

Chapter 9.08

OFFENSES AGAINST THE PUBLIC OFFICERS AND GOVERNMENT

Sections:

9.08.010 Emergency telephone system--Improper use.

9.08.020 False alarms.

9.08.010 Emergency telephone system--Improper use.

The “911 emergency telephone system” has the meaning as specified in Section 46.70(L)(1), Wis. Stats. (1989).

A. Regulated Use.

1. No person shall use the 911 emergency telephone system for regular business or non-emergency telephone calls. If the identity of the caller is not or cannot be determined, the person or entity to whom the 911 service is billed shall be deemed to be in violation of this section.

2. No person shall intentionally dial the telephone number “911” to report an emergency, knowing that an emergency situation does not exist.

B. Penalty. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction of such violation, be subject to a penalty as prescribed in Chapter 1.20 of this code. (Ord. dated 8/8/96)

9.08.020 False alarms.

A. Purpose. The purpose of this section is to provide for the regulation and control of automatic fire and burglar alarm systems within the town and specifically to prevent the telephone line to the town fire department from becoming inoperative because of incoming automatic alarm dialings.

B. Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms are defined:

“Alarm system” means any device which, when activated by fire or other emergency

situation requiring response by the fire department, transmits a signal electronically or produces an audible or visible signal designed to notify persons within audible or visual range of the signal.

“False alarm” means a signal from an alarm system resulting in a response by the fire department when an emergency situation did not exist and shall include the verbal notification of an alarm given by electronic means.

“The public primary telephone line of the town fire department” means the current telephone line designated as the fire department telephone number.

C. Connection Prohibited. No person, firm or corporation shall sell, use or cause to be used any alarm system consisting of equipment which automatically dials the public primary telephone line of the town fire department and produces any prerecorded message to report a fire or other emergency.

D. Alarm Equipment to be Reported. Any person, firm or corporation employing an alarm system of any type designed to report the existence of a fire or other emergency shall notify the town fire chief of the location and type of alarm, the type of signal given and the person or persons, if any, authorized to verbally transmit emergency information to the fire station.

E. Fire Alarms.

1. Any person, firm or corporation employing an alarm system which transmits a false alarm, whether by electronic, audible or visual means, including any alarm transmitted verbally, shall pay to the town fire department a charge for such false alarms to which the fire department responds according to the following schedule for each calendar year:

a.	First two false alarms:	No charge
b.	Third false alarm:	\$10.00
c.	Fourth and subsequent	\$50.00

	false alarms:	
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2. This section is intended to impose strict liability on the person, firm or corporation maintaining an alarm system and applies regardless of the cause of a false alarm. This section shall not apply to any person who in good faith transmit verbal notice of a functioning alarm.

F. Violation--Penalties. Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate the provisions of subsection C of this section shall, upon conviction, be subject to a forfeiture of not less that fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00). (Ord. dated 6/10/99; Ord. dated 8/13/98)