



InfoLink

Information for Public Safety False Alarm Reduction Professionals

FARA InfoLink February, 2011

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Are You Ready For San Antonio?

By: David Wilson, Conference Committee Member

San Antonio is ready for you! All training classes are set. All instructors are committed and are preparing fantastic blocks of instruction for our membership. A plethora of members have applied for FARA Institute funds and their needs were **granted. Yep, that's correct, members are coming to San Antonio, and FARA will be paying their way!**☺

Speaking of the FARA Institute.....the FARA Board recently released additional funds so more public safety members can attend! So, if you plan to attend and need financial assistance, you need to apply today (not tomorrow). The funds are awarded on a first come first served basis. Be aware that there are no additional funds beyond what has been dedicated so you must act now! Don't keep dragging those dogs.....visit the FARA website, download and complete the very short and simple application, and you may be on your way to the most awesome false alarm reduction training available at no cost to your agency.



The location will be right in the middle of **San Antonio's** historic RiverWalk at the Sheraton Gunter Hotel at \$117 per night. [For information on the hotel visit their web site](#)

Let's jump ahead to 2012. That right 2012! Your FARA Conference Committee does not play around. We are working hard for you and getting things done. We have selected the site for the 2012 FARA Symposium that will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. There will be more details about Albuquerque 2012 in the near future. **You've heard this before, but let us remind you – this is your training**, let us know how we can better serve you by sending us your training suggestions.

See you in San Antonio!!!!!!

Thanks to Institute Sponsors!

Without the FARA Institute and our generous contributors, FARA training symposiums would not be possible. Many, many heartfelt thanks go out to all of our Institute donors as follows:

Platinum (\$3000 or more donation)

Broadview Security, Inc.
National Electronic Security Alliance (NESA)
Public Safety Corp (CryWolf)
Texas Burglar & Fire Alarm Association (TBFAA)

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Maryland Burglar & Fire Alarm Association (MDBFAA)
Vector Security, Inc.

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Homesafe Security Systems

Certified Alarm Manager – What's it All About?

By: Amy Lowe, CAM, Professional Certification Committee Chair

Do you want to have those fancy letters behind your name???

Well, let FARA help you get Certified!!! Take the CAM (Certified Alarm Manager) exam in San Antonio and earn some of the recognition you so richly deserve. The exam will be given on Thursday, April 7, 2011 from 1:30 to 4:30 pm.

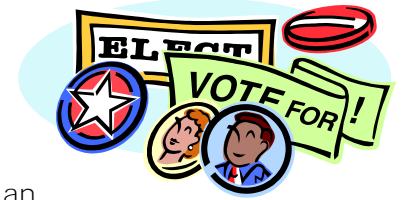


[Click this link for more information on what the Professional Certification Program is all about.](#) Use the link to review the webinar and a link to the objectives and rules for the CAM.

Keep watching future issues of the InfoLink for more information on how you can sit for the Certified Alarm Manager exam!

Board Elections in San Antonio

By: Norma Beaubien, FARA Board



Five different Board seats will be filled during the General Membership Meeting at FARA's 2011 annual international training symposium. **Public Safety** FARA members will elect a Vice President-Electronic Security, a Secretary, and two At-Large Directors. **Associate** FARA members will elect an Electronic Security Associate Director. The term of office for each position elected is two years.

Nominations will be taken from the floor for each seat. Any FARA member who has been in good standing for at least one year, attended at least one FARA Annual Membership Meeting and served on one or more FARA committees can be elected to any of the offices as indicated above. It is not necessary to be present to be nominated or elected. If you are interested in serving on the Board but cannot attend the symposium, you will need to get someone who is attending to nominate you at the appropriate time during the General Membership Meeting. Only those nominated will be considered for positions.

We welcome all who wish to participate, as it makes your association stronger to continually fill leadership positions with new members. [Click here to review a copy of the Board Member Duties and Functions document, which details the responsibilities delegated to each board member.](#)

Nominations Needed for FARA Members of the Year!

By: Norma Beaubien, FARA Board

The FARA Norma C. Beaubien Public Safety and W. Rex Bell Associate Member of the Year Awards are the highest honor FARA gives to deserving individuals, who demonstrate a significant commitment and contribute the most to their department or company, the community they serve and to FARA. Do you know anyone who fits this bill? Please tell us and let us honor them with these coveted awards. Once again, both public safety and associate members can submit nominations for either category. Please submit your written nomination detailing the reasons you believe the individual nominated deserves such an award. Please limit your nomination to one (1) page or less. **Nominations must be submitted on or before March 1, 2011 to be considered.** Please submit your nominations to FARA c/o Brad Shipp at bradshipp@4yoursolution.com or via fax at 301/519-9508.

Nominations for FARA Achievement Awards Needed!

By: Norma Beaubien, FARA Board

FARA is dedicated to honoring those in our profession, who have shown exemplary commitment to the reduction of false alarms and to establishing and maintaining positive working relationships among all parties involved. Are you proud of your alarm management program? Do you have a terrific success story to share? Do you want the world to know about it? If so, then tell us! Too often, the wonderful work done in False Alarm Reduction Units throughout North America goes unnoticed. We want to recognize your efforts and provide you with a wonderful plaque you can display in your office to show others how significant your accomplishments are. How would you like to be able to return from San Antonio with a coveted Achievement Award that you can share with your Chief or Sheriff? (**Attendance at the training symposium is not required for nominations to be considered.**) Let us help you advertise your success.

Please send in your nominations for FARA's False Alarm Reduction Achievement Awards. Feel free to nominate your own agency/company or others. Both public safety and associate members can submit nominations for any category listed below. All submitted nominations will be provided to the attendees in San Antonio. All attendees will then cast a vote on who their favorite is in each category. As such, your nomination should contain sufficient information to allow those voting to understand what the accomplishment is and how you were able to achieve it. You may use narrative, charts, graphs or any combination of the three. Please limit your nomination to no more than two (2) pages in length. The Achievement Awards will be presented during the San Antonio training symposium.

- **Public Safety False Alarm Reduction Achievement Award:** This award is presented to the public safety agency that has an alarm management program, which has shown meaningful or significant reduction in the number of false alarms over a 3 to 5 year period.
- **Industry False Alarm Reduction Achievement Award:** This award is presented to an individual alarm company that has implemented and sustained an alarm management program, which has shown meaningful or significant reduction in the number of false alarms over a 3 to 5 year period.
- **FARA Achievement Award:** This award is presented to an individual, company or association that has demonstrated significant or meaningful contributions toward the FARA mission.

We know that great things are being done by public safety and alarm industry alike to combat false alarms. Tell us what you have done and let us help you get the recognition you deserve with an Achievement Award. **Nominations must be submitted on or before March 25, 2011 to be considered.** Please submit your nominations to FARA c/o Brad Shipp at bradshipp@4yoursolution.com or via fax at 301/519-9508.

Albuquerque in 2012!!!

By: Norma Beaubien, Conference Committee Co-Chair



FARA has contracted with the MCM Eleganté Hotel and Event Center in the heart of Albuquerque, New Mexico as the host hotel for our 2012 Annual International Training Symposium. The hotel has wonderful amenities to offer including free breakfast each morning and two complimentary drink tickets to use in their lounge each evening. Couple that with the indoor pool, Jacuzzi, state of the art fitness center, spacious sleeping rooms and premier location, and FARA could not have selected a better hotel for the price!

At \$89 per night plus tax, this hotel is affordable and a definite “can’t miss” in 2012. Even though it is a year away, start planning now! Solicit donations for the FARA Institute so more public safety can attend than ever before.

See you in the desert southwest May 1st through May 3rd, 2012!

FARA’s Believe it or Not

By: Norma Beaubien, Communications Committee Co-Chair

Imagine you are out on patrol and get a dispatch to a local deli for a motion detector activation. You arrive at the location and do a perimeter search, which shows no signs of criminal activity. Nothing is observed in the vicinity that raises **your hackles, and you’re not sure why the alarm has activated. All of a sudden** you see movement through the window. After diving for cover, you watch the location and are completely thrown for a loop when you observe a fish flying through the air. YES – A FISH! Upon closer inspection, you see that there are numerous fish in a tank inside the store. The fish are committing ritual suicide by jumping out of their tank. They are jumping through the “eyes” of the motion detector, which is setting the alarm off!



Or, how about this one? You’re out on patrol again and get a dispatch to the corner lumber yard. The space is huge and you know that it will take some effort to investigate the entire premises for possible break ins. You drive up and do a quick perimeter search, and all seems okay – no broken windows or doors. You thoroughly check the front – nothing. You check the left side – nothing. You go around to the back and look through the fenced in section of the lumber yard and what do you think you see?! How about a raccoon using a swinging door like an amusement park ride?! **That’s right. The raccoon was having a little fun at the lumber yard’s expense by riding back and forth on the swinging door.**

Okay, there was a little editorial license in these stories, but the bottom line is that all kinds of things can cause false alarms! In the first story, fish did jump out of their tank in a deli causing the motion detectors to activate. In the second story a raccoon really did open a swinging door in a lumber yard. Strange but true!

Do you have any stories you would like to share about strange, unusual, or funny reasons for false alarms? How about outlandish things that happen in the course of your usual work day? I know we all **have them, so let's share and give everyone a chuckle!** Please forward your stories to me at norma.beaubien@montgomerycountymd.gov and we'll put them in the next InfoLink for all to share!

If You Like FARA – Log On And Like Us!

By: Stacey Peacock, Membership Committee Member

FARA's Membership Committee is proud to report that our Facebook (FB) page is up and running strong. We have 70 people who have 'liked' our page already. If you are a fan of FARA, show your support, log on to Facebook and 'LIKE' us. With the use of FB our community will grow and our goal of spreading false alarm reduction knowledge and techniques will be exponential - **so 'LIKE' us today!** In order to find the page, log into your FB account. At the top of your FB page in the 'search' field type in "False Alarm Reduction Association".



We have begun to post the countdown to FARA's annual symposium on FB. This year's symposium is in sunny San Antonio, TX, April 5-7. Log on to our FB page to keep up to date on all things FARA Symposium San Antonio. This symposium is going to be the most informative and action packed **symposium to date.** Don't miss it – reserve your spot now and follow us on FB for fun facts and countdown info!

Fire Committee Moving Forward!

By: Norma Beaubien, Newsletter Editor

According to FARA's Fire Committee Co-Chair Mike Mahoney, the public safety fire community is "ripe" for information on false alarm prevention, particularly given today's economy. Fire services are having to justify their budgets like never before, and things like registration or permitting of fire alarm sites is becoming more palatable.

In their effort not to reinvent the wheel, Mike, Ray and their committee members are trying to contact the fire counterparts to all of our law enforcement members to open the lines of communication. If you can help with this effort, or if you already have that line open, please let us know!

FARA was a topic of discussion during a recent meeting of the Central Florida Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association. The fire marshals were very interested to hear that there is a public safety organization looking out for their interests.

In the not too distant future, the Fire Committee will be reviewing and revising FARA's Model Fire Alarm Ordinance, as well as developing one-page bulletins that deal with false fire alarm prevention.

Training and Certification Committee Updates

By: Sue Clark, T&C Committee Chair

Like most committees, we did not meet in December, so during the January meeting the T&C Committee continued to work on a new training webinar for FARA members entitled, "How to Create Regional Meetings." We hope to have this completed and ready for viewing soon. Many of you are already attending local public safety meetings in your area and we would love to include some information from you, such as: why did you begin holding meetings, who attends, and is there an underlying reason for continuing to meet? Please forward information to Sue Clark at susan.clark@montgomerycountymd.gov.

We also finished reviewing the FARA Public Safety Tips and the changes have been sent to the board for approval. They will not need to be reviewed again until 2013.

Once again, we are looking for more FARA members to participate on a committee. If you like to meet people, to make things happen and continue your FARA training, please think about joining the Training & Certification Committee. We meet via teleconference call on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 2 PM Eastern time and the call usually lasts 1 hour. Yes, we are all busy, the powers that be continue to try to get juice from a turnip, but a couple hours each month is well worth the benefits you have received and continue to receive from FARA. Please, join today by contacting Sue Clark at the email address above.

Featured Bulletin - Password vs. Passcode - What is the Difference?

By Brad Shipp, FARA

When an alarm activation occurs and the alarm company calls, the **alarm operator will ask, "What is your password?"** Few customers will answer this question correctly on the first try. This bulletin reminds the user about the importance of the Password and how it differs from the passcode.

The full list of bulletins, which have been approved by the board, can be accessed on our [web site](#).

We encourage you to use these informational bulletins as bill stuffers, handouts at meetings or to send to individual problem alarm users



Featured Manual - FARA/NESA Alarm Equipment Guide

By Brad Shipp, FARA

The purpose of this reference guide is to provide public safety and the alarm industry with recommendations regarding alarm system equipment and installation practices that have proven to be highly effective in reducing false alarms and which will make a significant impact on the false alarm problem when fully implemented. The reference guide contains major alarm system components, describes their function, provides recommended applications and lists either the false alarm potential or the false alarm prevention aspects of each component.

The full list of manuals, which have been approved by the board, can be accessed on our [web site](#). Copies of manuals can be downloaded from the member's only site.



IAFC Seeks Feedback on NFPA 72 Code Hearings

1.25.11 - OHS - The International Association of Fire Chiefs is calling on fire and emergency service leaders to take action to address the threat of false alarms in commercial facilities. IAFC said it needs feedback from fire service leaders to ensure a national-level discussion at the upcoming NFPA 72 code hearings in San Diego.

IAFC has submitted a series of proposals via the NFPA code change process to update NFPA 72 with the specific intent to provide solutions to the problems caused by the number of false alarms in commercial facilities. The proposals aim to take a comprehensive approach to address both the root cause of the issue (reducing false alarms) and the protocols for response to such calls.

IAFC has created a [fact sheet](#) that outlines its proposal to NFPA 72.

The proposals center around four main concepts:

- A 90-second verification delay identical to current residential code and including an opt-out **provision if a chief doesn't feel the delay is optimal for the locality**
- Recommendation for point ID capability
- Adding a 45-second minimum to pressure change in retard chambers
- Maintenance of the alarm systems by an approved professional

New NESAs President Announces Plans

By Jordon Brown, NESAs President

Taking over as NESAs President is a pleasure because of the strong foundation built by Rex Adams in his service as the founding President. I can only hope to be half of the leader that he is. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for all he has done to build this alliance.

Through the efforts of Rex, our dedicated Board of Directors and our Executive Director we have built an alliance that is unique in our industry, because it supports our state associations without getting in their way.

During my term I plan to focus on the following goals –

- To increase the number of NESAs member states by 50% or greater
- To help NESAs member states increase their membership by 50% or greater by:
 - Increasing the member benefits, such as the El Dorado insurance program, our approved training programs, and other member services
 - Increasing the brand awareness of NESAs by utilizing the media, both digital and print and word of mouth
 - Increase the level of involvement in both the state association level and national level, not only in their association work, but also work on licensing, lobbying, training, and other industry programs
- To increase & improve our alliances with other associations, like the False Alarm Reduction Association
- To assist states in raising awareness of industry related topics and events (such as the impending demise of POTS lines)
- To continue to support the needs and promote the value of the state associations that belong to our alliance and exchange information on state issues and programs

One of past president Adams' points over the years has been to stress the value of people getting involved in their associations. He has a more colorful way of saying it, but essentially the point is that if you are not involved, you are not getting the full value of joining and your association is not getting the full value you could bring to all of the rest of us.

So as I start my term as NESAs President, I am eager to work with all of the NESAs board members and I also want to urge you all to get involved.

To all of those who are already involved - Thanks for all you do!!



APX changes name to Vivint

2.1.11 - Security Systems News - PROVO, Utah. The new way to spell APX Alarm Security Solutions is Vivint. The summer-model giant announced today that it has rebranded to Vivint—a name the company **said was chosen to convey the concept of “living intelligently.” The new name reflects the company’s expansion beyond home security into home automation services such as automatic door locks, video surveillance, and lighting and small appliance, according to Alex Dunn, Vivint COO. The company announced earlier this month that it had acquired Meter Solutions, an installer of smart meters for utilities. “We’re really evolving into a much more broad company with much more broad service offerings and APX Alarm doesn’t convey in any way that vision,” Dunn told *Security Systems News*.**

Today, APX technicians will be replacing more than 500,000 oval, blue-and-white APX lawn signs at **customers’ homes around the country with round, orange-and-white Vivint signs.**

Dunn said Vivint is entering the home automation market in a way he described as unique. Vivint, he said, **“is really going to be the first company in the home automation space that delivers simple, affordable, whole-home automation to the average Joe.”** Home automation systems typically are complicated and expensive, costing a homeowner many thousands of dollars up front and coming with virtually no servicing, Dunn said. However, he said, Vivint is offering **cutting-edge technology that’s consumer friendly and the company also will be “switching the paradigm and using the same paradigm we’ve used in security.”**

He said Vivint’s message to customers is that, with a low upfront cost, **“you get all the features, you sign not just a monitoring, but a servicing agreement, and now we’re there to help make sure all of those things are working right, all of the time.”**

The company said its current 24-7-365 monitoring and customer service support will be extended to home automation. Dunn declined to discuss specific price offerings at this time.

He stressed that Vivint will retain all its security offerings. “We’re not in any way compromising the mission of the company in the past in moving forward,” he said

The name Vivint is derived from the French verb “vive” meaning “to live,” and the English “intelligent,” the company said. “In using this combination, Vivint’s mission is clear: to help families “live intelligently” by creating simple, affordable, home automation systems where all devices work together to enhance safety and convenience and improve energy efficiency,” the company said in a statement.

Dunn said that Vivint’s salespeople, whether they are summer door-knocking teams or inside sales personnel, won’t take the approach of selling security first and offering home automation as an upgrade. Instead, he said, “we’re really going to be offering the whole package as the lead.” He said customers still can get security services alone, but he said that once they learn about the package, he expects “very high adoption” on all available services. Dunn said he expects the package that Vivint is offering will make it easier for the company to recruit top summer sales staff. “It certainly differentiates us being able to have something this cool to sell at the door,” he said.

Kristi Knight, the company’s VP of corporate communications, said, “Really, what we’re doing is bringing home automation to normal people. It’s been a bit of an elitist technology up until now and it is no longer.” She and Dunn said today’s launch—which will include changes ranging from a new web site to everything from new business cards for staff to rebranded service vehicles—is actually the culmination of about three years of work on the part of the company. To prepare for moving into home automation, the company began installing its GO! Control panels for all new customers last year.

Today, the company said, 170,000 of its 500,000 customers have the LCD touch screen panel, which centralizes all features and gives customers remote control access via the Internet or smart phones. And, more than 15,000 of the GO! Control panel customers chose to have home energy management features which APX introduced in 2010.

"We've been launching these services kind of one by one in a beta environment," Dunn said. He said that rollout has been "more of a test for us." Now, he said, Vivint's home automation package "is ready for prime time." The company in the fall announced that it had upped its debt financing by \$125 million to a total of \$565 million. When asked if the new investment was part of this launch, Dunn replied: "To create these customers and make it affordable, the access to capital markets is an important component of our strategy."

APX Alarm Joins Forces with SIAC

1.28.11 - Provo, Utah- Business Wire - APX Alarm Security Solutions Inc. today announced the company will help the Security Industry Alarm Coalition (SIAC) with additional resources in its fight to improve alarm management practices across the country, and enact fair and balanced ordinances. In addition to APX's ongoing contribution to SIAC, the company will provide resources for Dave Simon, formerly of Brink's/Broadview Security, to work as an industry liaison for SIAC.

Simon, with six years of experience in the electronic security industry in government, communications and industry relations, will continue his work heading up public relations and marketing for SIAC. Simon also has over 25 years of experience as a corporate communications expert. He will also serve on the SIAC field team to ensure best practices are implemented in communities across the country, working cooperatively with local jurisdictions.

"We're excited to have Dave on board to help in this effort. Over the past few years, APX has increased its contributions to advance the security industry's position, and we believe this will result in better relations with key elected officials and law enforcement," said Tom Few, Director of Industry Relations for APX. "Over the past six years, Dave's developed a growing role in SIAC's progress, and the electronic security industry in general. It's a great assurance to know we can count on him to not only continue many of his previous duties, but also bring new ideas to the table," said Stan Martin, SIAC Executive Director.

"I'm excited about this opportunity with APX and SIAC, so we can present additional solutions that benefit the electronic security industry. We have to stay active and vigilant in the years ahead in our work with local jurisdictions to ensure the industry's best interests are maintained," Simon said.

News on Door to Door Sales

Courtesy of NESAs

- **AZ: Arizona police warning of door-hangers**
1.31.11 - KSWT-TV - Mesa police says they've fielded at least eight calls this month from residents concerned about the door hangers. Police say many of the residents who ... [More Info](#)
- **IL: Pushy security sales crews should set off alarms**
1.10.11 - Chicago Sun-Times - Chicago, IL - They were from AMP Alarm and were working with another alarm company, Guardian Security. I told them I was in a five-year agreement with Security Networks. ... [More Info](#)
- **TX: BBB alarmed by Utah security firm**
1.14.11 - Times Record News - The Better Business Bureau of North Central Texas is cautioning consumers that a Utah-based security alarm system company, which has a C+ rating with the ... [More Info](#)
- **TX: Security company robs man of peace of mind**
1.23.11 - KENS 5 TV - San Antonio, TX - Charles Fialkowski says he was at the store when he got a call from ADT Security saying his alarm siren was malfunctioning... [More Info](#)

Public Safety Updates

Courtesy of NESAs

- **AL: Boaz police chief pushing alarm ordinance**
2.1.11 - Sand Mountain Reporter - Boaz, AL - Responding to an unacceptable number of false alarms, the Boaz police chief plans to present an ordinance requiring businesses and residents to register ... [More Info](#)

- **AZ: City launching alarm ordinance**
2.3.11 - Glendale Star - Glendale, AZ - The City of Glendale now has an alarm ordinance that is similar to ones implemented in dozens of cities throughout the state. Beginning Feb. ... [More Info](#)
- **BC: False alarm bylaw review comes after complaints**
1.20.11 - Mission City Record - Mission City, BC - The district will be reviewing its false alarm bylaw after two businesses racked up hefty bills in circumstances beyond ... [More Info](#)
- **CO: Botched Burglar Alarm Call Prompts Changes At Denver 911**
1.13.11 - KMGH Denver - Denver, CO - Lisa Sommers never expected a burglar alarm at her shoe store would expose problems with Denver 911... [More Info](#)
- **CO: New Glenwood fire department fees OK'd**
1.22.11 - Glenwood Springs Post Independent - Glenwood Springs, CO - Fees for automatic fire protection and fire alarm systems will increase from \$300 to \$350 for buildings up to 15000 square feet, and from \$500 to \$550 for ... [More Info](#)
- **FL: Delray Beach homes, businesses to face new rules for alarms**
1.11.11 - SecurityInfoWatch.com - Fort Lauderdale, FL - City implements alarm registration fees, fines for repeated false alarms. [More Info](#)
- **GA: Fees gain favor, but are they just a tax?**
1.11.11 - Atlanta Journal Constitution -Gwinnett County, GA - The hikes in fees -- including adult entertainment licenses, false alarm charges, fire inspections and a new vacant property registration fee -- would go ... [More Info](#)
- **IL: Mayor: Fire Code Change Brings Village in Line with Industry Standard**
1.21.11 - Patch - Romeoville, IL - The change means that businesses will be required to switch from landline to wireless alarm monitoring. "It puts into writing the shift to radio transmitted ... [More Info](#)
- **KS: Complaints Lead Wichita to Revise False Alarm Ordinance Fees**
12.30.10 - Security Sales & Integration - Wichita, KS - After receiving complaints from residents, the city council here voted to rescind registration fees for burglar alarm systems ... [More Info](#)
- **KS: Police Scanner Action- False Burglary Alarms**
12.30.10 - Lawrence Journal World (blog) - Lawrence, KS - Some cities require a certification and registration of your alarm system- to make sure you are using it responsibly- and will not answer your alarm if you ... [More Info](#)
- **KY: Christmas fire prompts legislator to propose automatic fire sprinklers for new ...**
1.29.11 - Louisville Courier-Journal - Louisville, KY ... no chance to escape from a second-floor bedroom where they were sleeping, even though smoke detectors went off and an alarm system summoned firefighters. ... [More Info](#)
- **MA: Melrose property owners reminded to register alarm systems**
1.14.11 - Melrose Free Press - Melrose, MA - Police Chief Mike Lyle this week reminded residents who have moved into a home equipped with an alarm system, ... [More Info](#)
- **ME: New rules, and fees, for Portland burglar alarms**
1.14.11 - Press Herald - Portland, ME - The city has had a rule calling for alarm owners and companies to register, but it "really hasn't been enforced," said City Councilor Edward Suslovic, ... [More Info](#)
- **NJ: Camden, N.J., to lose nearly half its cops**
1.17.11 - CNNMoney - Camden, NJ - And Camden will also lose 60 of its ... Camden, N.J., to lose nearly half its cops... [More Info](#)
- **NL: False alarms a growing concern for Gander Fire Rescue**
12.30.10 - Beacon - Gander, NL - False Alarm - While the Gander fire department expects a certain number of accidental false fire calls, when people intentionally pull alarms it not only ... [More Info](#)
- **NY: Town of Ulster moves on fire alarm regulations**
Kingston Daily Freeman - Ulster, NY - Town Of Ulster - Proposed revisions to town law would set guidelines for declaring false fire alarms a nuisance and subjecting building ... [More Info](#)
- **OH: Alarm registration under way in Orange Village**
1.25.11 - Plain Dealer - Orange Village, OH - The Orange Village Code requires all businesses and residences with an alarm system to register their system with the village ... [More Info](#)
- **OH: Cincinnati plans tax amnesty program**
2.2.11 - Bizjournals.com - Cincinnati, OH - ... medical services; parking violations; Office of Administrative Hearings, false alarm fees, general department billings and public services billings. ... [More Info](#)

- **OH: Marion police to enforce charges for false alarms**
1.19.11 - Marion Star - Marion, OH - "The goal of the Marion Police Department is to drastically reduce the number of false alarm responses from our officers, so they can concentrate on the ... [More Info](#)
- **OH: Steubenville, Ohio officials want to update false alarm ordinance**
1.28.11- SecurityInfoWatch - Steubenville, OH - The Steubenville Fire Department is dealing with an increase in false alarm fire calls, according to Fire Chief Terri English. "They're purposely pulling ... [More Info](#)
- **ON: No relief from false-alarm fee**
1.21.11 - Toronto Star - Toronto, ON - But the bylaw, erasing the policy of giving property owners one "free" false alarm per year, also caught 850 owners of single-family homes who were forced ... [More Info](#)
- **SC: Fines For False Alarms**
1.15.11 - News Channel 7 - Greenville, SC - City Officials say your alarm can falsely sound up to three times in a year. If police respond to each call, you will get a ticket after the ... [More Info](#)
- **SC: Horry County cracking down on false alarms**
2.3.11 - WMBF - Myrtle Beach, SC - If you have an alarm system at your home or business, you may want to pay attention to a new rule in Horry County. ... [More Info](#)
- **SC: South Carolina Community Institutes False Fire Alarm Fines**
12.30.10 - Security Sales & Integration - Greenwood, SC - The city council here unanimously voted to fine home and business owners for more than three false fire alarms that are responded to by the city's fire department within a calendar year ... [More Info](#)
- **TN: City council says yes to improving traffic lights, no to false alarm proposal**
1.26.11 - WBIR-TV - Knoxville, TN - Members of the Knoxville City Council started Tuesday evening's meeting with the withdrawal of a plan to bill homeowners for false alarm calls. ... [More Info](#)
- **TX: CS Alarm Ordinance Amendment**
1.22.11 - KBTX - College Station, TX - On January 13, 2011, the College Station City Council approved an amendment to the current alarm ordinance which becomes effective on January 24, 2011. ... [More Info](#)
- **TX: False alarms cost Longview over a million**
1.24.11 - KLTV - Longview, TX - The fire marshal is proposing amending the city's code of ordinances to add fines to property owners whose fire alarm systems sound off false alarms. ... [More Info](#)
- **TX: Proposed fire code amendment won't be big change**
1.11.11 - Plainview Daily Herald - Plainview, TX - ... Council to adopt the 2009 International Fire Code with an amendment requiring "installation" permits for fire suppression equipment, fire alarm systems ... [More Info](#)
- **VA: Excessive False Fire Alarms Could Cost Homeowners & Businesses in Shenandoah ...**
1.21.11 - WHSV - Waynesboro, VA - The penalty could increase from \$25 to \$50, if a fire station is called to a location more than four times in a 12-month period, for a false alarm. [More Info](#)
- **WI: Law requiring carbon monoxide detectors in homes starts Tuesday**
1.29.11 - Journal Times - Racine County, WI - According to the Wisconsin Fire Chiefs Association, all single family and two-unit homes, whether new or existing, must have the alarm. ... [More Info](#)

Industry News

Courtesy of NESAs

- **Police Dispatch Quality (PDQ) Award Program Entries Due Feb. 28**
2.3.11 - Security Sales & Integration - Nominations are being accepted for the sixth annual Police Dispatch Quality (PDQ) Award program presented by the Security Industry Alarm Coalition (SIAC), False Alarm Reduction Association (FARA), Security Sales & Integration and Honeywell Security ... [More Info](#)

- **Industry leaders discuss municipal monitoring legislation**

1.31.11 - SecurityInfoWatch - The main and heated topic of discussion was legislation opposed by the IESA, Central Station Alarm Association (CSAA) and the Electronic Security ... [More Info](#)

- **New York legislation causes stir**

1.22.11 - Security Systems News - Albany, NY - Seems like everyone in the monitoring world - except the CSAA - is strongly for or against a proposed bill in New York. In fact, the NYBFAA is holding an open forum next month for people to express their opinions. What's the big deal with this bill, and should you be packing up to attend this NYBFAA forum? [More Info](#)

Please Share Your Newsletters and Tips with Us

We would like to see how you communicate with your alarm users. Please add FARA to your mailing list if you send out Newsletters or mailings with false alarm reduction information. Do you have a brochure that describes your ordinance or program? We would like to see it. Staff will review what we receive and share tips and information with your fellow members in later issues of this newsletter.

Please send your newsletters, tips and brochures to:

False Alarm Reduction Association

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FARA Mission Statement

It is the mission of the False Alarm Reduction Association (FARA) to provide a forum for local government alarm ordinance professionals to exchange information on successful false alarm reduction programs, to serve as a clearinghouse for agencies seeking to reduce false alarms, and to foster an environment of cooperation among public safety, the alarm industry and the alarm users.

Contact Us

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Comments and suggestions regarding FARA's InfoLink are both encouraged and welcomed. If you would like to submit an article for publication, or if you have any questions or concerns about this newsletter, please contact the FARA Board of Directors at 301/519-9237, or by e-mail at: info@faraonline.org

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