

BOROUGH OF QUAKERTOWN, BUCKS COUNTY, PA
ORDINANCE NO. 1243

AN ORDINANCE OF QUAKERTOWN BOROUGH AMENDING PART 5,
“FALSE ALARMS FROM BUSINESSES” OF CHAPTER 13, “LICENSES,
PERMITS AND GENERAL BUSINESS REGULATIONS” OF THE
QUAKERTOWN BOROUGH CODE OF ORDINANCES.

The following is hereby ENACTED and ORDAINED by the Borough Council of Quakertown Borough, Bucks County, Pennsylvania:

ARTICLE I FALSE ALARMS

Part 5, “False Alarms from Businesses” of Chapter 13, “Licenses, Permits and General business Regulations” of the Quakertown Borough Code of Ordinances are hereby amended to read as follows:

Part 5 FALSE ALARMS FROM BUSINESSES

§501 Penalty for False Burglar Alarms.

1. The owner and/or lessee of any property/structure within the Borough shall be penalized for false alarms made to the Quakertown Police Department.
2. The penalty for such false alarms shall be established from time to time by resolution of Borough Council.

§502 Penalty for False Fire Alarms.

1. The owner and/or lessee of any property/structure in the Borough shall be penalized for false fire alarms made to the Quakertown Borough Fire Department.
2. The penalty for such false alarms shall be established from time to time by resolution of Borough Council.

§503 Waiver of Penalty Under Certain Circumstances.

The Manager is authorized, at his/her own discretion, to waive any penalty for false alarms caused by severe weather conditions, local electric department problems, or similar reasons/events.

§504 Billing for Penalties; Collection.

The penalty for a false alarm will be billed by the Borough to the owner and/or lessee of the subject property/structure. If any such bill is not paid within thirty (30) days after the date of the bill, penalties, fees, and/or interest may be added thereto in accordance with the Borough’s Fee

Schedule. Any unpaid bill (together with penalties, fees, and interest thereon, to the extent permitted by law) and all delinquent costs shall be a lien on the subject property/structure, which may be collected by any available legal action. Costs, expenses, and reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the Borough concerning the collection of any unpaid false alarm penalty shall be added to the unpaid bill along with penalties and interest, and the aggregate of the same may be entered as a municipal lien on the subject property/structure and collected in the manner provided by the Municipal Claims Act, 53 P.S. § 7101 *et seq.*

§505 Definition of "False Alarm".

For purposes of §§501 and 502, above, a false alarm shall be defined as any alarm to which the Police Department or Fire Department is alerted that is later determined to be incorrect; faulty in nature; improperly called in by a resident, tenant, owner, or occupant of the subject property/structure; or caused by an electrical or mechanical malfunction.

ARTICLE II SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable. If any article, section, subsection, paragraph, clause, phrase, or provision of this Ordinance is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or held unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or any part or provisions hereof, other than the part determined to be invalid or unconstitutional. It is hereby declared as the intent of Borough Council that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such invalid or unconstitutional article, section, subsection, paragraph, clause, phrase, or portion thereof not been included herein.

ARTICLE III SURVIVABILITY

Any ordinance, resolution, and/or other regulation of the Borough, or any parts of ordinances, resolutions, and/or other regulations of the Borough, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. All other provisions of the ordinances, resolutions, and/or other regulations of Quakertown Borough, Bucks County, Pennsylvania shall remain in full force and effect.

ARTICLE IV EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective five (5) days after it is adopted.