

# FALSE ALARMS

## Purpose:

The purpose of this guideline is to encourage facility owners of the necessity of maintaining fire alarm systems and to recover dispatch and response costs incurred by non-emergent false alarm activations via a monitoring service.

## Scope:

This guideline applies to the PFD district only as determined by state law.

- A. An in-district facility or residence that causes false emergent fire alarms due to system malfunctions and/or lack of employee/resident training will be invoiced for services rendered using the following criteria:
  - 1. Two (2) false emergent alarms in a three (3) month period is the trigger point
  - 2. Non-dispatch/no response alarms invoiced at \$50 each as #1 & #3 below; subsequent \$50 each
  - 3. The third respondent false alarm is to be invoiced for \$400
  - 4. Each successive false respondent alarm will be invoiced at \$400 each
- B. A false emergent alarm is defined as a system hardware failure or an activation that can be prevented by reasonable engineering, repairs, or modification to the system. Failure to place systems in test mode will be invoiced as above.
- C. It is imperative that PFD members investigate and document each false alarm.
- D. The PFD will determine if this guideline is enacted on an individual basis dependent on available data and circumstances. The PFD will determine false activations dependent on type, number and other factors including building owner cooperation over various time periods.
- E. The PFD reserves the right to not respond to false emergent alarms.