

# **SANTA CLARA POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER 81.3**

## **FALSE ALARM ORDINANCE**

**AMENDED DECEMBER 2014**

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### **81.3.1 False Alarm Ordinance**

The purpose of instituting a false alarm fee program is to prevent the misuse of the emergency service resources of the City.

The program governs burglary and robbery alarm systems throughout the City. It provides for the allocation of revenues, establishes fees, and establishes a system for the administration of the program. Motor vehicles and recreational vehicles are not subject to the false alarm ordinance.

A false alarm means an alarm signal resulting in a response by the Police Department where an emergency situation has been determined to not exist by the responding officer(s) either through mechanical failure, accidental tripping, malfunction, misuse or neglect of the owner or lessee of the alarm system, or of his/her agents or employees.

A false alarm shall not include an alarm signal caused by extraordinary circumstances not reasonably subject to control by the alarm business operator or alarm user which include acts of nature such as earthquakes, storms, malfunctioning telephone lines or telephone equipment, or external causes beyond the control of the owner or lessee of the alarm system.

A comprehensive list of the City's fees, rates, and charges, arranged in sections by department make up the City of Santa Clara Municipal Fee Schedule. The Municipal Fee Schedule is reviewed annually during the budget process.