



## FALSE ALARM PENALTY/FINES

In order to offset law enforcement costs associated with responses to false alarms\*, the Vista City Council adopted new penalty amounts that took effect on January 1, 2005. These new amounts are listed below. If you are an alarm user, or plan to obtain an alarm system, you may wish to take certain measures to prevent malfunctions that could result in false alarms. You also may wish to consider using a private company to initially respond to your alarm in order to avoid the possibility of the Sheriff's Department responding to a false alarm at your location, thus avoiding any penalties.

The new False Alarm Penalty Schedule is as Follows:

- A One Time Alarm Permit Fee\* of \$51.00 is required after the first false alarm (no change from current requirement)

- 1<sup>st</sup> False Alarm = Permit Fee/No Penalty (\*Required Alarm Permit)**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> False Alarm = No Penalty**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> False Alarm = \$100**
- 4<sup>th</sup> False Alarm = \$200**
- 5<sup>th</sup> False Alarm & Additional False Alarm = \$500 fee**

Additionally:

- All Alarm systems (except fire alarms) require automatic shutoff/reset within 15 minutes (prior limit 20 minutes)
- False alarm fees apply to false fire alarm responses

Should you have any questions, please contact the City Code Enforcement Office at (760) 639-6141.