

**PUBLICATION OF:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 16-078**

**AN ORDINANCE DEALING WITH FIRE AND BURGLAR ALARMS  
(TITLE 9, CHAPTER 106 AND TITLE 15, CHAPTER 157)**

**ADOPTED: AUGUST 23, 2016**

**PUBLISHED IN PAMPHLET FORM PURSUANT TO AUTHORIZATION AND DIRECTION OF  
THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG ON  
AUGUST 23, 2016.**

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**WHEREAS**, the Village of Schaumburg has previously adopted a series of International Codes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Schaumburg wishes to change the manner of permitting Fire Alarms and registering Burglar Alarms; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fire Chief has advised that the public safety would be best served to require a supervising station through Northwest Central due to our experience with alarms being out of service which endangers the health, safety and welfare of the general public; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety Committee has recommended amending Title 9, Chapter 106 and Title 15, Chapter 157.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG:**

**SECTION ONE:** That Title 19, Chapter 106 following sections be amended to repeal as follows:

**106.01 - DEFINITIONS.**

**ALARM AGENT:** Any person employed by, working for, representing, or subcontracted by an alarm company.

**ALARM COMPANY:** Any individual, partnership, corporation or other entity selling, leasing, maintaining, servicing, repairing, altering, replacing, moving or installing any alarm system or causing to be sold, leased, maintained, serviced, repaired, altered, replaced, moved or installed any alarm system in or on any building, structure or facility within the village of Schaumburg

**BURGLAR ALARM SUBSCRIBER:** May be the owner or occupant of a building or business who has a connected security, mechanical, holdup, or burglar alarm.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT:** The community development department is in charge of ensuring that all buildings, structures or facilities are inspected and maintain proper fire alarm systems as per either the fire prevention code, fire provisions ordinance, title 15, chapter 157 of this code, or by this chapter.

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***FALSE ALARM REDUCTION CLASS:*** A mandatory class taught by individuals approved by the village of Schaumburg police director to burglar alarm subscribers who have received five (5) chargeable false alarms to help reduce false alarms.

***FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU:*** The bureau located at 1351 South Wright Boulevard, in charge of ensuring that all buildings, structures or facilities are inspected and maintain proper fire alarm systems as per either the fire prevention code, fire provisions ordinance, title 15, chapter 157 of this code, or by this chapter.

***LISTED CENTRAL STATION:*** A third party alarm monitoring facility that meets the requirements of a national testing agency.

***NOTICE:*** Written notice given by personal service upon the addressee, or, given by the United States postal office, postage paid, to the addressee's last known mailing address.

***POLICE DEPARTMENT:*** The police department located at 1000 West Schaumburg Road, in charge of ensuring that burglar alarm subscribers are trained in reducing false alarms by properly training their employees, the maintenance of the burglar/security alarm systems and updating of runner/key holder information

**106.05 - FIRE ALARM ACTIVATIONS AT A PREMISES WHERE A FIRE ALARM PERMIT HAS NOT BEEN ISSUED.**

Any fire alarm permittee who does not have a valid fire alarm permit will be assessed a penalty, which may be settled pursuant to title 3, chapter 37 of the Code, for each violation of this section because of an activation of a fire alarm or fire suppression system at the protected premises.

**106.12 - CENTRAL STATION.**

(A) All required fire protection systems shall have an approved connection to a listed central station. This connection shall be made and be in working order before occupancy can be approved by the fire prevention bureau.

(B) Every listed central station company maintaining or monitoring alarms originating within the corporate limits of the village shall provide monthly a list of all such subscribers to the fire prevention bureau and shall report all new subscribers and disconnection on a daily basis for approval.

(C) The Schaumburg Fire Prevention Bureau shall be notified on a daily basis of all trouble signals or other signals pertaining to equipment maintenance of the fire alarm system when the interruption is more than eight (8) hours. Notification shall include the date, time, location and nature of the interruption. Notice shall be sent to the fire prevention bureau upon restoration of service.

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**SECTION TWO:** That Title 9, Chapter 106 following sections be amended to read as follows:

**106.01 – DEFINITIONS**

***ALARM ADMINISTRATOR:*** The person designated by the Police Chief to handle and deal with enforcement of burglar alarms and false alarms.

***BURGLAR ALARM USER:*** May be the owner or occupant of a building or business who has any type of a connected security, mechanical, holdup, or burglar alarm.

***DISCONNECTIONS OF ALARM OR ALARM SYSTEM:*** The disconnection or removal of alarm equipment, mechanical or electrical, or signal from any building, structure or facility so it no longer will transmit a signal of an actual or attempted burglary, robbery, fire or medical emergency to the listed supervising station

***FIRE ALARM PERMITTEE:*** A person(s), firm, partnership, corporation, association, or organization required by this code to have an approved fire alarm and/or fire suppression system arranged to signal the occurrence of any actual or attempted fire to the listed supervising station.

***SUPERVISING STATION:*** A facility that receives signals from protected premises fire alarm systems and at which personnel are in attendance at all times to respond to these signals. These facilities include listed central stations and remote supervising stations.

**106.02 - FIRE ALARM PERMIT REQUIRED.**

(A) All new and existing installations in a protected premises and required by this code to have an approved fire alarm and/or fire suppression system arranged to signal the occurrence of any actual or attempted fire to the listed supervising station which the fire department is expected to respond are required to secure a fire alarm permit. Any changes such as upgrades to its alarm system, new owners/lessee, and/or has changed the premises name will require a new permit.

(B) It is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, corporation or other legal entity to use, own or lease an alarm system or to be in control of premises wherein an approved alarm system is operated or maintained without having first obtained a permit as provided in this chapter.

(C) It is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, corporation or other legal entity to use, own or lease an alarm system or to be in control of premises wherein an approved alarm system is operated or maintained when a permit therefor has been revoked or the permittee is no longer an occupant of the premises.

(D) A permit must be obtained for each separately addressed operating location.

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(E) There will be a charge as listed in section 41.01 of this Code to obtain a fire alarm subscriber permit.

(F) All permits issued are valid for one (1) calendar year, unless revoked or the permittee is no longer an occupant of the premises. Each permit must be renewed on a calendar year.

(G) Permits must be displayed on or in close proximity to the fire suppression system panel.

(H) Any existing installation which has a valid Village of Schaumburg fire alarm permit which is not connected to a supervising station but to a listed central station, may continue to renew its permit pursuant to Title 15, Chapter 157, Section 157.02 (Section 907.6.5.2)

**106.03 - FIRE ALARM PERMIT APPLICATION**

(A) Each applicant for a permit to maintain an approved fire alarm and/or fire suppression system shall file a written application with the Village of Schaumburg on a form as approved by the Fire Chief.

(B) Incomplete applications shall be returned to the applicant. A permit shall not be issued until the completed application is received, all fees paid, and approval for the permit has been granted by the Fire Chief for fire alarm systems.

(C) An application for a fire alarm permit shall be denied if:

(1) The applicant has failed to pay false alarm fees required by this chapter for a different protected premises under the applicant's ownership or control.

(2) The applicant has failed to comply with any provisions of this chapter or other related ordinances of the village.

**106.05 - ALARM REGISTRATION FOR ALARMS NOT SUBJECT TO A PERMIT**

Any alarm located within the Village of Schaumburg which is not required to have a permit shall be registered with the Alarm Administrator by the user of the alarm on a registration form as approved by the Police Chief.

**106.07 - AUDIBLE ALARM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS.**

An approved alarm system that emits an audible signal that may be heard by persons outside the protected building, structure or facility shall conform to the following requirements:

(A) No audible alarm system shall create a sound similar to that of the village's civil defense warning system.

(B) Audible alarm systems shall automatically discontinue emitting an audible sound within fifteen (15) minutes after it is activated unless it is part of a fire alarm or suppression system.

(C) Failure to stop an audible alarm system, other than part of a fire alarm or suppression system after 15 minutes is a violation of this code.

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**106.10 - FALSE ALARMS; FEES/SERVICE CHARGES; NOTIFICATIONS.**

(A) Any fire alarm permittee or burglar alarm user who has more than two (2) false alarms within a calendar year at a single protected location will be assessed fees/service charges according to the fee/service charge schedule as listed in section 41.01 of this Code.

(B) All fees/service charges must be paid to the Village of Schaumburg or its agent within thirty (30) days from the date of the invoice requesting payment of the fine(s).

(C) The Chief of Police or agent shall notify the fire alarm permittee, or burglar alarm user in writing, of each instance wherein a false alarm was recorded. The fire alarm permittee and burglar alarm user shall have the opportunity within fourteen (14) days from the date of the mailing, emailing or personal delivery to submit a report or meet with the Alarm Administrator for the purpose of showing cause as to whether circumstances exist to warrant voiding the false alarm record. The Alarm Administrator shall review the fire alarm permittee's or burglar alarm user's report and/or meet with the fire alarm permittee or burglar alarm user and issue a written finding to the fire alarm permittee or burglar alarm user as to whether or not the false alarm record will be voided. The finding of the Alarm Administrator shall be final.

(D) Severe weather, power outages, weather related transmission line malfunctions, acts of God, malicious acts of persons not under the control of the fire alarm permittee or burglar alarm user, or any other cause clearly beyond the control of the alarm user will be considered in determining if an alarm activation was false and whether or not any occurrence, fine, warning or other punitive action will be taken against the fire alarm permittee or burglar alarm user as provided for by this chapter.

(E) All new and existing fire alarm permittees or burglar alarm users will be given a thirty-day grace period from the date of installation of such fire or burglar alarm subscriber alarm system, in which no alarms from the protected premises will be deemed a "false alarm".

**106.11 - FIRE ALARM PERMIT REVOCATION.**

Any fire alarm permittee and burglar alarm user is subject to suspension or revocation of the permit or business license in addition to and pursuant to subsection 110.25(B) of this Code for the following reasons:

(A) Any fire alarm permittee or burglar alarm user which has ten (10) or more false alarms within a calendar year.

(B) Any fire alarm permittee or burglar alarm user who fails to pay any fees/service charges or charges provided for under this chapter within thirty (30) days from the date of the invoice requesting payment of same.

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The alarm subscriber permit or business license may be suspended or revoked after a hearing. Any such fire alarm permit or business license held by burglar alarm user may not be reinstated until all the unpaid fees/service charges and/or reinstatement or other fees are paid in full.

**106.14 - DISCONNECTIONS OF FIRE ALARM SYSTEM.**

The fire alarm permittee shall discontinue any connection to the supervising station or approved central station when so ordered in writing by the Fire Chief. Such disconnection shall be completed within three (3) business days of such notice. The supervising station shall not disconnect any fire alarm permits, for any reason, without written approval of the Fire Chief.

**SECTION THREE:** That Title 15, Chapter 157, Section 157.02, following portions be amended to read as follows:

Section 907.6.5

All fire alarm and suppression systems shall be monitored in accordance with this section.

Exception: Monitoring by a supervising station is not required for:

- 1 Single- and multiple-station smoke alarms required by Section 907.2.11.
- 2 Smoke detectors in Group 1-3 Occupancies.
- 3 Automatic sprinkler systems in one- and two-family dwellings.

**SECTION FOUR:** That Title 15, Chapter 157, Section 157.02 be amended to add as follows:

Section 907.6.5.1 add:

All new fire alarm and fire suppression systems shall transmit fire, supervisory, and trouble signals to the Village of Schaumburg's designated remote supervising station via a wireless transmitter in accordance with NFPA 72.

Section 907.6.5.2 add:

All existing fire alarm and fire suppression systems shall transmit fire, supervisory, and trouble signals to the Village of Schaumburg's remote supervising station via a wireless transmitter in accordance with NFPA 72 when any of the following occurs:

- a. When an existing contract with a monitoring agency (central station) ends.
- b. When the existing fire alarm equipment is modified or replaced.
- c. Prior to August 31, 2019.

Exception: Extensions may be granted for contracts with a monitoring agency (central station) existing at the effective date of the ordinance that extend beyond August 31, 2019 and upon a determination by the Fire Chief that the public safety is not affected, but no longer than 2021.

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**SECTION FIVE:** That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect, after passage, approval and publication as required by law.

**AYES:**

**NAYS:**

**ABSENT:**

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_th day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Village President**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village Clerk

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant Village Attorney