



South Carolina Police Chiefs Association



South Carolina Alarm Association

October 27, 2007

Law Enforcement Executives and Alarm Dealers:

With the additional workload created by the events since 9/11 and in support of Homeland Security and Community Oriented Policing law enforcement resources continue to be in high demand. Alarm systems provide a significant benefit to consumers and law enforcement in deterring and detecting criminal activity. With the increased workload that law enforcement experiences, the South Carolina Police Chiefs Association's (SCPCA) Alarm Management Committee developed a Model Alarm Ordinance based on the National Burglar and Fire Alarm Association and the False Alarm Reduction Association's Model Ordinance, as posted on the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) website. The committee works on alarm management issues with the goal of reducing of the impact false alarms have on law enforcement's limited resources. Committee Chair Chief John Gregory presented the Ordinance to the SCPCA Executive Board at its October 27, 2007 Meeting for adoption by Resolution as the Model Alarm Ordinance for South Carolina Police Chiefs. The Resolution passed unanimously and encourages Police Chiefs to use the Ordinance in developing and/or revising alarm management programs in their respective agencies and jurisdictions. The Ordinance includes registration of alarm systems; acceptance of cancellations; an escalating fine structure; the use of new generation equipment by installers; enhanced call verification; establishing of alarm awareness classes; restricting responses to for failure to pay fines/user fees; and an appeals process. This ordinance is fully supported by the South Carolina Alarm Association (SCAA) and the Security Industry Alarm Coalition (SIAC).

We firmly believe that each of you recognizes the importance of properly utilizing our police resources. We believe that as agencies use the Model Alarm Ordinance and its proven practices in developing and/or revising their local alarm reduction efforts significant reductions in alarm dispatches will be realized. We are asking each South Carolina Police Chief to support this effort. The South Carolina Police Chiefs Association through its Alarm Management Committee is available to assist you in developing your Alarm Management Program, please feel free to contact the SCPCA Office at (803) 790-5042.

Working together we can better utilize our valuable law enforcement resources.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Handwritten signature of Patty Patterson in black ink.

Patty Patterson,
President,
South Carolina Police Chiefs Association

Handwritten signature of James L. Craft in black ink.

James L. Craft,
President,
South Carolina Alarm Association

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