NO. ~~14~~ 600.15

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE REGULATION OF PRIVATE ALARM SYSTEMS

WHEREAS, the County of Iowa desires to establish regulations applicable to private alarm systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNTY OF IOWA DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Sections:

1. Purpose
2. Definitions
3. Testing
4. False Alarms Prohibited
5. Penalty
6. Exceptions
7. Termination of Direct Connection
8. County Liability
9. Effective Date

(1) Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish regulations applicable to private alarm systems. Each false alarm requires response of public safety personnel, involves unnecessary expense to the County, increases the risk of injury to persons or damage to property and dilutes the overall public safety protection to the County. Such false alarms constitute a public nuisance and must be abated.

(2) Definitions.

a. "Alarm System" means any electrical or mechanical device for the detection of an unauthorized entry on premises, for alerting others of the commission of an unlawful act or for the detection of a fire and, when activated, emits a sound or transmits a signal, message or both.

b. "False Alarm" means a signal from an alarm system which results in a call, either direct or indirect, to the Iowa County Sheriff's Department Dispatch Center and resulting in a response by the appropriate department when an actual emergency situation does not exist.

c. "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation or other entity.

d. "Private Alarm System" means any alarm system not owned or leased by the County.

(3) Testing.

a. No alarm system designed to transmit emergency messages directly to the Iowa County Sheriff's Department shall be tested or demonstrated without first notifying the Iowa county Sheriff's Department dispatcher.

b. No alarm system relayed through intermediate services to the Iowa County Sheriff's Department will be tested to determine the sheriff's department's response without first notifying the Iowa County Sheriff's Department dispatcher.

(4) False Alarms Prohibited. The owner, occupant or person in control of an alarm location protected by any alarm system or alarm systems as defined herein is prohibited from allowing any false alarm, whether intended or unintended. No person owning, leasing, using or possessing a private alarm system shall by means of that alarm system give a false alarm.

(5) Penalty. The following penalties shall apply to false alarms:

No. of False Alarms	Penalty
1 to 2	$0
3 to 4	$25 plus court costs
5 to 6	$50 plus court costs
7 to 8	$100 plus court costs
9 or more	$200 plus court costs

The appropriate penalty shall be computed using a calendar year basis.

(6) Exceptions. In the discretion of the Iowa County Sheriff a false alarm shall not be considered a violation when the false alarm is caused by tornado, earthquake, fire, electrical storms, or other violent or severe conditions.

(7) Termination of Direct Connection. The Iowa County Sheriff is authorized to require that the owner or lessee of any alarm system directly connected to the department shall disconnect such device until it is working in such a manner as will not produce a high frequency of false alarms.

(8) County Liability. The County of Iowa shall be under no duty or obligation to any person concerning any provision of this ordinance, including but not limited to, any defects in an alarm system or any delays in transmission or response to any alarm; however, this in no way shall be construed that it is not the proper function of law enforcement to respond to alarms.

(9) Effective Date. The herein ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and posting.

Adopted this 19th day of May, 1992.

Richard Scullion
Iowa County Board Chairman

Attest:

David D. Meudt
Iowa County Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

This is to certify that the above ordinance was duly adopted by the County Board of Iowa County on the 19th day of May, 1992.

David D. Meudt
County Clerk
Iowa County, Wisconsin

DAVID D. MEUDT
IOWA
COUNTY
CLERK
WISCONSIN