

Most frequently asked questions

1. How was the fine structure developed?
 - A. Samples of effective ordinances were reviewed and a fine structure that serves as a deterrent for habitual offenders was established. The emphasis of the False Alarm Reduction Program is not to collect fines but to educate the alarm users before they have an opportunity to develop habits that could effect the operation of their alarm system.

2. When will I be charged for a false alarm?
 - A. Only if the Sheriff's Office responds and finds the alarm to be false. A false alarm is defined as; "any signal that elicits a response by law enforcement personnel and which there is no evidence of criminal activity to justify a law enforcement response". If the alarm dispatch is cancelled by the alarm company before the officer arrives on scene, it shall not be considered a false alarm.

3. Where does the money for fines and permits go?
 - A. Although paid to the Indian River County Sheriff's Office, all monies received are placed into the Alarm Ordinance Trust Fund. This fund pays for the educational seminars, Alarm Awareness Schools, and the execution of the Alarm Ordinance only. This ensures that the Ordinance is self supporting and requires no tax money.