

Bylaw No. 7604

The False Alarm Fees Bylaw, 1997

**Codified to Bylaw No. 9440
(December 18, 2017)**

BYLAW NO. 7604

The False Alarm Fees Bylaw, 1997

The Council of The City of Saskatoon enacts:

Short Title

1. This Bylaw may be cited as The False Alarm Fees Bylaw, 1997.

Purpose

2. The purpose of this Bylaw is as follows:
 - (a) to allow for the establishment of an alarm business response service;
 - (b) to set fees for the use of the alarm business response service; and
 - (c) to set terms and conditions for the use of the alarm business response service.

Definitions

3. In this Bylaw,
 - (a) “alarm business” means any person who is in the business of monitoring alarm systems and reporting to the Police Service when an alarm system has been activated;
 - (b) “alarm system” means any device which detects an unauthorized entry into or any emergency situation in any property, and which is monitored by an alarm business;
 - (c) “false alarm” means the activation of an alarm system when there is no unauthorized entry into nor any other emergency situation in any property and includes:
 - (i) the testing of an alarm which results in a request for service to the Police Service;

- (ii) an alarm that is activated by mechanical failure or malfunction, or faulty equipment which results in a request for service to the Police Service;
 - (iii) an alarm which is activated by user error which results in a request for service to the Police Service; and
 - (iv) an alarm which is activated by atmospheric conditions, excessive vibrations, or power failure which results in a request for service to the Police Service;
- (d) “1-900 telephone alarm line” means a telephone line designated for the exclusive use of alarm businesses to report the activation of an alarm system;
 - (e) “property” includes land and buildings;
 - (f) “Police Service” means the Saskatoon Police Service;
 - (g) “telephone company” means the company which provides 1-900 telephone alarm line; and
 - (h) “valid alarm” means the activation of an alarm system caused by the unauthorized entry into or any emergency situation in any property.

Establishment of the Alarm Business Response Service

- 4. The Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners may establish an alarm business response service which may include the implementation of a 1-900 telephone alarm line.

Alarm System Identification Number

- 5. (1) Each alarm business shall provide the following information to the Police Service within ninety days of this Bylaw coming into force:
 - (a) the address of each property with an alarm system;
 - (b) the name of the occupant of the property with the alarm system;

- (c) the name and address of a contact person for the alarm system;
 - (d) such further information as the Police Service may require.
- (2) Each alarm business shall pay the Police Service a subscription fee of \$25.00 for each premises per year.
 - (3) Each alarm business shall provide the information required in subsection (1) and the subscription fee required in subsection (2) to the Police Service within one week of the installation of any new alarm system.
 - (4) If there is a change in the information provided, the alarm business shall provide the Police Service with the updated information within one week of the change.
 - (5) The Police Service shall assign an alarm system identification number (ASIN) to each property with an alarm system for which the information and the subscription fee have been submitted.
 - (6) The ASIN will be kept by the Saskatoon Police Service and the number shall be given to the alarm businesses.

Terms and Conditions

- 6. (1) If the Police Service implements a 1-900 telephone alarm line, the following terms and conditions shall apply:
 - (a) the 1-900 telephone alarm line may be utilized by alarm businesses only;
 - (b) all calls for service from alarm businesses resulting from the activation of an alarm system must be made to the 1-900 telephone alarm line except as provided in subsection (2); and
 - (c) the alarm business shall pay any applicable fee associated with each use of the 1-900 telephone alarm line.
- (2) The request for service from the alarm business may be made to the Communications Centre of the Police Service on a telephone line separate from the 1-900 telephone alarm line if the property which is the subject of the request for service has had an ASIN assigned to it and has not had two false alarms within the preceding 365-day period.

- (3) If the request for service is made to the Communications Centre of the Police Service on a telephone line separate from the 1-900 telephone alarm line and the alarm business is informed that the property has had two or more false alarms in the preceding 365-day period, the alarm business must call back using the 1-900 telephone alarm line.

Assessment of Fees

7. An alarm business which reports the activation of an alarm system to the Police Service using the 1-900 telephone alarm line shall pay a fee of \$100.00 plus applicable taxes for each call. **(Effective – Bylaw No. 9440 – January 1, 2018)**

Collection of Fees

8. The fee plus applicable taxes is payable to the telephone company.

Remittance to Police Service

9.
 - (1) The telephone company shall remit the fees paid by any alarm business to the Police Service.
 - (2) The telephone company shall be entitled to reasonable costs related to collection of the fees.

Refund of Fees

10.
 - (1) The Police Service shall refund the fee to the alarm business if the request for service by the alarm business was the result of a valid alarm.
 - (2) The fee shall not be refunded to the alarm business if the request for service was the result of a false alarm.

Cancellations

- 11. (1) A request for service may be cancelled by an alarm business by calling the Communications Centre of the Police Service on a telephone line separate from the 1-900 telephone alarm line.
- (2) The Police Service shall refund the fee to the alarm business less \$10.00 if the cancellation request is made within three minutes of the dispatch of a police unit for service and a police unit has not arrived at the property.

Severability

- 12. If a section of this Bylaw is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, that section shall be deemed severable and shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections of this Bylaw.

Coming Into Force

- 13. This Bylaw shall come into force on the day of its final passing.

Read a first time this 12th day of May, 1997.

Read a second time this 12th day of May, 1997.

Read a third time and passed this 12th day of May, 1997.

"Henry Dayday"
Mayor

"Janice Mann"
City Clerk