



Spartanburg County Administration Building

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The False Alarm Ordinance passed by Spartanburg County Council, outlines the responsibilities of the alarm companies, alarm users, and Spartanburg County staff. A designee of the County Administrator is authorized to make inspections of alarm systems and the premises where a system is located, and to make and enforce rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions of this ordinance.

Did you know that a company that monitors an alarm must attempt to twice verify an alarm signal before requesting law enforcement dispatch? They will also be responsible for providing the permit number for the location and any special information needed by emergency responders. All of this information and much more is available in the Ordinance. A copy of the ordinance and the False Alarm Guide is available at the Spartanburg County Administration Building in Room 900, the Information Desk or online at www.spartanburgcounty.org.

Spartanburg County Government
 Budget Management Room 900
 366 N. Church Street
 P.O. Box 5666
 Spartanburg, SC 29304

Return Service Requested



When:	
October 27, 2009	3:00 pm
November 10, 2009	6:00 pm
November 18, 2009	11:00 am
December 16, 2009	5:30 pm

Where: Spartanburg County Council Chambers

Spartanburg County



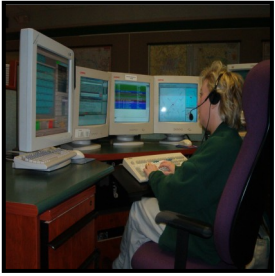
***YOUR ALARM COMPANY
 MUST BE REGISTERED***



**Information for Alarm
 Companies
 Regarding the New False
 Alarm
 Ordinance**



False Alarm Ordinance



The purpose of the False Alarm Ordinance in Spartanburg County is to decrease the number of false alarms in the unincorporated areas of the County. Under this Ordinance, we can improve the effectiveness of our law

enforcement and/or emergency services and maximize resources to the public. The primary cause of false alarms is poorly maintained systems and negligent operation by property owners. This Ordinance promotes the accountability and responsibility of the owner by establishing charges. Two false alarms are allowed in a six (6) month period with no charge. However, each subsequent false alarm occurring during such a period will have a progressive fee associated to it.

Each alarm company that wishes to operate in the unincorporated areas of Spartanburg County is required to register with the Alarm Administrator. It is unlawful for any person to buy, sell, lease, repair, alter or replace any alarm system in the unincorporated areas of the County which does not meet the minimum standards of this Ordinance. It is also unlawful for any person to engage in, conduct, or carry on any alarm business within the County of Spartanburg unless he or she has first registered his or her intention to engage in such a business. There is no charge for the registration. Proof of license under the provisions of the State Board of Private Investigations and Private Security Agencies Act must be provided with the registration form. Once a registration has been received and processed a business shall be assigned a permit number. This registration shall be renewed annually on the first day of each calendar year and is nontransferable. Each business is responsible for updating required information as it changes. Forms are available on our website or by contacting the Administrative Offices.

Alarm Company Duties:

- Register your business if you are conducting business in the unincorporated areas of the County. There is no charge for registration, and the forms are available online, by mail or at the Administrative Offices. A copy of your license as issued through the State Board of Private Investigations and Private Security Agencies Act must accompany your registration.
- Provide instruction and operational training to the alarm user, employees, or other designee(s) for each system prior to activation, including written instructions for obtaining service.
- Notify the Alarm Administrator in writing each time the business sells, installs or modifies an alarm system within the unincorporated areas of the County. This form is available online, by mail or at the Administrative Offices.
- Systems with a single action, non-recessed buttons are no longer allowed, and such devices must be removed or replaced.

Additional Duties for Monitoring Companies:

- Attempt two (2) times to verify a signal before requesting dispatch of law enforcement .
- Attempt to contact alarm user or designee after an alarm notification.
- Communicate a cancellation as soon as possible following a determination that an emergency response is unnecessary.
- Provide the Alarm Permit Number (assigned by the County and provided to the alarm users) for all accounts monitored in the unincorporated areas of the County.
- Notify the County within five (5) days of assuming the monitoring for a previously unmonitored system or one previously monitored by another company. This form is available online, by mail or at the Administrative Offices.

Summary of False Alarm Charges

1st & 2nd Alarm	no charge
3rd, 4th & 5th	\$50.00 each
6th & 7th	\$100.00 each
8th & 9th	\$200.00 each
10th & up	\$500.00 each

These charges are within any six (6) month period.

Additional Charges

Failure to Respond	\$100.00 each
Failure to Register	\$250.00 each
Late penalties	10% or \$10*

**whichever is greater*

Any person, firm, corporation or agent who shall violate any of the provisions of the Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punishable by a fine not more than \$500 for each offense plus court cost or be imprisoned for not more than 30 days.

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 366 North Church Street
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 Spartanburg, SC 29304

www.spartanburgcounty.org

Contact Information:

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