

BY-LAW NUMBER 19-04

-of-

THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF BRANT

To establish "The County of Brant - Police False Alarm Reduction Policy".

WHEREAS the County of Brant approved By-law Number 187-03 on the 16th day of September 2003, to amend the Fees and Charges By-law to impose fees with regard to police response to false alarms;

AND WHEREAS Schedule G-1 to By-law No. 187-03 established a policy relating to the charging of fees for police false alarm response;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to re-enact the Fees and Charges By-law in a format that lists the fees without any explanation as to their application; therefore the contents of Schedule G-1 will no longer be included in the Fee and Charges By-law;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to Section 130 of the Municipal Act, 2001, a municipality may regulate matters not specifically provided for by this Act or any other Act for purposes related to the health, safety and well-being of the inhabitants of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS police response to false alarm calls utilizes policing resources that are allocated for the purpose of protecting the health, safety and well-being of its inhabitants,

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to approve a false alarm reduction policy relating to police response in the County of Brant;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF BRANT HEREBY ENACTS as follows:

1. **THAT** the attached "Schedule A" be approved as "The County of Brant - Police False Alarm Reduction Policy".
2. **THAT** this By-law comes into force and takes effect upon passage.

READ a first and second time, this 3rd day of February 2004.

READ a third time and finally passed in Council, this 3rd day of February 2004.

THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF BRANT

Mayor

Clerk

[Handwritten Signature]
[Handwritten Signature: Jayne Carman]

SCHEDULE A – BY-LAW 19-04

**THE COUNTY OF BRANT
POLICE FALSE ALARM REDUCTION POLICY**

The Brant County OPP responds to in excess of 1100 false intrusion alarms each year. It has been determined that most of the "At Fault" False Alarms are activated by either equipment malfunction or human error. The County of Brant Police Services Board and the Brant County OPP, with assistance from the Corporate Services Department for record keeping and billing functions, will work toward reducing the number of "At Fault" False Alarms requiring police response by recording false alarm responses and issuing fee invoices to the owners of premises having "At Fault" False Alarms.

APPLICATION:

This policy applies to all calls for police response in the County of Brant.

AUTHORITY

Police Services Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P15, Section 10 (9) (c) and Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, C.24, Section 130.

PROCEDURE

1. Definitions

1.1 "Valid Alarm" is an alarm signal that has been activated for the purpose for which it was installed such as: warning of an attempted or completed criminal offence, or an emergency situation in relation to the premise in which the alarm device or system is installed.

1.2 "At Fault" False Alarm is any alarm signal activated unnecessarily, carelessly, improperly, or for a purpose other than that for which the alarm device or system is installed, which prompts a police response and includes but is not limited to:

1.2.1 testing of an alarm without prior notification of the officer-in-charge of the County of Brant police service.

1.2.2 an alarm reporting an attempted or completed criminal offence or other emergency situation occurring on or in relation to the premise in which the alarm device or system is installed where no evidence exists that any such event took place;

1.2.3 an alarm actually or apparently activated by mechanical failure, malfunction or faulty equipment; or,

1.2.4 an alarm activated by subscriber or owner negligence or carelessness.

1.3 "No Fault" false alarm is an alarm that prompts a police response to a premise where an emergency does not exist and the alarm was triggered by conditions beyond the control of the alarm user including, but not limited to, an alarm actually or apparently activated by atmospheric conditions, excessive vibrations or extended power failure.

Record of False Alarms

2.1 The Corporate Services Department shall maintain a record of the properties which have incurred "At Fault" False Alarms, for statistical, policy and billing purposes.

Automatic Dialing Alarms

3.1 Automatic Dialing Alarms causing "At Fault" False Alarms requiring response by the County of Brant police service shall be subject to the fees set out in the County of Brant Fees and Charges By-law.

Fees for False Alarms

4.1 The registered title owner of a property containing an alarm system which causes an "At Fault" False Alarm and a response or responses by the County of Brant police service shall be liable to pay to the Corporation of the County of Brant the fees as provided for in the County of Brant Fees and Charges By-law.

Collection as Taxes

5.1 Fees not paid by the due date shall be added to the tax roll in accordance with the terms of the Fee and Charges By-law.