

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 CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING THE DEFINITION OF "VERIFY" TO REQUIRE THAT ALARM COMPANIES SUBMIT AUDIO OR VIDEO EVIDENCE OF AN ATTEMPTED OR ACTUAL EMERGENCY SITUATION NO MORE THAN TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS AFTER THE REQUEST FOR AND DISPATCH OF EMERGENCY SERVICES IN RESPONSE TO AN INTRUSION ALARM; 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 Section 18-35 to provide for a revised definition of "Verify" and for other purposes, and will read as follows:

**Sec. 18-35. - Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this division, shall have the meanings ascribed to them below, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

...

*Verify* means:

(a). Visual or audible confirmation of an attempted or actual crime, fire or other emergency situation at the alarm site, or where an alarm is not monitored by visual surveillance, an attempt by the monitoring company, or its representative, to contact the alarm site and/or alarm user by telephone and/or other electronic means, whether or not actual contact with a person is made, to attempt to determine whether an alarm signal is valid before requesting public safety department dispatch. For the purpose of this division, telephone verification shall require at a minimum that a second call be made to a different number if the first attempt fails to reach an alarm user who can properly identify himself/herself to attempt to determine whether an alarm signal is valid before requesting public safety department dispatch. If neither attempt successfully reaches the alarm site or an alarm user who can properly identify himself/herself and determine whether an alarm signal is valid, then the alarm shall be considered verified for the purposes of this division. The provisions of this subsection (a) shall sunset at 11:59 p.m. on June 18, 2019.

(b). Effective June 19, 2019, *verify* or *verified* means visual or audible confirmation of an attempted or actual crime, fire or other emergency situation at the alarm site by means of:

1. Confirmation by the alarm user at the alarm site or via self-monitored audio/visual equipment;
2. Confirmation by a private guard responder at the alarm site;
3. Audible and/or visual evidence provided by a monitored alarm system, provided that such audible or visual evidence shall be made available to the emergency communications center no more than twenty-four (24) hours after the request for and dispatch of the City's public safety department(s).

**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 IV:** 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 V:** This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

**RESOLVED** this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2019.

Approved:



Russell K. Paul, Mayor

Attest:

  
Coty Thigpen, City Clerk

(Seal)

