

**FOR MORE  
INFORMATION**

Please contact the False Alarm  
Reduction Unit at 703-246-5424 or  
e-mail at  
[alarms@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:alarms@fairfaxcounty.gov)

For other non-emergency police  
issues contact your local District  
station:

Sully District Station  
703-814-7000

Mount Vernon Station  
703-360-8400

McLean District Station  
703-556-7750

Mason District Station  
703-256-8035

Reston District Station  
703-478-0904

Franconia District Station  
703-922-0889

West Springfield Station  
703-644-7377

Fair Oaks District Station  
703-591-0966



A Fairfax County,  
Va., publication

***FAIRFAX COUNTY'S  
FALSE ALARM CODE***

Fairfax County Police Department  
4100 Chain Bridge Road  
Fairfax Virginia 22030

Phone: 703-691-2131  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicsafety/police](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicsafety/police)

Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimi-  
nation in all county programs, services and  
activities. Reasonable accommodations will  
be provided upon request. Call 703-691-2131,  
TTY 703-204-2264.

***FAIRFAX  
COUNTY'S  
FALSE ALARM  
CODE***

**(Chapter 8.1, Security  
Alarm Systems)**



***Understanding the False  
Alarm Code***

**August 2009**

## *REDUCING FALSE ALARMS*

Fairfax County Code defines a false alarm as any alarm that elicits a police response which, after investigation, finds no evidence of criminal activity. This includes accidental activation, equipment failure and user error.

The Fairfax County Police respond to thousands of alarm calls per year and 95-98 percent of them are determined to be false alarms. In an attempt to keep police officers available to handle emergencies and criminal complaints, alarm legislation was adopted to address this problem.

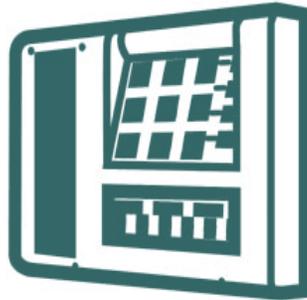
The FARU, False Alarm Reduction Unit, was established to reduce false alarms in the county through education, training and, when necessary, assessing fees for excessive false alarms.

Every alarm system, both residential and non-residential, must be registered with the FARU before the system is placed into service. It is the alarm installation or monitoring company's responsibility to provide users with alarm registration information at the time of an alarm system sale or installation.

Alarm registrations are not transferable from one alarm user to another or from one location to another. Alarm users and/or alarm companies must notify the FARU when there is a relocation or change in ownership. The old registration must be canceled and a new one issued. If changes are made regarding the alarm company, mailing address, or contact person information, alarm users are required to notify FARU.

The FARU must collect an escalating false alarm fee from the alarm user for each false alarm from the user's alarm system. The first two false alarms have no fees assessed to them. The third and subsequent alarms are assessed fees ranging from \$100 to \$3,000.

Failure to register, pay a false alarm response fee or upgrade the alarm system as required will place the alarm location in a "No Response" category where police units may not respond to future alarms until the location is in compliance.



### FALSE ALARM RESPONSE FEES

(Based on 12 month time period)

Response	Fee Per Response
1st & 2nd	\$0.00
3rd	\$100.00
4th	\$150.00
5th	\$200.00
6th	\$250.00
7th	\$300.00
8th	\$350.00
9th	\$500.00
10th	\$600.00
11th	\$700.00
12th	\$800.00
13th	\$900.00
14th	\$1,000.00
15th to 19th	\$1,500.00 each
20th to 24th	\$2,000.00 each
25th and more	\$3,000.00 each

You may file a request for an appeal hearing with FARU if: You are ordered to have your alarm inspected; Administrative fees are assessed or your registration is suspended.

The hearing will be held within 72 hours.