



Peterborough Police Services Board

Alarm Registration and Response By-law

By-law # 120-2023

Being a By-law of the Peterborough Police Services Board to establish a system for the implementation of a Verified Alarm Response Program (VARP) and the Procedure for Police Response.

Whereas the Peterborough Police Services Board is responsible for the provision of police services, law enforcement, crime prevention, assistance to victims of crime, emergency response and public order maintenance within its jurisdiction, which currently includes the City of Peterborough, the Ward of Lakefield, and the Township of Cavan-Monaghan;

And Whereas alarms attract emergency response from the police service;

And Whereas the response to false alarms in the jurisdiction of the Peterborough Police Service consume a significant quantity of police resources which could be better directed to enhancing the police presence in the community;

And Whereas the provisions of the Municipal Act R.S.O. 1990 as amended, provides that a local Board may pass by-laws imposing fees or charges on any class of person for services or activities provided or done by or on behalf of it;

And Whereas on May 3, 2022, the Peterborough Police Services Board passed a motion to implement a Verified Alarm Response Program;

Now Therefore the Peterborough Police Services Board hereby enacts as follows:

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 Provide for implementation of a Verified Alarm Response Program, and the imposition of fees and charges for police response in relation to the program.

2.0 Definitions

- 2.1 **Alarm Administrator** is a person appointed by the Chief of Police to administer the Alarm Response Procedure, as outlined within a relevant job description through the Records Management Department
- 2.2 **Alarm Agency** is a person or company who, for hire or other reward, sells or supplies or installs or offers to install alarm systems; monitors alarms systems by means of a monitoring device; repairs or maintains alarm systems that are installed on the property of another.
- 2.3 **Alarm System** is any mechanical or electrical device which is designed to be activated manually or automatically upon the detection of an unauthorized entry, intrusion, or other emergency in or on any building, structure, facility or premises through the emission of a sound or transmission of a signal or message.
- 2.4 **Alarm User/Customer** is a person who uses an alarm system to protect any building, structure, facility or premises, or who pays funds to an Alarm Agency to have their system monitored.
- 2.5 **Board** means the Peterborough Police Services Board.
- 2.6 **Cancelled Alarm** means an alarm incident that has been received by the Peterborough Police Service, entered into the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system for the purposes of an Officer response, and prior to the arrival of any Officer to the premises, is cancelled by the Alarm Agency or User/Customer.
- 2.7 **False Alarm** is an alarm that prompts a police response to a premise where an emergency or criminal offence does not exist.
- 2.8 **Panic Alarm** includes a panic alarm, hold-up alarm or a duress alarm, and is an alert of an emergency situation in which a threat to a person exists.
- 2.9 **Police Service or Service or PPS** means the Peterborough Police Service.

- 2.10 **Valid Alarm** is an alarm signal activated when someone who is not authorized to enter a premise has breached any barriers in place that are intended to prohibit entry.
- 2.11 **Verified Alarm** is an alarm where confirmation that an apparent criminal offence has been or is taking place, as determined by a key holder, witness, security guard, alarm agency employee, or real time monitor.

3.0 Direction to Chief of Police

- 3.1 The Chief of Police shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this by-law.
- 3.2 The Chief of Police shall:
- 1) Develop and implement procedures for the effective administration of the VARP, including but not limited to:
 - (a) Registration of Alarm Systems by Alarm Agencies and Alarm Users/Customers, including re-registration obligations, if any, of currently registered Alarm Agencies and Alarm User/Customers;
 - (b) PPS response/non-response to Alarms;
 - (c) Verification procedures for Cancelled Alarms, False Alarms, Panic Alarms and Verified Alarms;
 - (d) Invoicing of fees required to be paid by the Chief's procedures, and suspension provisions of the Alarm Agency or Alarm User/Customer for non-payment of invoices;
 - (e) Providing a copy of this by-law, and the procedures developed pursuant thereto, as amended, to all registered Alarm Agencies, Alarm User Customers and the Board;
 - (f) Amend the said procedures, not including the fees schedule, as the Chief deems appropriate and necessary;
 - (g) Delegate administration of this by-law and the procedures herein referenced to the Alarm Administrator;

4.0 Fees

- 4.1 The Board hereby sets the fees respecting the administration and enforcement of this by-law in accordance with the fee schedule set out in "Appendix A" hereto.
- 4.2 The Board may amend the provisions of "Appendix A" from time to time upon the request and advice from the Chief.

5.0 Administration

- 5.1 That this by-law receive the first and second readings the 12th of December, 2023.
- 5.2 That this by-law receive the third reading this 12th day of December, 2023.
- 5.3 That this by-law shall take effect the 1st day of March, 2024.
- 5.4 That By-law #117-2018 is hereby repealed on the 1st day of March, 2024.
- 5.5 That distribution of this by-law be unrestricted.



Mary ten Doeschate, Chair
Peterborough Police Services Board

Additional References:

Issue Date: March 1, 2024

Revision Date:

Appendix "A"

Peterborough Police Services Board

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Fees and Charges for Alarm Services

All funds below are in Canadian Dollars and subject to HST

Alarm Registration (new)	\$150.00
Alarm Registration (amendment)	\$100.00
False Alarm	\$150.00
Cancelled Alarm	\$75.00
Suspension Reinstatement Fee	\$300.00