



LINCOLN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ALARM PERMITS

LINCOLN, CA, August 20, 2008 – The City of Lincoln has a new on-line system for obtaining an alarm permit. This new system went live in May 2008.

Prior to the new system, obtaining or renewing an alarm permit required residents and business owners to fill out all necessary paperwork at City Hall. The new on-line system allows the residents and business owners to obtain these services without leaving their home or business.

Since 1994, the City of Lincoln's alarm ordinance has required that "any person or business which activates, operates, or maintains an alarm system upon any premises in the City of Lincoln" needs to obtain an alarm permit. The permit costs \$20 and must be renewed annually. This permit insures that the City of Lincoln and the Lincoln Police Department has up-to-date information about the permit holder and the best way to contact them in the event of an emergency.

The largest number of calls that the Lincoln Police Department responds to are alarm calls. In 2007, the police department responded to over 1600 alarm calls. Due to the nature of alarm calls, more than one officer is usually dispatched to these calls. Historically, 99 percent of those calls are false alarms. When officers are busy with false alarm calls it takes time away from responding to true emergency calls.

In 1994, the City of Lincoln also adopted a resolution which required a fee be charged for excessive false alarms. Currently an alarm holder is allowed two false alarms in a 365 day period at no cost. If the alarm holder has a third false alarm activation in the same 365-day period the alarm holder will be fined \$75 with a \$75 fine for every false alarm thereafter.

To access the on-line alarm permit system just log on to the Lincoln Police Department's Web site at www.lincolnpd.org. All alarm permits and fees are to be mailed to the City of Lincoln Alarm Program, P.O. Box 140876, Irving, Texas 75014-0876. Any questions can be answered by calling toll free at 1-866-586-5187.

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