

DIVISION EIGHT - ALARM SYSTEMS AND PERMITS

[Adopted as Division Eight of Article II on
April 2, 1997]

SECTION 02.08.010

DEFINITIONS

As used in this Division, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) "Alarm monitor" means any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of receiving from alarm users and transmitting to the Coos County Sheriff's Office communications or signals originating from alarm users.
- (2) "Alarm system" means a mechanical or electrical device designed or used for the detection of an unauthorized entry into or upon premises or for alerting others of an unlawful act within or upon premises, and which, when activated, transmits by any means a signal in any form that is audible, visible, or perceptible outside of the protected land, building, structure or facility. Alarm system includes, but is not limited to, those devices designed to transmit a signal or message to a central alarm receiving station.
- (3) "Alarm user" means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation or other organization, public or private, in control of premises wherein an alarm system is being maintained.
- (4) "Automatic dialing device" means an alarm system which is interconnected to a telephone line and is programmed to select a predetermined telephone number and transmit, by voice message or code signal, an emergency message indicating a need for emergency response.
- (5) "False alarm" means a report received by the Coos County Sheriff's Office from any source that results in a response by the Sheriff's Office to the premises on which an alarm system is located, when an emergency situation does not exist on the premises.
- (6) "Premises" means any building, structure or facility, or land within Coos County.
[14-09-010L]

SECTION 02.08.020

PERMITS

As of the effective date of this ordinance, all alarm users within the County must apply to the Coos County Sheriff's Office (hereinafter referred to as "CCSO") for alarm system permits. No fee shall be charged to such users who make application within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this ordinance. Thereafter, permits for any alarm system within the County, including any activated after the

effective date of this ordinance, shall pay a fee, as set forth in the Coos County Fee Schedule, to the CCSO for issuance. Permits will be valid for four (4) years, expiring on the anniversary date of the issuance. Permits issued after the expired anniversary date will be assessed an additional fee, as set forth in the Coos County Fee Schedule.

No permit fee is charged if the residential customer is over 65 and lives at the premises, unless business is conducted on the premises. No permit fee shall be charged for Government Agencies.

Permits shall remain in effect unless revoked under this ordinance or until the alarm system is dismantled or abandoned by the user. Permits are not transferrable; subsequent users on the same premises must obtain a new permit. The CCSO shall not, by the issuance of a permit, be obligated to respond or accord any priority to an alarm from such system.

Permits issued under this ordinance, and the records of such permits, shall not be considered public records.
[14-09-010L]

SECTION 02.08.030

DUTIES OF ALARM USERS

It shall be the duty of each alarm user to cause the alarm system to be properly installed, serviced, maintained and operated so that such system will not produce false alarms. It shall also be the obligation of each alarm user to obtain and provide to appropriate occupants and employees of the premises proper instruction on the use and operation of such alarm system. Each alarm user shall secure an alarm system permit which shall be visibly displayed on the front of the premises and shall surrender the same to the CCSO upon sale of the premises or upon disconnection of the alarm system. If the CCSO responds to an alarm at an unregistered premise, an additional fee, as set forth in the Coos County Fee Schedule, shall be charged to the alarm user for each occurrence, whether response is false or not.
[14-09-010L]

SECTION 02.08.040

FALSE ALARM FEES

During any one rolling twelve (12) month period, an alarm system for which a permit has been issued shall be allowed one (1) false alarm without any fee or charge being imposed. Thereafter, fees for false alarms will be imposed as set forth in the Coos County Fee Schedule. All fees shall be paid to the CCSO.

Failure to pay a false alarm fee within thirty (30) days from the mailing or delivery of a notice requesting such payment

shall be a violation of this ordinance and shall result in automatic revocation of the permit under Section 02.08.080. Where the alarm system is operated through an alarm monitor, such monitor shall be mailed a duplicate copy of the notice to the user requesting payment. [14-09-010L]

SECTION 02.08.050

DEACTIVATING SYSTEM

- (1) The alarm user shall provide the CCSO with the name and telephone number(s) of the person or people to be notified to disable an alarm and secure the premises whenever the alarm system is activated.
- (2) Audible alarms. Upon request of the CCSO, and immediately upon being notified, a responsible party, or other designated person, shall respond to the premises where the alarm system is located and shall disable the alarm and secure the premises.
- (3) Inaudible alarms. Upon request of the CCSO, a responsible party, or other designated person, shall respond, within thirty (30) minutes after being notified, to the premises where the alarm system is located and shall disable the alarm and secure the premises.
- (4) A police officer or deputy sheriff may disable an alarm, or cause an alarm to be disabled, if:
 - (a) It is an audible alarm; or
 - (b) It is an inaudible alarm and a responsible party or designated person does not arrive within thirty (30) minutes after being requested to do so by the County; or
 - (c) The CCSO is unable to contact a responsible party or the designated person, or no person has been designated by the user. [14-09-010L]

SECTION 02.08.060

DUTIES OF ALARM MONITORS

- (1) The alarm monitor shall ensure the alarm system is properly installed and maintained.
- (2) The alarm monitor shall furnish the user with proper instruction to operate the system properly.
- (3) The alarm monitor shall promptly notify the County of the names and addresses of its users as of the effective date of this ordinance and notify the County thereafter as it adds new users or as users are terminated.
- (4) A failure on the part of an alarm monitor to comply with this section shall be a violation of this ordinance. The continuation of such violation after the mailing of a thirty (30) day written notice to the alarm monitor shall be sufficient cause for the County to cease taking

messages or communications from such monitor.

SECTION 02.08.070

DENIAL AND TERMINATION OF PERMITS

- (1) The CCSO shall not be obligated to issue permits for alarm systems to be wired directly into the Sheriff's Department.
- (2) The Coos County Sheriff may require the removal of any alarm system wired directly into the Sheriff's Department when such alarm system is defective or is interconnected with a fire alarm or is a combination fire and police alarm.
[14-09-010L]

SECTION 02.08.080

REVOCATION OF PERMITS

Whenever an alarm user violates or fails to comply with the provisions of this ordinance, including the duties of alarm users, the Coos County Sheriff's Department shall mail or deliver written notice thereof to the alarm user. If such user fails or refuses to comply with such notice and this ordinance within a period of thirty (30) days, the Coos County Sheriff shall, if applicable, revoke the alarm system permit issued under the terms of this ordinance and terminate response services to such user, and all alarm users in violation of this ordinance shall be subject to a fee, as set forth in the Coos County fee schedule.

Any such user may appeal the notice of the Sheriff's Office by giving written notice of such appeal and the reasons therefore to the Coos County Board of Commissioners within thirty (30) days after receipt of the written notice. Such notice of appeal must be accompanied by a non-refundable appeal fee, as set forth in the Coos County Fee Schedule. The Board of Commissioners will hear such appeal at its next regular meeting held not earlier than six (6) days after the receipt of such notice of appeal. The decision of the Board of Commissioners shall be final and conclusive.
[14-09-010L]

SECTION 02.08.090

AUTOMATIC DIALING SERVICE

- (1) It is unlawful for any person to program an automatic dialing device, as defined in this ordinance, to dial any police or fire emergency number (e.g. 911) and it is unlawful for an alarm user to fail to disconnect or reprogram an automatic dialing device within twelve (12) hours of receipt of written notice that it is so programmed.
- (2) It is unlawful for any person to program an automatic dialing device to select any telephone

line assigned to Coos County without written permission from the Sheriff's Department and it is unlawful for an alarm user to fail to disconnect or reprogram an automatic dialing device within twelve (12) hours of receipt of written notice that it is so programmed.