STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF FULTON

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS, GEORGIA TO AMEND CHAPTER 18 (EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS, GEORGIA; TO DELETE, MODIFY AND ADD PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THE REGULATION OF ALARM SYSTEMS AND RELATED PROVISIONS GOVERNING FALSE ALARMS; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Sandy Springs ("City Council") are charged with the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Sandy Springs; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is appropriate from time to time to modify the Code of Ordinances of the City of Sandy Springs (the "Code") to further protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Sandy Springs; and

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia that the City’s Code of Ordinances is amended as follows:

SECTION I: Division 2 of Article II of Chapter 18 relating to Alarm Systems is hereby amended by changing Sec. 18-36 to provide for alarm companies to provide notice to its contracting alarm users upon suspension of an alarm company permit, by adding enforcement provisions, and for other purposes, and will read as follows:

Sec. 18-36. - Alarm permits.

(a) Permit required. Effective September 1, 2017, no alarm system shall be used unless the alarm company first obtains a permit for such alarm system from the city. Each alarm system shall be assigned a unique number, and the alarm company shall provide the alarm permit number to the emergency communications center to facilitate public safety department dispatch.

(b) Registration. Each alarm company has the duty to obtain and complete an alarm permit registration application on a form provided by the city in accordance with adopted codes. The registration form shall include the following information:

(1) The name(s), address of the premises, mailing address (if different from the address of the premises), business, cellular and home telephone number of the owner, lessee, operator, manager or person in possession of the premises wherein the alarm system is installed; and

(2) The name, address and telephone number of a minimum of two persons who can be notified in the event of the activation of the alarm system, who shall be capable of responding to the premises within 30 minutes, and who are authorized to enter the premises to ascertain the status thereof; and

(3) The name, address and telephone number of the alarm company which has contracted to service and/or monitor the alarm system and a valid permit number issued by the city pursuant to Sec. 18-39(b) of this division; Alarm companies not registered with the alarm administrator but attempting an alarm system permit registration shall not be issued an alarm permit number.
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(4) The date the registration is signed or the alarm system is placed in operation for any reason; and

(5) The type of alarm system being registered, including whether the system is monitored through video surveillance; and

(6) The name, address, nature of relationship and services of all other entities providing services to the alarm site in connection with the alarm system, including without limitation contracted monitoring services; and

(7) Any other documentation that is required by adopted codes.

(c) Non-transferability; new registration required. Alarm permits are not transferable. Upon transfer of the possession of premises at which an alarm system is maintained, the alarm company shall register for an alarm permit for any new alarm user before putting the alarm into operation.

(d) Reporting updated information. When information required on the alarm permit registration application changes, the alarm company shall provide correct information to the city within 14 days of the change. If an alarm company becomes noncompliant with the requirements of this division, including without limitation changes in information or any failure to pay fines pursuant to Section 18-41(e), such permit may be suspended until the alarm company comes into compliance. Upon the suspension of an alarm company’s permit for noncompliance with any provision of this chapter, an alarm company shall no longer be registered with the city and shall not be entitled to request public safety department response to the activated intrusion alarms of its contracting alarm users. Further, such suspended alarm company shall be responsible for notifying all of its contracting alarm users in writing within the city that the alarm company’s permit has been suspended and that the alarm company is no longer entitled to request public safety department response to the activated intrusion alarms of its contracting alarm users. Failure of an alarm company to notify all of its contracting alarm users pursuant to this section shall result in the suspension of the alarm company’s permit for a period of three (3) months following such alarm company coming in to full compliance with the provisions of this chapter. Suspension of an alarm company pursuant to this subsection (d) may be appealed pursuant to Sec. 18-44 of this Division.

(e) Multiple alarm systems. If an alarm user has one or more alarm systems protecting two or more separate structures having different addresses and/or tenants, a separate alarm permit shall be required for each structure and/or tenant.

(f) Failure to register. All alarms and alarm companies in the city are required to be registered with the city and issued a permit number, and alarm companies must provide a valid permit number for each alarm when requesting police or fire dispatch in response to said alarm. Failure to provide a valid permit number for an alarm shall be a violation of this ordinance subject to enforcement by the city.

SECTION II: It is the intention of the City Council and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the City Council that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of The Code of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia, and the codifier is authorized to make the specified deletions, insertions, additions, and to insert headings, article numbers and section numbers as and where appropriate.

SECTION III: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.
SECTION V: If any section, subsection, provisions, or clause of any part of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, or, if the provisions of any part of this Ordinance as applied to any particular situation or set of circumstances shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity shall not be construed to affect the portions of this Ordinance not so held to be invalid, or the application of this Ordinance to other circumstances not so held to be invalid. It is hereby declared as the intent of the City Council that this Ordinance would have been adopted in its current form without the invalid or unconstitutional provision contained therein.

SECTION VI: This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this the 1st day of May, 2018.

Approved:

Russell K. Paul, Mayor

Attest:

Michael D. Casey, City Clerk

(Seal)