

ORDINANCE 2020-11

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 7, LICENSING AND REGULATION, CHAPTER 4, REGULATION OF ALARM SYSTEMS AND BUSINESSES, OF THE CITY OF ISLE OF PALMS CODE OF ORDINANCES

WHEREAS, the Isle of Palms Council is authorized to amend its ordinance; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to revise the current chapter to improve registration and responses to commercial and residential alarm systems; and

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF ISLE OF PALMS, SOUTH CAROLINA, IN CITY COUNCIL ASSEMBLED THAT CHAPTER 4, REGULATION OF ALARM SYSTEMS AND BUSINESS, SHALL BE AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That Chapter 4 is hereby amended by adding (c) to state as follows:

Sec. 7-4-1. - Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Alarm business means the business or occupation by any individual, partnership, corporation or other entity of 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 or dwelling.

Alarm system. The term "alarm system" means any assembly of equipment, mechanical or electrical, arranged or designated to signal the occurrence of an illegal entry, fire, need for medical assistance, or other activity or hazard requiring urgent attention within a building, home, structure or facility and to which the City Police Department or Fire Department is expected to respond.

The term "alarm system" shall not include individual smoke detectors in private dwellings which are not connected to an external alarm. Alarm systems shall not include audible alarms affixed to automobiles.

Alarm user means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company or organization of any kind in control of any building, structure, or facility where an alarm system is maintained.

Automatic dialing system means any alarm system or device which automatically sends over regular telephone lines, by direct connection or otherwise, a prerecorded voice

message or coded signal indicating the existence of the emergency situation that the alarm system or device is designated to detect.

(Code 1994, § 7-4-1; Ord. No. 1996-17, 10-22-1996; Ord. No. 2011-04, § 1, 7-26-2011)

Sec. 7-4-2. - Compliance with chapter provisions.

No person or entity shall engage in, conduct or carry on an alarm business within the City without complying with this chapter, and all other applicable State laws and City ordinances.

(Code 1994, § 7-4-2)

Sec. 7-4-3. - Specific alarm regulations.

The alarm user shall at all times maintain the alarm system in a state of good repair.

All alarm users may provide the Police Department with a written list of at least two (2) persons who are authorized and available to respond to the Police Department on the alarm user's behalf regarding any alarms at such user's location within thirty (30) minutes of notification. Such list shall be on such form as is prescribed by the Police Department and should be updated by the alarm user no less than once per calendar year.

In the event an alarm system cannot be deactivated in a timely manner, such alarm business/user shall provide personnel for surveillance to said business until such time as the alarm is deactivated (audible alarm) and/or the business is safely secured.

All alarm users shall notify the Alarm Business immediately prior to testing the alarm system or performing maintenance on the system.

It is unlawful for any person or business to program or use an automatic dialing system to dial directly into the City's public safety communication centers, including, but not limited to, the City Police and Fire Departments and the Charleston County Consolidated 911 Dispatch Center, whether by dialing 911, a primary trunk line, or any other number or line leading into the City's public safety communication centers.

(Code 1994, § 7-4-4; Ord. No. 1996-17, 10-22-1996; Ord. No. 2011-04, § 2, 7-26-2011)

Sec. 7-4-4. - Alarm permits.

The alarm user/permittee shall supply on his application for a permit the names, addresses and phone numbers of at least two (2) persons to call in the event of an emergency. If the user/permittee has arranged for a service contract, emergency telephone numbers of the service company shall be supplied. The alarm user/permittee is responsible for updating the information provided to the Police Department.

(Code 1994, § 7-4-5; Ord. No. 1996-17, 10-22-1996; Ord. No. 2011-04, § 3, 7-26-2011)

Sec. 7-4-5. - Enforcement and penalties.

The United States Government, the State, counties, municipal corporations, departments thereof and other governmental entities are exempt from all fees and penalties required by this chapter.

Unlawful use of an automatic dialing system in violation of section 7-4-4(g) shall constitute a misdemeanor, and shall be punishable as set forth in Section 1-3-66.

SECTION 2. That this Ordinance take effect and be in full force immediately.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF ISLE OF PALMS, ON THE 17th DAY OF ~~October~~ November, 2020.



Jimmy Carroll, Mayor

(Seal)

Attest:

Michael J. DeFeane

City Clerk

First Reading: 10/29/2020

Second Reading: 11/17/2020

Ratification: 11/17/2020

