

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALARM OWNERS:

King Police Department

PO Box 835

110 West King Street

King, NC 27021

Every day Police and Fire personnel expend valuable resources responding to false alarms in the City of King. In an effort to recover a portion of these costs, the City enacted an Alarm Ordinance on March 7, 2005 that cover Police and Fire response.

Beginning March 7, 2005 all residential and commercial alarm owners must obtain an alarm permit from the City of King. There is no fee for an alarm permit. However, the Ordinance states after March 7, 2005 if Police or Fire responds to a False alarm at an alarm location without an alarm permit, the alarm owner will incur a \$100 civil penalty for failure to obtain an alarm permit.

Below is an application for an alarm permit. A separate alarm permit is required for multiple alarm systems on your property. Dual Burglar and Fire alarm systems only require one permit. **Once your application is processed, an alarm permit will be mailed to the address of the alarm location. If you do not receive an alarm permit within 30 business days, contact the False Alarm Coordinator to make sure the application was received for processing.**

Police/Fire allow for 3 false alarms in a twelve-month monitoring period. A twelve-month monitoring period begins with the first "false" alarm (false burglar alarms and false fire alarms are tracked separately). False alarms in excess of "3" incur civil penalties as follows: 4th and 5th false alarms = \$50 each; 6th and 7th = \$100 each; 8th or 9th = \$250 each. After a 9th false burglar alarm, an alarm location is placed on "*Police no response, to burglar alarms only.*" **Police continue to respond to robbery and panic alarms if the alarm location is placed on "Police no response for burglar alarms."** To reinstate Police response to burglar alarms an alarm owner must contact the False Alarm Coordinator, provide an alarm inspection performed by an alarm company licensed with the NC Alarm Licensing Board, and pay all civil penalties. Ten or more false alarms incur a civil penalty of \$500 each. False alarm counts are reset to zero at the end of the twelve-month monitoring period providing the alarm site is permitted and on response to burglar alarms. **If you need additional information, contact the False Alarm Program Coordinator at 336-983-0886.**

DETACH THE COMPLETED ALARM PERMIT APPLICATION AND MAIL TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS. PLEASE KEEP THE TOP PORTION OF THIS FORM FOR REFERENCE. READ IMPORTANT INFORMATION AT THE END OF THIS FORM. YOU MAY FAX YOUR APPLICATION TO 336-983-5399.

ALARM PERMIT APPLICATION

Residence/Business Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: (include apt/suite)

City: _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Mailing address (if different)

NEW OWNER OF THE PROPERTY WHERE THE ALARM IS LOCATED:

Yes No

Structure type where alarm is located: Commercial Residential ATM

Alarm type (check all that apply): Burglar Panic Holdup Fire Audible
 Silent

Alarm Company Name: _____

Phone: _____

Alarm Monitoring Co Name: _____

Phone: _____

Fire Monitoring (if different) _____

Phone: _____

Please list key holders to your residence/business (in addition to key holders listed with your alarm monitoring company) who could respond within 30 minutes to assist Police or Fire personnel with resetting your alarm. Key holders will only be contacted if your alarm monitoring company advises there is no one to contact. Providing multiple key holders for contact may prevent incurring false alarms.

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Pager/Cell: _____

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Pager/Cell: _____

Some things you should know:

- Alarm owners must provide the name, address, and telephone number of at least 2 key holders who can respond within 30 minutes to open the alarm premises to assist Police/Fire personnel.
- Provide updated alarm permit information to the False Alarm Program Coordinator within 10 business days of the change.
- **Alarm permits are not transferable. When ownership of an alarm system is transferred, notify the False Alarm Program Coordinator within 10 business days to remove your name as the registered alarm owner. New alarm owners should apply for an alarm permit within 10 days of obtaining possession of alarm property or installation of a new alarm system.**
- An alarm owner may not install, maintain, or use an audible alarm system which can sound for more than 20 minutes when activated. This section does not apply to fire alarms.
- The False Alarm Program Coordinator must receive a written appeal for review of a **false alarm notification** within 10 business days of notification. The written appeal shall include the following information: Alarm user name; Alarm location address; Date and time of the false alarm; Alarm permit number; and attach documentation the alarm was not false.
- There is not an appeal of the \$100 civil penalty for failure to have an alarm permit after March 7, 2005. **If you were not aware of the City's alarm ordinances, contact your alarm company about their notification practices to their customers. The City contacted alarm companies and extended assistance to them in an attempt to expedite notification of their customers regarding the Ordinances. Direct mail to alarm owners was not an option for the City as the alarm industry was reluctant to provide the City their mailing lists. In an outreach to the citizens of King, the City advertised the Alarm Ordinance in the WS Journal, Stokes News and placed information on utility bills. Following these guidelines can easily prevent false alarms:**
- Instruct all alarm users and key holders on proper operation of the alarm system, including arming and disarming the alarm system and canceling police response if necessary.
- Secure all doors and windows properly before arming the system. Unsecured doors and windows may result in false alarms.
- Ensure motion sensors are adjusted correctly, especially if you have pets.

- Have an arming delay of at least 60 seconds. Frequently, people take too long to exit the premises or the alarm system is activated when reentering the premises. You may arrange with your alarm monitoring company NOT to call the Police/Fire if the alarm system goes off immediately after it has been armed.
- If your alarm system is easily activated by thunderstorms or power outages, have it repaired. An alarm system is required to have an adequate backup power source, which should prevent alarm activation in the event of power interruption.
- Perform periodic maintenance on your alarm system, to include cleaning of all sensors and smoke detectors.

Enacted March 7, 2005