

CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 635

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 399 RELATING TO FALSE ALARMS AND AMENDING SECTION 9.40.020 OF THE BURIEN MUNICIPAL CODE DEFINING “VERIFIED RESPONSE”

WHEREAS, in 2004, the Burien City Council, concerned about the cost to the City’s taxpayers of having the police respond to alarms that are not verified, passed Ordinance No. 399, a false alarm ordinance requiring verification of the need for a police response;

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 399 assesses fees for each false alarm that causes a police response, each call generated by an alarm to police that is cancelled, and each call to police requesting response to a non-monitored alarm that is not verified;

WHEREAS, Burien police have found that since its adoption, the false alarm ordinance has been useful in significantly reducing false alarm calls for service to police and reducing wasteful diversion of police resources;

WHEREAS, Burien police have found that when a property is served by an alarm system monitoring company, the emergency or evidence of intrusion or commission of an unlawful action can be verified by either a private responder on-site or by use of a video or an audio with video combination system;

WHEREAS, Burien police believe that giving property owners the choice to use video without the requirement of accompanying audio, offers a low-cost way to verify that an emergency or crime is taking place and obtain a police response;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. BMC 9.40.020 Amended. Section 9.40.020 (Definitions) of Chapter 9.40 (False Alarms) of the Burien Municipal Code and Ordinance No. 399 is hereby amended (with legislative revision marks) to read as follows:

(S) “Verified Response” means on-site verification by a Responder to verify the need for police response to a property/intrusion/burglar alarm due to a crime, attempted crime, or other emergency occurring at the premises protected by the alarm. Verification of a crime or emergency may also be done through the use of video or an audio with ~~and~~ video combination system monitored by the alarm system monitoring company or a property owner where a non-Monitored Alarm System is located.

Section 2. Severability. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance, or its application to any person or circumstance, be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid for any reason, or should any portion of this Ordinance be pre-empted by state or federal law or regulation, such decision or pre-emption shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or its application to other persons or circumstances.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect five days after publication.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON, AT
A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF THIS 4TH DAY OF APRIL, 2016.

CITY OF BURIEN

/s/ Lucy Krakowiak, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

/s/ Monica Lusk, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

/s/ Soojin Kim, City Attorney

Filed with the City Clerk: April 4, 2016

Passed by the City Council: April 4, 2016

Ordinance No.: 635

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