

VILLAGE OF NORTH RIVERSIDE

ORDINANCE NO. 91-0-10

AN ORDINANCE REGARDING  
BURGLAR, HOLDUP, AND FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF NORTH RIVERSIDE  
THIS 20 DAY OF MAY, 1991

91-0-1-0

AN ORDINANCE REGARDING  
BURGLAR, HOLDUP, AND FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS

WHEREAS, the President and Board of Trustees desire to regulate the installation and use of various alarm systems within the Village of North Riverside including burglar and fire alarm systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of North Riverside, Cook County, Illinois as follows:

SECTION 1: The North Riverside Municipal Code, as amended, is further amended by adding Chapter 15.80 entitled "Burglar, Holdup, and Fire Alarm Systems" which Chapter is as follows:

**Chapter 15.80 Burglar, Holdup, and Fire Alarm Systems**

**15.80.010. Purpose and definitions.**

A. The purpose of this Chapter is to provide minimum standards and regulations applicable to burglar, holdup, and fire alarm systems and alarm users as defined in this Chapter.

B. For the purpose of this Chapter, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivations shall have the meanings given herein. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words used in the plural number include the singular number, and words in the singular number include the plural number. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory.

The term "alarm system" shall mean an assembly of equipment and devices (or a single device such as a solid state unit which connects directly into a 110 volt AC line) arranged to signal the presence of a hazard requiring urgent attention and to which Police Department or Fire Department personnel are expected to respond. For purposes of example only, the term "alarm system" shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following types of systems which are encompassed within the requirements set forth in the immediately preceding sentence: "automatic holdup alarm systems", "fire alarm systems" and alarm systems which monitor temperature.

The term "alarm user" means any person on whose premises an alarm system is maintained within the Village except for alarm systems on motor vehicles or proprietary systems. If, however, an alarm system on a motor vehicle is connected with an alarm system at a premises (other than a proprietary system) the person using such system is an alarm user. Also excluded from this definition and from the coverage of this Chapter are persons who use alarm systems to alert or signal persons within the premises in which the alarm system is located of an attempted unauthorized intrusion holdup attempt, or fire. If such a system, however, employs an audible signal emitting sounds or flashing light or beacon designed to signal persons outside the premises, such system shall be within the definition of alarm systems and shall be subject to this Chapter.

The term "annunciator" means the instrumentation on an alarm console at the receiving terminal of a signal line which, through both visual and audible signals, shows when an alarm device at a particular location has been activated or it may also indicate line trouble.

The term "answering service" refers to a telephone service providing, among its services, the service of receiving on a continuous basis through trained employees, emergency signals from alarm systems, and thereafter immediately relaying the message by live voice to the communication center of the Police Department or Fire Department.

The term "automatic dialing device" refers to an alarm system which automatically sends over telephone lines a prerecorded voice message indicating the existence of the emergency situation that the alarm system is designed to detect.

The term "central station" means an office to which remote alarm and supervisory signaling devices are connected, where operators supervise the circuits, and where guards are maintained continuously to investigate signals.

The term "central station equipment" refers to the signal receiving, recording, or retransmitting equipment installed in the central station.

The term "direct connect" means an alarm system which has the capability of transmitting system signals to and receiving them at an agency maintained by the local government; for example, a police communications center.

The term "direct line" means a telephone line leading directly from a central station to the communications center of the Police Department or Fire Department that is for use only to report emergency signals on a person-to-person basis.

The term "false alarm" means the activation of an alarm system through mechanical failure, malfunction, improper installation, or the negligence, error, or mistake of the owner or lessee of an alarm system or of his employees or agents. Such terminology does not include, for example, alarms caused by general power outages, tornadoes, earthquakes, thunder or other similar by occurring violent conditions.

The term "Fire Chief" means the Fire Chief of the Village of North Riverside or any authorized agent thereof.

The term "Fire Department" means the Fire Department of the Village of North Riverside.

The term "holdup alarm system" refers to an alarm system signaling a robbery or attempted robbery.

The term "local alarm system" refers to a signaling system which when activated causes an audible and/or visual signaling device to be activated in or on the premises within which the system is installed.

The term "manual holdup alarm system" refers to an alarm system in which the signal transmission is initiated by the direct action of the person attacked or by an observer of the attack.

The term "person" means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company or organization of any kind.

The term "Police Chief" means the Chief of the Police Department of the Village of North Riverside or his designated representative.

The term "police or Police Department" means the Police Department of the Village of North Riverside or any authorized agent thereof.

The term "primary trunkline" means a telephone line leading directly into the communication center of the Police Department or Fire Department that is for the purpose of handling emergency calls on a person-to-person basis, and which is identified as such by a specific number included among the emergency numbers listed in the telephone directory issued by the telephone company and covering the service area within the Police Department's or Fire Department's jurisdiction.

The term "proprietary system" means an alarm system sounding and/or recording alarm and supervisory signals at a control center located within the protected premises, the control center being under the supervision of the proprietor of the protected premises. If a proprietary system includes a signal line connected directly or by means of an automatic dialing device to a police communications center, a central station, modified central station or an answering service, it thereby becomes an "alarm system" as defined in this Chapter.

The term "subscriber" means a person who buys and/or leases, or otherwise obtains an alarm signaling system and thereafter contracts with or hires and alarm business to monitor and/or service the alarm device.

The term "telephone company" means the utility that furnishes telephone services to the Village.

The term "Village" means the Village of North Riverside.

The term "Village Administrator" means the Village Administrator of the Village of North Riverside or his duly authorized designee.

**15.80.020. Application for license by alarm business.**

Any person engaging in an alarm business in the Village shall possess a current and valid license issued by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation in the manner provided by law.

**15.80.030. Automatic dialing service; prerecorded voice messages prohibited.**

Any automatic dialing device transmitting a prerecorded voice message into the Police Department or Fire Department or to a telephone line directly serviced by telephone company operators to be responded to by members of the Police Department or Fire Department is prohibited.

**15.80.040. Direct communications to Police Department and/or Fire Department.**

A. Upon the favorable recommendation of the Police Chief and Fire Chief and the approval of the Village Administrator, alarms from business premises, and residences may be terminated in the Police Department and/or Fire Department.

B. The Police Chief and/or the Fire Chief, as the case may be, shall have the authority to request bids from licensed alarm companies (in accordance with the normal practice in the community) to furnish (when possible at no cost to the Village) a standard annunciator panel which is compatible to the receipt of alarm signals from subscribers whose lines terminate at the Police Department and/or Fire Department on the effective date of this Chapter for the purpose of annunciating all alarms in the communication center of the Police Department and/or the Fire Department. The bids shall also state the annual service fee each alarm subscriber shall be required to pay the private alarm company for services rendered with respect to such annunciator panels by subscribers, and fee and charges related to the installation and maintenance of such panels. Any subscriber or alarm user who obtains authority from the Village Manager, Police Chief and/or Fire Chief to terminate its alarm system in the Police Department and/or the Fire Department may contract with any licensed alarm business of its choice for the sale, installation, maintenance, and/or servicing of the alarm system to be installed on its premises.

C. The alarm subscriber approved for a direct connection to the Police Department and/or the Fire Department or the alarm businesses contracting for servicing the subscriber's alarm system, shall be responsible for obtaining the leased telephone line between the subscriber's premises and the alarm receiving the equipment, if required, in order to provide an input signal which is compatible with the receiving equipment used to operate the standard annunciator panel.

D. No alarm subscriber shall utilize a single pair of wires to transmit a burglar or holdup alarm signal and a fire or other emergency signal. All police related signals transmitted over such wires shall cause only one signal to be transmitted to the Police Department upon a single stimulus of the alarm device, and no pulsating or intermittent signal shall be allowed. All fire related signals transmitted over such wires shall cause only one signal to be transmitted to the Fire Department upon a single stimulus of the alarm device, and no pulsating or intermittent signal shall be allowed.

**15.80.050. Inspection of alarm devices and businesses.**

A. For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of all applicable municipal codes of this Chapter 15.80., the Police Chief and/or Fire Chief shall have the authority, at a mutually agreeable time, to enter any premises in the Village or other jurisdictional area in or upon which alarm systems subject to this Chapter are located, to inspect the installation and/or operation of such alarm systems. The right of the Police Chief and Fire Chief to enter for the purposes herein described is in addition to any and all other rights of the Police Chief and Fire Chief to enter upon and in premises within the Village pursuant to any other Village codes or laws or any State law.

B. If such inspection reveals any violation of the provisions of this Chapter, a written report detailing such violations shall be promptly sent to the Village Administrator and to the owner, lessee or other person responsible for the alarm system in violation of this Chapter. Such report shall require the correction within thirty (30) days after receipt of the notice of the violation discovered, and shall state that a failure to comply may result in the revocation of the alarm user's permit, in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter relating to revocation of licenses and permits. The alarm user may be granted a reasonable extension of time to correct such violations but in no event shall said extension exceed a period of 30 days.

**15.80.060. Testing of Equipment.**

No alarm system designed to transmit emergency messages directly to the Police Department or Fire Department shall be tested or demonstrated without first obtaining permission from the Police Chief or Fire Chief. Permission is not required to test or demonstrate alarm devices not transmitting emergency messages directly to the Police Department or Fire Department unless the messages are to be relayed to the Police Department or Fire Department.

**15.80.070. Notice of disruption in service.**

When an alarm business's service to its subscribers is disrupted for any reason by the alarm business, or the alarm business becomes aware of such disruption, it shall promptly notify its subscriber by telephone that protection is no longer being provided. If, however, the alarm business has written instructions from its subscriber not to make such notifications by telephone during certain hours, the alarm business may comply with such instructions.

**15.80.080. Alarm user permits.**

A. Permit: Every alarm user shall obtain an alarm user permit for each alarm system he operates within the Village from the Police Chief and/or Fire Chief. This paragraph does not require that licensed alarm businesses obtain a permit under this Section when it leases or provides services to alarm system users. If a licensed alarm business does, however, use an alarm system to protect its own premises, it shall obtain a permit for such system as required in this Section.

B. Alarm user permit application: The alarm user applying for the permit required in Subsection 15.80.080.A. above, shall state on a permit application form to be prepared by the Police Department or Fire Department and approved by the Village Administrator; his name, the address of the residence or business, or businesses in or upon which the alarm system has been or will be installed, his telephone number, the type of alarm system (e.g.s., local, direct connect, or central station), the alarm business or businesses selling, installing, monitoring, inspecting, responding to and/or maintaining the alarm system, and the name and telephone number of at least one person (in the case of a corporate alarm user applicant, at least two (2) persons) who

can be reached at any time, day or night, and who is authorized to respond to an alarm signal and who can open the premises, in which the system is installed.

C. Alarm user permit fee: The alarm user shall pay to the Village a permit fee in an amount of \$25.00 at the time the aforescribed permit application is submitted to the Village. The permit, if issued by the Village, will expire on the last day of the calendar year in which the alarm system is installed unless the permit is revoked by the Village sooner than said day in accordance with the terms of this Chapter 15.80. If the alarm user desires to renew the permit for an additional period of one calendar year, the alarm user shall pay to the Village a renewal fee which shall be paid prior the first day of the calendar renewal year. Any permit holder who does not pay the permit fee on or before said thirty-first day of December shall pay an additional charge of twenty-five percent of the permit fee to defray the extra cost of notice, record keeping and collection.

D. The information contained in an alarm user permit application required by this Section and other information received by the Police Chief or Fire Chief through correspondence or communications with an alarm user shall be securely maintained and restricted to inspection only by the Police Chief, Fire Chief or certain officers or Village employees specifically assigned the responsibility for handling and processing alarm user permits in the course of official duties. The Police Chief, Fire Chief and any such employee of the Village shall not reveal the information contained in an alarm user permit application or in correspondence or communications with an alarm user to any other person for any purpose not related to this Chapter or official law enforcement matters and without the express written consent of the alarm user supplying such information.

E. Any alarm system user who operates an alarm system without first obtaining a permit as required by this Section, or who, after having a permit revoked, or suspended fails to disconnect his alarm system, shall be in violation of this Chapter.

F. For any newly installed alarm system, it is intended that the alarm user will be allowed a period of time not to exceed 90 days within which to cure or fix any defects in the alarm system.

#### **15.80.090. Repair Service.**

Each alarm user in the Village shall obtain a service contract from a licensed alarm business or have such licensed alarm business available to him on a twenty four (24) hour basis to make inspections and/or repairs which become necessary for the proper function of the alarm and to minimize false alarms.

#### **15.80.100. Alternate power source.**

Each alarm user in the Village shall provide an alternate source of power for his alarm system to prevent false alarms due to failure of power supplied from the utility company. Such alternate source of power shall provide a minimum period of power in accordance with applicable Fire Codes of the Village.

**15.80.110. Operating instructions.**

A. Every alarm business selling or leasing to any person an alarm system which is installed on such person's premises in the Village after the effective date of this Chapter shall furnish that person with instructions that provide adequate information to enable persons using such device to operate it properly and, if the device is to be serviced or maintained by another alarm business, shall furnish such other alarm business with a manual or other information necessary to enable it to service or property maintain such device.

B. If the Police Chief or Fire Chief reasonably finds such information to be incomplete or unclear, or inadequate to explain how the device operates and is constructed, he may require the alarm business to revise the information to meet his approval, and then to distribute the revised information to persons who have had such devices installed as well as to persons subsequently having such devices installed.

**15.80.120. False alarms.**

The occurrence of any false alarm may constitute grounds for revocation of such permit unless the alarm user pays the Village, after each such occurrence, the following amounts:

1-2 alarms per any single calendar year	no charge
3 or more per any single calendar year	\$250.00 for each false alarm to which the Fire Department is intended or expected to respond and \$50.00 for each false alarm to which the Police Department is intended or expected to respond.

SECTION 2: All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3: If any term or provision of this Ordinance shall be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby, and the terms and provisions of this Ordinance shall be valid and be enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law.



SECTION 4: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its approval, passage and publication as provided by law.

AYES Trustees Barcik, Belmonte, Czajka, Novak, Stone, Votava

NAYS None

ABSENT None

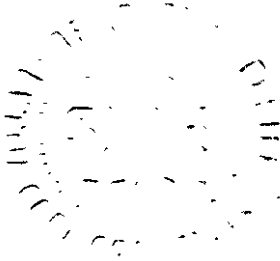
PASSED AND APPROVED this 20TH day of MAY, 1991.

Richard N. Scheck  
Richard N. Scheck,  
Village President

ATTEST:

Charmaine M. Kutt  
Charmaine M. Kutt,  
Village Clerk

(SEAL)



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