



# PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **New Alarm Policy Requires Home, Business Alarm Owners to Register with Police Department**

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA . . . The County Board of Supervisors amended the alarm law in October of 2008 because false-alarm calls in the County resulted in an inefficient use of County and police resources – made more glaring in light of tight budgets.

False alarms create a general safety hazard. In addition, they are detrimental to the protection of property, the health, safety and welfare of citizens, and the police personnel responsible for investigating alarm signals.

As a result of the Board's actions, on July 1, 2009, home and business alarm owners will be required to register their alarms with County Police. The amendments are designed to reduce the overwhelming number of false-alarm calls requiring police response.

The registration fee is \$10 every two years. If you are registered when the Police respond to a false alarm, there will be no fee until the third false alarm. Following the third false-alarm call, your alarm company will be required to do customer retraining. If police continue to respond to false alarm calls, the fee will increase as stated in Sec. 2.5-28 of the County Code.

To register your home or business alarm – and for more information on how false-alarm calls affect you – please visit the Police Department's webpage at [www.police.pwcgov.org](http://www.police.pwcgov.org). Under "General Information" on the navigation bar, select "Alarms and Alarm Billing." You may also call the False Alarm Reduction Unit at 703-792-6687 or 703-792-7281.

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