     |
| 4. | Any and all subsequent false alarms requiring response by a police department (or other agency with whom the Township contracts for police services, including the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department) in a calendar year. | \$200     |

If not paid within thirty (30) days \$240

5. For each additional thirty (30) day period or part thereof, an additional charge of: \$5

**STATE OF MICHIGAN** )  
 ) SS  
**COUNTY OF WASHTENAW** )

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Charter Township of Superior, Washtenaw County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 5th day of June, 2006, and that such Resolution was duly published as proscribed by law.

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Kay Williams, Township Clerk