

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE REGULATION AND CONTROL
OF TELEPHONIC ALARM SYSTEMS

SECTION 1. Definition: "Telephonic Alarm System" shall mean any mechanism, equipment or device which is designed to operate automatically through the use of the public telephone facilities to transmit a signal, message or warning to another location.

SECTION 2. Permit Required: No person shall operate or maintain a telephonic alarm system which automatically transmits a signal, message, or warning to the Alleghany Emergency Dispatch Center by any telephone line, without first obtaining a permit as required by this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. Application for Permit: Applications for permits to install, maintain or operate a telephonic alarm system which is intended to automatically transmit a signal, message or warning to any Emergency Dispatch Center telephone line shall be filed with the Alleghany Emergency Services Board or its designated representative(s) on forms supplied by the Board, together with an application fee of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00). Said application shall set forth the name, address and telephone number of both the installer of the system and the person or business on whose premises the system will be installed, as well as a description of the system and the location where it is proposed to be installed.

The Board shall approve such application if it finds that:

(1) The use of said alarm system to transmit a signal, message, or warning to a designated Emergency Dispatch Center telephone line will not interfere with the orderly conduct of Emergency Center business. The Board may impose such conditions and make such regulations governing the use of alarm systems as may be reasonably necessary to promote the orderly conduct of Emergency Center business.

(2) The person installing the system maintains an adequate service organization to repair, maintain and otherwise service telephone alarm systems sold or leased by him.

SECTION 4. Right of Inspection: The Board or its representative(s) shall have the right to inspect any telephonic alarm system on the premises where it is intended to function prior to the issuance of any permit. The Board may cause an inspection of such system to be made at any time after issuance of a permit to determine whether it is being used in conformity with the terms of the permit and the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. Restricted Numbers: It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to install, operate or maintain a telephonic alarm system which automatically transmits a signal, message or warning to any Alleghany Emergency Dispatch Center telephone, except to such telephone number or numbers as designated by the permit issued under the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. Revocation: The Alleghany Emergency Services Board may revoke any permit issued pursuant to the provisions of this Ordinance, after giving written notice to the permit holder and an opportunity for the permit holder to be heard, if the Board determines that the telephonic alarm system installed pursuant to said permit has been installed, maintained or operated in violation of the provisions of this Ordinance, or of any term or condition of said permit, or for failure to pay the annual service fee specified in Section 7.

SECTION 7. Annual Permit: Each permit holder shall pay to Alleghany County on or before July 1 of each year, a fee in the amount of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) to reimburse local government units for the cost of providing special services to receive and respond to calls from telephonic alarm systems, and other expenses of operation.

SECTION 8. False Alarms: In addition to any other reasonable conditions which the Alleghany Emergency Services Board may impose upon the use of telephonic burglar alarms, there shall be imposed a fine of \$25.00 upon any person, firm or corporation whose business or other premises are connected to the emergency number, whenever a false alarm is received by the Dispatch Center from such premises, provided the Board finds that such false alarm was not accidental, or that such person, firm or corporation could by reasonable diligence have prevented the same.