



InfoLink

Information for Public Safety False Alarm Reduction Professionals

FARA InfoLink March 2017 Edition

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by

Nominations Needed for FARA Members of the Year!

By: Brad Shipp, FARA

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. Public safety and associate members can submit nominations for either category.

Please submit your written nomination by April 1, 2017 detailing the reasons you believe the individual nominated deserves such an award. Please limit your nomination to one (1) page or less.

Please submit your nominations to FARA c/o Brad Shipp at bradshipp@4yoursolution.com

Past recipients of the Norma C. Beaubien Public Safety Member of the Year Award are:

2016- Meredith Wivell & Nadya Morgan
2015- Sherry Couey & Roberta Smiley
2014- David Wilson & Shellie Reid
2013- Tammy Foxworthy & Kerri McDonald
2012- Debbie Hansen & Amy Lowe
2011- Stacey Peacock & Sue Clark
2010- Steve Heggemann
2009- Gerry Miller
2008- Natasha Pitts
2007- Christine Van Geest
2006- Brad Wahab
2005- Patty Bimonte
2004- Rick Moore
2003- Rex Bell
2002- Denise Shaw & Amy Lobdell
2001- James Cogswell
2000- W. Patrick Kenny
1999- Shanna Werner
1998- Patti Rea and Norma Beaubien

Past recipients of the W. Rex Bell Associate Member of the Year Award are:

2016- Sarah Salazar
2015- Not awarded
2014- Jordon Brown
2013- Jon Sargent
2012- Joe Carr & Cindy Smith
2011- Stuart Forchheimer & Kristina Walker
2010- Ben Binder
2009- Mary Galloway
2008- John Tierney
2007- Kelly Maceranka
2006- Chris Russell
2005- Pat Killian
2004- Tony Fague
2003- Not awarded
2002- Ron Walters & Brad Shipp
2001- Kathleen Schraufnagel
2000- Jennifer Gehring
1999- Susan Brenton
1998- Matt Wald

Nominations for FARA Achievement Awards Needed!

By Brad Shipp, FARA

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 Nashville. All attendees will then cast a vote on who their favorite is in each category. So make the sale for your nomination by giving enough information to allow the voters to understand what the accomplishment is and how you were able to achieve it. You may use text, 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 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.

Nominations must be submitted on or before April 10, 2017 to be considered.

Please submit your nominations to FARA c/o Brad Shipp at bradshipp@4yoursolution.com or via fax at 301/519-9508.

Proud of your alarm management program?
Have a terrific success story to share?

Want the world to know about it?

Then tell us!

It's Not Too Late to Join US!!!!!!!!!!

Written By the Membership Committee

With the annual symposium just a few weeks away, the membership committee wants to ask: "Are you getting the most out of your membership?" The education and networking opportunities that the symposium affords are tremendous and will ensure that you are truly getting the biggest bang for your buck! If you haven't registered, there is still time to take advantage of this great opportunity. Join us in Nashville, TN and reap the rewards of membership as we gain knowledge and best practices in reducing false alarms and implementing a solid false alarm reduction program!

Don't let lack of funds stop you!! There are still institute funds available to assist public safety. Nashville, TN has three full days of action packed Nashville fun, Nashville networking and Nashville solutions to those aggravating false alarms and we don't want you to miss out on this opportunity.

The membership committee looks forward to seeing you and enjoying some wonderful learning, Nashville Bar-BBQ and wonderful music with you all!

Police Dispatch Quality (PDQ) Award Program Now Open for Entries

2.27.17 - Security Sales & Integration

Nominations are being accepted for the 12th annual Police Dispatch Quality (PDQ) Award presented by the Security Industry Alarm Coalition (SIAC), False Alarm Reduction Association (FARA), Security Sales & Integration, Honeywell and the Installation Quality (IQ) Certification Program.

Established in 2005, the PDQ Award promotes partnerships in public safety by recognizing how a company works with local law enforcement to best manage their alarm systems and reduce false alarms. The PDQ Award helps the winners promote their companies in a positive manner by demonstrating their commitment to high quality alarm reduction programs and best practices.

Past PDQ Award winners include Amherst Alarm, Habitec Security, Monitronics, HS Technology, Custom Alarm, Broadview Security (formerly Brink's Home Security), Atronic Alarm Systems, Alarm Detection Systems Inc. and Vector Security Systems (two-time winner).

The winner will receive \$1,000 for hotel and airfare to attend the award ceremony, which will be held during the 2017 Electronic Security Expo ([ESX](#)) in Nashville (June 13-16). Additionally, the award recipient will be featured in an issue of SSI. Applications must be postmarked by April 28. To download the application, go [here](#).

PERS vs. Enterprise Mobile Duress

2.14.17 – SecurityInfoWatch

Nearly everyone has heard of personal emergency response systems, or PERS, which was designed primarily for at-home individuals, often seniors. It allows its users to call for help with the press of a button in exchange for a monthly fee collected by the PERS provider.

While similar in look and basic functionality, panic buttons in enterprise mobile duress serve as additions to commercial security systems, designed to provide a layer of safety to individual employees and staff while on corporate grounds. Both PERS and mobile duress allow users to summon help with the press of a panic button, but in a commercial setting, the users are different, and so are the reasons for using it, as well as the kind of help being summoned. PERS, while perfectly suited for residential use, is not suited for commercial applications. Enterprise mobile duress systems are designed for commercial use, providing the necessary reliability to enable early warning that can immediately summon on-site or off-site security assistance.

PERS

Usually, a PERS panic button is carried on the user's person, and is activated in the case of a medical emergency. Once the button is pressed, a console or base station connected to the user's telephone is activated, and a call for help is made – most often to a professional monitoring center. After talking to the individual, the monitoring center determines the nature and severity of the emergency, reviews the customer's pre-established profile, and makes a call to either 911 or whomever is listed as an emergency contact.

PERS has evolved to include mobile capabilities when linked with a cellular provider, or mPERS. When activated, the monitoring center receives a notification along with location information or coordinates provided by the device.

There is a version of mPERS – an app-based system designed for mobile phone use – which is used for security in limited applications. These systems are typically adopted by universities because of the high concentration of mobile users, and have been integrated with mass communication systems and escort services as part of a greater campus security program. App-based systems rely on a mobile phone's location capabilities but do not have adequate in-building resolution to satisfy most commercial needs. These systems are also unsupervised, meaning there is no system monitoring to ensure sufficient battery levels or the alarm capture reliability typically required for commercial application. Likewise, they require access to a cellular phone, and in the case of PERS, time for direct interaction with the call center. For all of these reasons, PERS and mPERS have not been adopted widely outside of post-secondary education and residential senior at-home use.

Honeywell Fights False Alarms With I-View Now Integration

2.16.17 - SSI

MINNEAPOLIS — Honeywell's AlarmNet communications network has expanded its integration with I-View Now video alarm verification (VAV) technology through Honeywell's Performance Series DVR and NVR offerings, in addition to other video recording products.

The company says the integration can help central station operators gather more information through pre-alarm video footage allowing them to look in and assess the cause and severity of an event, helping to limit false alarms and provide emergency responders with the information they need prior to arriving onsite.

AlarmNet's expanded integration with I-View Now is said to make installation easier and quicker for security professionals and provides greater opportunity for recurring monthly revenue (RMR).

"Responding to false alarms can drain huge amounts of resources and money, not to mention trust in security systems," says Alice DeBiasio, general manager of cloud services, Honeywell Home and Building Technologies. "With video alarm

verification, operators can avoid the guesswork, helping peace-of-mind and ensuring real security threats are being met as efficiently as possible.”

Honeywell says expanding the VAV portfolio allows security dealers and central stations to offer a wider range of choices that include analog or IP video, DVR and NVR solutions to help expand and differentiate their connected home and business offerings

How to protect your home from burglars

2.14.17 – By Mark Huffman, ConsumerAffairs

There are many consumer products and services designed to help homeowners protect their dwellings from burglaries. Depending on where you live, that may be a pressing concern. According to the FBI, burglaries accounted for nearly 24% of property crimes committed in 2010. The cost to victims that year was an estimated \$4.6 billion.

Before deciding whether you need a deterrent and what type, it might be useful to hear from some actual burglars who have encountered these obstacles.

Researchers at the University of North Carolina Charlotte visited 422 convicted burglars who were serving time in prison, asking them what was most effective at keeping them out of a home.

Alarms are a deterrent

The study suggests alarms are an effective deterrent. Sixty percent of the burglars questioned said they would seek another target if they encountered a house with an alarm.

An equal number said they would be discouraged by the presence of video surveillance, and would be likely to choose another house to rob.

The overwhelming majority of the burglars who were interviewed were not pros. Most of them admitted they were breaking into homes in search of drugs or to steal stuff they could sell to support their drug habit.

In fact, unless you live in a mansion, that's likely to be who is trying to break into your house, not a cat burglar in search of diamonds.

Laminate windows

Writing on Quora, David Cole passed along a post he said he found on Reddit from someone purporting to be a retired cat burglar. His advice to consumers was to laminate first floor windows.

"A crook's biggest weapon is speed, and their biggest enemy is time," the purported burglar wrote. "If somebody were to try to break into your home and ended up hitting a window that was laminated, they would, in almost every case, run off." He suggested laminated windows delivered a lot more security than alarms or dogs, but then again the guy was supposedly a pro. Amateurs in search of drug money may be less likely to be skilled at disabling security systems or befriending dogs. Signs.com suggests just having a sign that says the house is protected by a security system, or that a dog is on the premises, is usually enough to make a would-be burglar move on to your neighbor's house.

Assuming a burglar cases a house before breaking in, he or she may be deterred if it appears the target imposes challenges. A well-lit porch and good visibility from the street may also be an effective deterrent.

Home Monitoring System Features Remote 911 Access

3.15.17 – EH

So you're on the train headed to work when you receive an alert from your home security system. You pop onto the app and check out the situation via a connected surveillance camera. It appears as if it was a false alarm, and you relax knowing that all is well on the Homefront. If the scenario were different—when you access the camera you actually see someone prowling around in your house—what would you do? You could dial 911 from your cellphone, but most 911 dispatchers rely on information associated with your home phone number to send emergency responders to the appropriate address.

A new home monitoring system from Ooma lets you place a local 911 call from your home phone number, even when you're away, and allow you to speak with your home's local emergency dispatcher, who will automatically receive your home address information.

The Ooma Home Monitoring system is designed to be installed by do-it-yourselfers and includes motion, water, door and window sensors. You can manage the system and monitor the status of each sensor via the Ooma Home Monitoring app on your iOS or Android device. As many as 100 devices can be connected to the system wirelessly. The sensors and communicate with the Ooma system hub via the same DECT (Digital Enhanced Cordless Telecommunications) technology used by cordless handsets.

ATF: Licensed gun store burglaries/robberies up 52 percent ...

3.11.17 – WJLA WASHINGTON (ABC7)

The U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) reports there has been a significant spike in the amount of licensed gun stores falling victim to criminals nationwide.

Last month, the federal law enforcement agency compiled a detailed public report documenting the perplexing uptick. According to the ATF, in 2012, there were 377 burglaries of licensed gun stores nationwide. In 2016, that figure rose to 558 - a 48 percent increase. In 2012, there were 12 robberies of licensed gun stores nationwide. In 2016, that figure rose to 33 - a staggering 175 percent increase.

All combined, 7,858 firearms were stolen from licensed gun dealers in 2016, 76 percent more than in 2012. The ATF highlights that many of the weapons were sold for top dollar on the black market in cities across America, in turn, contributing to increased crime and violence.

"It's a growing trend and we're concerned about it," ATF Special Agent Dave Cheplak with the Baltimore Field Office said. "Our goal is to make sure that these weapons don't wind up in the hands of the criminal element."

The ATF's statistics show Georgia, Florida and Texas had the highest number of gun store burglaries and robberies in 2016, in part due to the fact that there are more firearms dealers in those states. In 2016, Virginia reported 23 gun store burglaries and zero robberies, while Maryland had four gun store burglaries and three robberies.

For context, a burglary involves the act of breaking and entering a building with the intent of committing a crime. A robbery, however, must involve the act of threatening a human being in attempt to obtain a material possession. Because many gun shop employees "pack heat", most criminals prefer to break into gun stores overnight.

The ATF admits it's unsure as to why more people are targeting gun shops, a seemingly risky endeavor, but investigators assert there are a wide variety of motivating factors.

"There are certainly organized gangs that are looking to acquire the firearms for themselves and for members of their gangs," Cheplak remarked. "There are also individuals who see an opportunity to acquire firearms knowing that they can get a good price for them, whether they are trying to feed their own narcotics habit, or in all likelihood, just trying to make more money."

The U.S. government does not require the nearly 65,000 nationwide licensed gun shops to meet any particular security measures, although a number of states do have certain requirements. Nevertheless, the ATF does recommend that all commercial dealers install a robust alarm system, high-definition security cameras with audio, place bars on all windows, plus sturdy doors with multiple locks at all entrances. The ATF also advises that employees place all firearms in a safe or vault during after-hours to add an extra layer of theft prevention.

The United Gun Shop in Rockville followed all of those recommendations, except for the last. That gave two unknown burglars the upper hand when they broke into the locally owned shop early Thursday morning. According to Montgomery County Police, Ackerman Security reported the burglary alarm to Montgomery County's Emergency Communications Center at 3:48 a.m. Dispatchers relayed the priority call to patrol officers at 3:50 a.m. The first unit arrived on scene at 3:56 a.m., eight minutes later. However, the criminals were long gone, snagging 31 firearms in less than 90 seconds.

"It's obvious that the criminals in this particular case were not looking to simply add firearms to their own personal collections. These guns are destined to wind up on the streets of Baltimore and D.C. They'll be traded for narcotics; they'll be sold to anyone who's willing to buy them," Cheplak added.

As of Friday evening, the burglars in the Rockville case were still at large. Authorities are offering a reward of up to \$10,000 for the arrest and conviction of the suspects involved in the United Gun Shop burglary. Anyone with information is asked to call the ATF 24/7 hotline at 1-888-ATF-TIPS (1-888-283-8477) or send an email to ATFTips@atf.gov.

FARA's Believe it or Not

By: Brad Shipp

- **CA: Police: Man gets stuck in chimney during attempted burglary**
1.30.17 - KERO 23ABC News - Ridgecrest Police Department said officers were called to a residence after a residential burglary alarm was triggered. [More Info](#)
- **FL: Restaurant owner delivers letter of apology to Jax Beach police**
2.14.17 - WJXT Jacksonville - The officers who reported Handmaker's alleged comments said that when they responded to a false alarm call at the restaurant Monday, Handmaker took the ... [More Info](#)
- **IN: Police: Indiana man shoots wall, fires at officer over alarm system**
2.21.17 - WISH-TV - Warsaw, Ind. (WANE) Daniel S. Vanderpool told police he just wanted to turn his alarm system off. Instead, police were called to his home and he allegedly ... [More Info](#)
- **NE: Burglar claims he is glad he got caught**
3.14.17 - WOWT - According to police reports, officers responded to a motion alarm call at a home around 1:30 PM Sunday. Officers saw a shattered glass ... [More Info](#)
- **NJ: 'Saved by being arrested': Frostbitten, bleeding and soaked burglar ...**
2.12.17 -Daily Mail - The burglar alarm went off at Viking Buy-Rite Wine and Liquor at 1.45am, which alerted police. Officers didn't find anyone inside but ... [More Info](#)
- **OR: Burglary suspect gets stuck in window of Keizer smoke shop**
3.17.17 - kgw.com - A security officer responding to an alarm at a Keizer smoke shop was surprised to find a bleeding burglary suspect stuck in a window and needing rescue. [More Info](#)
- **SC: This is why you shouldn't try to fry a frozen pizza**
3.7.17 - Myrtle Beach Sun News - North Myrtle Beach firefighters responded to fire alarm Monday night and found a condo at Catalina Manor filled with smoke, and a burned pizza in a frying pan. [More Info](#)
- **TX: 'Angel' the cat saves owner before dying in house fire**
2.15.17 - FOX 4 News - But it was a smoke alarm going off near the garage. McIntosh says he got out and called 911. Grand Prairie firefighters showed up and began fighting the flames ... [More Info](#)

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 bradshipp@4yoursolution.com and we'll put them in the next InfoLink for all to share!

News on Door to Door Sales

Courtesy of NESAs

- **Complaints continue about door-to-door solicitors in Amarillo**
2.14.17 - KFDA - "We've had some that have been alarm salesmen, others that have been vacuum salesmen." Some reports say these are legitimate sales people who just won't ...[More Info](#)
- **Move fail -- How a home alarm company left a man with a bill for a ...**
2.16.17 - KUTV 2News - (KUTV) Don't be fooled by the alarm company signs on his front lawn. When you open the door to Eric Rothell's home, it's quiet. There's no familiar home-alarm ... [More Info](#)
- **Franklin woman accused of collecting retirement money from dead ...**
2.22.17 - KATC Lafayette News - A Lafayette business owner is sounding the alarm about her alarm company. Owner of Thai Herbal Spa, Jackie, said she is paying for service she is not getting. [More Info](#)
- **Settlement reached with home security company**
3.1.17 - The Shippensburg News-Chronicle - The settlement reached with Vivint Inc., more commonly known as APX Alarm Security Solutions Inc., is the result of an investigation conducted by the Attorney ... [More Info](#)

Public Safety Updates

Courtesy of NESAs

- **AR: Multiple honors doled out at Coffee with Chiefs event**
3.12.17 - Pine Bluff Commercial - Pine Bluff Police officers Nathan Smith, Rick Bunting and Matt Wright were cited for their actions on March 2 when they responded to a burglar alarm at Shell ... [More Info](#)
- **AZ: Tiered fees approved by city council for false burglar alarms**
2.18.17 - Apache Junction Independent - Apache Junction residences can have two false burglar alarms a year at which a tiered fee would be assessed for each subsequent alarm in an ordinance ... [More Info](#)

- **BC: False alarm fines jumping for Kamloops businesses and residents**
2.8.17 - InfoTel News Ltd - Almost all fines related to false alarms are rising because police and administration want to use the fines as a deterrent for repeated false alarms. First time ... [More Info](#)
- **CA: San Diego hiking fines for responding to bogus burglar alarms**
3.22.17 - The San Diego Union-Tribune - San Diego businesses and homeowners with burglar alarms would pay far less in permit fees but much higher fines for false alarms under proposed policy ... [More Info](#)
- **CO: Boulder Sounds Alarm About Expensive Bogus Burglar Alarm Calls**
3.1.17 - CBS Local - Over a two-year period, police in Boulder answered 4,915 burglar alarm calls at homes and businesses. Only 10 proved to be legit. Starting Wednesday, all ... [More Info](#)
- **CO: Program to curb false alarms in Boulder starts this week**
2.28.17 - Boulder Daily Camera - Beginning Wednesday, every home and business in Boulder equipped with an intrusion alarm system will be required to register under a new city program ... [More Info](#)
- **FL: FL Mayor Asks Why AT&T Didn't Notify Customers of 911 Outage**
3.10.17 - Firehouse.com - The patient tried calling 911 nine times, but the phone just rang and rang and rang, so the person triggered a burglar alarm in their home, West said. West said ... [More Info](#)
- **FL: Free alarm Registration Now Available Online**
2.17.17 - TCPalm - St. Lucie County - Homeowners and businesses in all areas of unincorporated St. Lucie County can now register their security and fire alarms online for ... [More Info](#)
- **FL: Text to 911, other tech advancements planned for Manatee ...**
3.11.17 - Bradenton Herald - One advancement the public won't immediately notice is a switch in Automated Secure Alarm Protocol (ASAP) to Public System Answering Point (PSAP) ... [More Info](#)
- **IL: Clarendon Hills to fine residents without alarm system permits**
3.21.17 - Chicago Tribune - Clarendon Hills will fine residents \$100 if they do not have a permit for an alarm system, and the village is implementing a progressive fine structure for false ... [More Info](#)
- **IN: Bloomington First Annual Public Safety Report Presented**
2.13.17 - WBIW.com - Almost half of the Bloomington Fire Department's false alarm calls come from Indiana University. Officials say, 43 percent of the false alarm calls originate at ... [More Info](#)
- **LA: A Crackdown on False Alarms in New Orleans**
3.26.17 - U.S. News & World Report - New Orleans (AP) - New Orleans officials are getting set to impose penalties for owners of properties where repeated false security alarms waste police ... [More Info](#)
- **LA: Fees, tax among ideas for funding Minden police pay raises**
2.9.17 - KSLA-TV - A public safety fee of \$3 to \$5 on monthly utility bills, an alcohol tax and charging for responding to repeat false alarms. Those are among ideas being discussed ... [More Info](#)
- **LA: NOPD false-alarm program set to launch May 1**
3.17.17 - NOLA.com - The New Orleans Police Department's false-alarm program is set to launch May 1, officials said. The program, formally proposed two years ago, has been ... [More Info](#)
- **ME: Kennebunk moves to hike fines and fees**
2.24.17 - Mainly Media - Local ordinances limit residents to no more than three beach parking permits then \$200 for the second false alarm, and \$300 for each additional ghost call. [More Info](#)
- **NC: Durham police simulator helps officers train for deadly confrontations**
2.17.17 - WRAL.com - In his scenario, he responded to a burglar alarm at a warehouse and arrived to find a man who stands up behind a counter but refuses to show his right hand. [More Info](#)
- **NJ: Long Hill residents reminded to register alarm systems**
2.7.17 - New Jersey Hills - Long Hill Twp. - Residents and business owners are reminded to ensure their alarm systems are registered with the Long Hill Township ... [More Info](#)
- **NL: False Alarm Fee Still on Province's Radar**
3.11.17 - VOXM - The previous administration announced in 2015 that a fee would be imposed in cases where security alarms are somehow accidentally tripped, forcing ... [More Info](#)
- **NS: This is not a drill: Setting off a false alarm could soon cost more in ...**
2.8.17 - CBC.ca - "The cost to respond to false alarms is a million dollars," said Amanda Whitewood, director of finance for the municipality. "We only recover \$256,000 through ... [More Info](#)
- **NY: County may ban security alarms from calling 911**
3.23.17 - Sun Community News - Essex County is considering a local law that would prohibit local security alarms from automatically dialing the local 911 center when triggered. [More Info](#)
- **NY: Town Board Tables Vote on Amending Alarm Code**
2.6.17 - TAPinto.net - Residents from The Retreat crowded the Town Hall meeting room to listen to the Town Board discuss revamping the code on pull-string alarms. ... [More Info](#)
- **OH: Goshen cops host training academy**
2.17.17 - SalemNews.net - Officers respond to alarm drops and open doors in which there are possible burglars inside and a lot of unknowns when entering a building, and they need to .. [More Info](#)

- **OH: How a Columbus Man Unknowingly Racked Up \$20235 in Alarm ...**
3.15.17 - Security Sales & Integration - Columbus, Ohio — A man was unknowingly fined \$20,235 for excessive false alarms here last year. According to the Columbus Dispatch, Quincy Miller .. [More Info](#)
- **OH: Security system false alarms? Columbus makes you pay**
3.13.17 - The Columbus Dispatch - Miller said he thought the alarms were ringing only to his cellphone, not the police, until the bill was forwarded to the address listed for the company that owned ... [More Info](#)
- **OK: Many Tulsans Pay Police Alarm Fee, But Non-Payers Get Same ...**
3.8.17 - Oklahoma Watch - That means the 911 system has unnecessarily dispatched officers thousands of times to Tulsa homes and businesses, since only a tiny fraction of intruder-alarm ... [More Info](#)
- **OK: Tulsa Police called to 68% false alarm calls in 2016; TPD asking ...**
3.9.17 - kjrh.com - In 2016, dispatchers handled more than 35,000 intrusion alarms. Tulsa police responded to almost 30,000 of them only to find 68 percent were false alarms. [More Info](#)
- **SC: County Council moves forward on bond authorization vote for new ...**
3.21.17 - Greenville News - In other business, council approved on third and final reading an ordinance that requires an alarm system monitoring company to attempt to verify whether an ... [More Info](#)
- **SD: False alarm fines falling in Mitchell**
2.9.17 - Daily Republic - That's according to Mitchell Assistant Police Chief Mike Koster, who said in an ideal world there wouldn't be false alarms. But, he said, responding is part of an ... [More Info](#)
- **SK: Police board supports fine increase for false alarms**
3.10.17 - Saskatoon StarPhoenix - The board of police commissioners recommended on Thursday that the fine associated with police responding to false alarms be increased to \$100 from \$75 as ... [More Info](#)
- **TN: City Council recap: Wharton's portrait, Smith's zoo offer**
3.22.17 - The Commercial Appeal - The council unanimously approved an ordinance increasing the penalties for false police and fire alarms. Sponsored by member Philip Spinosa Jr., the ... [More Info](#)
- **TN: Memphis City Council aims to reduce false alarms**
2.7.17 - The Commercial Appeal - The Memphis City Council took the first step Tuesday to reduce false police and fire alarms that council member Philip Spinosa Jr. says cost the ... [More Info](#)
- **TX: Fees for owning an alarm system in Central Texas**
2.14.17 - KVUE.com - Austin - There are cities and counties across Texas that require that you to register and pay an annual fee for operating an alarm system that directly notifies ... [More Info](#)
- **VA: Newport News police chief suggests change to false alarm ordinance**
3.3.17 - Daily Press - Newport News Police Chief Richard Myers suggested changes on Tuesday to the city's ordinance for commercial and residential security alarms in order to ... [More Info](#)
- **WV: False alarm calls could cost Putnam County residents and businesses**
2.1.17 - WSAZ-TV - A new ordinance could have residents paying the price for false alarm calls. Effective immediately, if officers respond to too many ... [More Info](#)
- **WY: New Devices Will Allow Casper Police Improved Access to School ...**
3.22.17 - K2 Radio - It is not uncommon for police to receive an alarm from a school building in the middle of the night. Most of the time, an alarm doesn't indicate anything serious; ... [More Info](#)

Industry News

Courtesy of NESAs

- **ADT Execs Outline Ambitious Plans for 2017**
3.10.17 - SSI - Top executives reveal what will be unleashed in 2017, and how the 143-year-old firm is pacing the industry's most advanced new products and services. [More Info](#)
- **MONI introduces ASAPer**
2.8.17 - Dallas - SSN - ASAPer, MONI Smart Security's latest monitoring offering, will allow alarm users and their emergency contacts to quickly communicate and determine the validity of an alarm. [More Info](#)
- **Fire Alarm Code Language Redefined**
2.14.17 - SecurityInfoWatch - The latest published edition of NFPA 72, the National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code-2016, further clarifies the fire alarm industry's concept of traditional terms ... [More Info](#)
- **Vivint: The End of \$99 Installs in the Security and Home Automation Biz?**
2.17.17 - CEPro - Leading security and home automation provider Vivint is trying to get homeowners to pay up-front for their systems, rather than giving away the hardware and installation. A trend for the industry? [More Info](#)
- **Tyco Joins PPVAR As Full Industry Member**
2.24.17 - Security Sales & Integration - The Partnership for Priority Verified Alarm Response (PPVAR) announces that Tyco, a part of Johnson Controls, has joined the organization as a full industry ... [More Info](#)

- **Female Technician Defies Consumer Electronics Stereotypes**
3.1.17 - CEPro - As a female technician in an overwhelmingly male industry, Kirsten Bouteiller of Hometronics Lifestyles is redefining traditional labor roles in consumer electronics. [More Info](#)
- **Inside the Vivint Smart Home Stores at Best Buy: A Huge Paradigm Shift**
3.24.17 - CE Pro - CE Pro's Julie Jacobson visited several Best Buy stores in San Antonio, Texas, where Vivint Smart Home is testing a new business model for selling and installing security and home automation systems. [More Info](#)
- **Invision Technologies Merges With Safe Security**
3.2.17 - SSI - Both security companies are based in Albany, Ga. [More Info](#)
- **How ADS Security Mastered M&A**
3.1.17 - SSI - ADS Security notched record growth in 2016 and has acquired 16 companies in the past three years. [More Info](#)
- **Doyle Security Acquires Local Dealer to Strengthen Home Base**
3.2.17 - SSI - The acquired company, Lock-Tight Alarms of Hilton, N.Y., was founded in 2002. [More Info](#)
- **Dallas-Based Integrator Entech Acquires in Oklahoma City**
1.30.17 - SSI - The acquisition, which includes approximately 80 accounts, will give Entech a key presence in the Oklahoma market. [More Info](#)
- **Tech Electronics acquires Colorado fire alarm systems provider**
1.31.17 - St. Louis Business Journal - ... firm specializing in life safety and communication systems, has acquired Fire Detection Systems, a Colorado-based designer and seller of fire alarm systems. [More Info](#)
- **Convergint Technologies Acquires Post Browning**
2.3.17 - Digital Journal - ... industry-leading organization that designs, installs, and services integrated building systems including electronic security, fire alarm, and life safety systems. [More Info](#)
- **Red Hawk Fire & Security Acquires to Expand Reach in Florida**
1.31.17 - SSI - Integrated Systems of Florida is known for its "strong, well respected team," says Red Hawk CEO and President Michael McWilliams. [More Info](#)
- **American Alarm acquires Atlas Alarm**
2.4.17 - SecurityInfoWatch - Arlington, Mass. - American Alarm and Communications today announces the acquisition of Atlas Alarm Corp. of Weymouth, Massachusetts, a major fire alarm ... [More Info](#)

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.

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