

TOWNSHIP OF DENNIS

**COUNTY OF CAPE MAY
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-05

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF DENNIS, COUNTY OF CAPE MAY AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 23 OF THE CODE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF DENNIS ENTITLED "FALSE ALARMS"**

WHEREAS, the Township of Dennis is desirous in amending Chapter 23; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Dennis hereby amends Chapter 23 to read as follows:

SECTION 1.

Section 23-1. False alarms prohibited.

- A. It is hereby declared to be unlawful for any person or entity to place a call to or otherwise communicate with the Dennis Township Emergency Dispatch or any duly constituted volunteer fire company or rescue squad situated within the confines of the Township of Dennis for purposes of eliciting a response from the State Police, fire company or rescue squad, as the case may be, in the absence of a bona fide police, fire and/or medical emergency. For purposes of this chapter, the term "response" shall be deemed to mean a personal appearance by a police officer, fire official or rescue squad official.
- B. It is hereby declared to be unlawful for any person or entity to utilize the 911 service for purposes of eliciting a response from the Police Department, Fire Department or rescue squad, as the case may be, in the absence of a bona fide police, fire, and/or medical emergency.

Section 23-2. Personal appearance of owner or caller required.

Any owner or occupant of real property situated within the confines of the Township of Dennis who shall maintain a burglar alarm system, dialer system or any other security system which causes a call to be placed to the Dennis Township Emergency Dispatch, any volunteer fire company, or any rescue squad situate with the confines of the Township of Dennis or any person or entity who shall place a call to the Dennis Township Emergency Dispatch, any volunteer fire company, or any rescue squad for purposes of eliciting a response as set forth in Section 23-1 above shall appear personally or shall cause his, her or its designated representative to appear personally at the site of said real property within thirty (30) minutes of the placing of any call seeking a response aforesaid and shall secure said premises upon arrival thereat.

Section 23-3. List of contact persons to be submitted.

Within thirty (30) days of final passage of this chapter, each person or entity utilizing a burglar alarm system, dialer system or any other security system which causes a call to be placed to the Dennis Township Emergency Dispatch any volunteer fire company, or any rescue squad situate within the confines of the Township of Dennis shall file with the Dennis Township Emergency Dispatch a prioritized list reflecting the names, addresses and telephone numbers of three (3) contact persons who may be called by the Dennis Township Emergency Dispatch to secure any premises which has generated an alarm call to the aforementioned Police Department, volunteer fire company and/or rescue squad.

Section 24-4. Violations and penalties.

- A. Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be liable to one (1) or more of the following: a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.) or imprisonment for a term not to exceed ninety (90) days or a period of community service not to exceed ninety (90) days for every offense.
- B. Any person convicted of improperly utilizing the 911 services as set forth above shall be subject to a fine of up to two hundred dollars (\$200.) for the first offense and up to five hundred dollars (\$500.) for the first offense and up to five hundred dollars (\$500.) for each subsequent offense. If the violation of this chapter is of a continuing nature, each day during which it continues shall constitute a separate offense for the purpose of this section.

SECTION 2. All other ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed, to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency.

SECTION 3. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remaining portions of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Dennis, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey that Chapter 23 of the Code of the Township of Dennis be and the same is hereby amended.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication in accordance with law.

John Murphy, Mayor

Brian O'Connor, Deputy Mayor

Lisa Salimbene, Committee Member

Donald Tozer, Committee Member

Julie Fry DeRose, Committee Member

The foregoing Ordinance was introduced at a meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Dennis on August 16, 2016. Publication will be held on August 24, 2016 and a Public Hearing will be held at a meeting of the said Township Committee to be held on September 06, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building located at 571 Petersburg Road in Dennisville.

ATTEST _____
Jacqueline B. Justice, RMC/Clerk