

Sec. 12-54. - Cost recovery for false alarms.

- (a) The fire department shall be entitled to recovery fees as a result of responding to a false alarm occasioned by the mechanical failure, malfunction, or improper installation of any alarm system or the negligent or intentional acts of an owner, lessee, and/or occupant of the property involved. The fees shall be based upon the schedule provided for false alarm fees in section 17-95. Companies or individuals which transmit automatic medical alarms to the dispatch center shall be fully responsible for the accuracy of the information transmitted and shall assume full responsibility for any costs or liability incurred as a result of forced entry into a property where it is subsequently determined that the alarm was false or an improper address was provided by the alarm company.
- (b) Such costs and damages shall be the joint and several responsibility of the person(s) responsible. All such costs and damages shall be paid within thirty (30) days of demand by the fire department.
- (c) The city shall have a lien for all unpaid costs and damages incurred by the fire department as above-described and may enforce such lien in the manner prescribed by the general laws of the state providing for the enforcement of tax liens.

(Ord. No. C-8-98, § 8, 3-30-98; Ord. No. C-5-05, § 3, 4-11-05)

Sec. 12-55. - Failure to pay cost recovery.

Any failure by any person or entity to pay a cost recovery bill within the time prescribed under this article shall be considered to be a civil default, and the city may commence a civil suit against such person or entity to recover the billed costs, plus the city's attorney fees, court costs, litigation expenses and all other costs allowed by law. The recovery of costs under this article is a separate civil liability of any person liable for the costs, and is separate from and in addition to any criminal proceedings that may be brought against the person or persons. In addition, the city shall have any other remedy available to the city by law or in equity, including but not limited to requesting the city attorney to file a civil action for the recovery of costs.

(Ord. No. C-6-2010, § 1, 10-11-10)