



FALSE ALARM RESPONSE Information Sheet

Background

Due to a marked increase of false alarm activity throughout the City of Sacramento in recent years, the Sacramento Fire Department will begin implementing a new fire alarm procedure effective September 20, 2012. By implementing this program, we will be able to reduce the number of fire alarm calls we respond to, and decrease our response times. This will reduce the number of times our apparatus has to respond Code 3 (red lights and sirens) which can be dangerous to the public and to our Firefighters. For more information, please visit: <http://www.sacfire.org>

What is a false alarm?

Definition: False Alarm shall mean the giving, signaling or transmission to any public fire station or company or to any officer or employee thereof, whether by telephone, spoken word or otherwise, information to the effect that there is a fire, medical emergency, rescue request, or other need for emergency service at or near the place indicated by the person giving, signaling, or transmitting such information, and there is found to be no need for emergency services.

Simple Definition: There is no potential for fire!

Where is the Sacramento City Code for false alarms?

City Code Chapter 8.38 – False Fire Alarm Code

What is Sacramento City Fire Department's responsibility?

Purpose: To promote the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of Sacramento by reducing false alarms, permitting the recovery of cost resulting from the responses to false alarms.

False alarms constitute a hazard to the safety of firefighters and the public. They avert fire resources from other emergencies and increase the potential for collision.

What is Cost Recovery?

All costs incurred by the Fire Department related to any response to a false alarm may be charged to that person causing the transmission of the false alarm, or to that person's firm or corporation.

Where is the Sacramento City Code for Cost Recovery?

City Code Chapter 15.36 – Chapter 4 - Section 401.9

False Alarm Fine Schedule

Occurrences in a 365 day period

Number of False Alarms	Residential	Commercial
3rd False Alarm	\$ 120.00	\$ 240.00
4th False Alarm	\$ 150.00	\$ 300.00
5th False Alarm	\$ 180.00	\$ 360.00
6th False Alarm	\$ 180.00 + Admin Penalty	\$ 360.00 + Admin Penalty