

**ORDINANCE NO. 2009-OR-11**

**ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SERVICE CHARGES FOR FALSE ALARMS  
REPORTED TO JEFFERSONVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Jeffersonville typically responds to burglar alarms when notified by alarm companies and/or individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, many persons who are the owners of property where burglar alarms are installed, are negligent and careless, regarding the use of those alarms; and

**WHEREAS**, continuous false alarms lower the efficiency and preparedness of the officers of the Jeffersonville Police Department thereby causing persons with actual alarms or emergencies to be disadvantaged; and

**WHEREAS**, experience has indicated that when persons are assessed penalties for reporting false alarms that the number of false alarms decrease dramatically.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JEFFERSONVILLE** that no person, corporation, business, private and/or not for profit hospital, residential facility or other entity shall report a false alarm to the City of Jeffersonville Police Department.

"False alarm" means, in the case of a burglar alarm, an alarm signal or recorded message indicating, an attempted or unauthorized intrusion into a structure or the attempted commission of a crime, when in fact no evidence exists upon inspection of the premises upon response to such alarm.

Persons who report false alarms to the City of Jeffersonville Police Department shall be fined as follows during any calendar year:

- (1) Three false alarms shall be allowed at no penalty to the property owner.
- (2) The fourth false alarm shall result in a \$150.00 fine.
- (3) The 5<sup>th</sup> false alarm shall result in a \$250.00 fine.
- (4) The 6<sup>th</sup> and all other subsequent false alarms shall result in a \$350.00 fine

Any company reporting an alarm as the agent for an alarm holder shall be jointly and severally liable for the payment of fines as outlined above.

The Chief of Police shall designate an individual to be in charge of tracking all reported false alarms reported to the Jeffersonville Police Department.

That upon the report of a false alarm the designated person above shall send notice to the offending property owner of the fine owed by the property owner in accordance to the above schedule of fines.

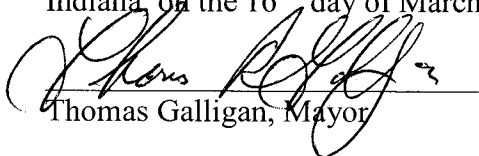
The property owner shall have 14 days in which to pay the fine.

Failure to pay the assessed fine shall result in the matter being filed in the Jeffersonville City Court. The property owner and/or alarm company would then be subject to court costs in addition to the appropriate fine above.

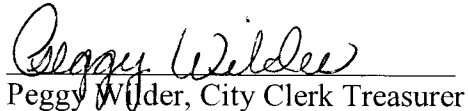
All fines collected in violation of this ordinance and in response to false alarms responded to by the Jeffersonville Police Department shall be paid directly to the Jeffersonville Police Automobile Non-Reverting Fund.

This Ordinance shall become effective thirty days after its passage upon its last reading.

Passed and adopted by the Common Council of the City of Jeffersonville, Clark County, Indiana, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2009.

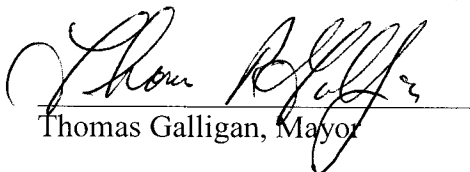
  
Thomas Galligan, Mayor

Attest:

  
Peggy Wilder, City Clerk Treasurer

Presented by me as Clerk Treasurer of the City of Jeffersonville this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2009.

This Ordinance approved and signed by me this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2009.

  
Thomas Galligan, Mayor