

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

Ordinance No. 2009-18

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND A PORTION OF SECTION 4-9 OF CHAPTER IV OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, ENTITLED "ALARM DEVICES"

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage that Chapter ix of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Wantage, being the Fire Prevention Chapter, shall be and is amended as follows:

Section 1. Sub-Section 4-9.11 of Section 4-9 within Chapter IV of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Wantage, shall be amended in its entirety to read as follows:

4-9.11 False Alarm Penalty.

Any person, firm, corporation or other entity who violates the terms of this section, including but not limited to failure to initially register or providing false registration information or other provisions of this section, shall be subject to a fine not exceeding one thousand four hundred (\$1,400.00) dollars provided, however, that the following minimum and mandatory fines shall apply to false alarms.

- a. For the first two false alarms in any 12-month period, a warning shall be issued.
- b. For the third false alarm within the 12-month period, a fine of two hundred (\$200.00) dollars shall be paid to the Township of Wantage.
- c. For the fourth false alarm within the 12-month period, a fine of three hundred (\$300.00) dollars shall be paid to the Township of Wantage.
- d. For the fifth through seventh false alarm within the 12-month period, a fine of four hundred (\$400.00) dollars for each occurrence shall be paid to the Township of Wantage.
- e. For the eighth and subsequent false alarms in any 12-month period, a fine not to exceed one thousand four hundred (\$1,400.00) dollars for each occurrence shall be paid to the Township of Wantage, which shall be accompanied by an advisory letter (dated within 30 days following the date on which the complaint is issued) from an alarm company stating that the system is operating properly. Failure to provide such advisory letter will constitute a separate offense, subject to penalty.

In the event the State police determine the registrant has failed to take reasonable steps to avoid false alarms, the State police shall have the right to require the alarm to be disconnected for either a limited amount of time or permanently. However, no such disconnection and revocation of the permit shall take place without providing the registrant an opportunity to show cause before the municipal court why such action should not be taken. The occurrence of three or more false alarms in any calendar month shall raise the presumption that the registrant is disregarding the responsibility to take reasonable remedial steps to avoid false alarms. In the event registrant's alarm is disconnected as the result of an action under this subsection of the section, and in the event the registrant is allowed to reconnect the equipment in the future, registrant shall be responsible for a re-registration fee of fifty (\$50.00) dollars.

Section 2: SEVERABILITY

Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such provision(s) shall be deemed severable and the remaining portions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3: REPEALER

All ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 4: EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall take effect after publication and passage according to law.

Parker Space, Mayor

ATTEST:

James R. Doherty, Administrator/Clerk

NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that the above entitled ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, on August 13, 2009, and will be considered for final passage after public hearing at a regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage to be held on September 10, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 888 Route 23 South, Wantage, New Jersey.

James R. Doherty
Administrator/Clerk