

**Anchorage Fire Department (AFD)
False Fire Alarms: AMC 8.40**

On January 1, 2011, changes to Anchorage Municipal Code (AMC) 8.40 False Alarms went into effect which could result in additional charges to some locations. The Table below shows the changes to 8.40.040 (False Alarm Charges), comparing the OLD code with the NEW/Current code.

<u>AMC Chapter</u>	<u>Prior Code</u> <i>(in effect to 12/31/2010)</i>	<u>New/Current Code</u> <i>(effective 1.1.2011)</i>	<u>New Code Implementation</u>
8.40.040: False Alarm Charges	<p>A. 1. First two false alarms in any 30-day period or first three in any 90 day period at each identifiable separate location: No charge.</p> <p>A. 2. Each false alarm in excess of two in any 30-day period of three in any 90-day period: Fire Department: \$500.00</p>	<p>A. 1. First false alarm at each identifiable separate location: No charge.</p> <p>A. 2. Each subsequent false alarm in excess of one: a. Fire Department: \$500.00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ With the changes to AMC 8.40, effective January 1, 2011, each location is allowed one AFD response to a false alarm at no charge. ▪ For each subsequent AFD response to a false alarm, the owner is charged \$500 for the dispatch.

Terms and phrases used in 8.40

Alarm means any operable device except an official municipal fire alarm, but including without limitation, automatic dialing devices which telephone a prerecorded message or transmit a signal or message to the police department and devices that produce an audible or visible signal which is intended to alert the police or some other person that a criminal act or other emergency exists and requires assistance. Devices commonly known as smoke alarms intended primarily for residential use and designed to emit a signal upon the detection of smoke, fumes or heat shall not be considered alarms for purposes of this chapter.

False Alarm means an alarm signal that the Fire Department determines is caused by a reason other than that condition which the alarm is designed or intended to detect or a natural phenomenon beyond the control of the owner.

Owner means a person who is responsible for the proper operation of an alarm.

To view AMC 8.40 False Alarms, go to www.muni.org and click on the Municipal Code Online link