



# Florida Police Chiefs Association Inc. and Alarm Association of Florida, Inc.



April 18, 2007

## Law Enforcement Executives and Alarm Dealers:

With the additional workload created by the events since 9/11 and in support of Homeland Security and Community Oriented Policing law enforcement resources continue to be in high demand. Alarm systems provide a significant benefit to consumers and law enforcement in deterring and detecting criminal activity. With the increased workload that law enforcement experience, the Florida Police Chiefs Association's (FPCA) Alarm Management Committee developed a Model Alarm Ordinance based on the National Burglar and Fire Alarm Association and the False Alarm Reduction Association's Model Ordinance, as posted on the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) website. The committee's mission is to research alarm management issues, with the goal of reducing the impact false alarms have on law enforcement's limited resources. Committee Chair Chief Richard Hedges presented the Ordinance to the FPCA Board of Directors at its April 10th Meeting for adoption by Resolution as the Model Alarm Ordinance for Florida Police Chiefs. The Resolution passed unanimously and encourages Police Chiefs to use the Ordinance in developing and/or revising alarm management programs in their respective agencies and jurisdictions. The FPCA is the first State Police Chiefs Association in the nation to adopt a resolution of this kind. The Ordinance includes registration of alarm systems; acceptance of cancellations; an escalating fine structure; the use of new generation equipment by installers; enhanced call verification; establishing of alarm awareness classes; restricting responses for failure to pay fines/user fees; and an appeals process. This ordinance is fully supported by the Alarm Association of Florida and the Security Industry Alarm Coalition.

We firmly believe that each of you recognize the importance of properly utilizing our police resources. We believe that as agencies use the Model Alarm Ordinance and its proven practices in developing and/or revising their local alarm reduction efforts significant reductions in alarm dispatches will be realized. We are asking each Police Chief to support this effort. The Florida Police Chiefs Association (FPCA) through its Alarm Management Committee is available to assist you in developing your Alarm Management Program.

Working together we can better utilize our valuable law enforcement resources.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

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