

THE AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM LAW OF THE TOWN OF HUNTER

1. **TITLE:**

This Local Law shall be known and cited as the Automatic Fire Alarm Law of the Town of Hunter.

2. **DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this Local Law, the following definitions shall apply:

A. **Automatic Alarm System:** Any system, device, machine or detector installed on a premises for the purposes of detecting fire or smoke and upon detecting the existence of fire or smoke transmitting or causing to be transmitted a signal or alarm automatically either over telephone or cable lines or by radio, microwave or other signal directly to any fire dispatcher, police dispatcher or other persons whose job it is to issue a fire alarm signal upon the receipt of the automatic fire alarm signal.

B. **False Alarms:** Any automatic fire alarm issued by an automatic fire alarm system to the fire dispatcher indicating that a fire exists when in fact no such fire exists on the premises.

C. **Premises:** Any building, dwelling, residence, hotel, motel, multiple dwelling, commercial establishment or other structure into which an automatic fire alarm system has been installed.

D. **Owner:** The lawful owner of the premises including the titled owner of record and any tenant or resident of said premises.

E. **Automatic Fire Alarm Company:** Any natural person, corporation, partnership, company or other entity which owns, installs, maintains, sells or is otherwise engaged in the sale, rental, installation or maintenance of automatic fire alarm systems, hereinafter sometimes referred to as the company.

F. **Dispatcher:** Any fire dispatcher, police dispatcher or other public or private or entity responsible to issue or transmit a fire alarm signal to the fire company upon receipt of an automatic fire alarm signal.

G. **Fire Department:** Tannersville Volunteer Fire Department, serving Town of Hunter Fire Protection District No. 1; Hunter Fire Company No. 1, Inc., serving Town of Hunter Fire Protection District No. 2; H. D. Lane Volunteer Fire Co., Inc., serving Town of Hunter Fire Protection District No. 3; and Haines Falls Fire Company, serving the Haines Falls Fire District.

3. **REGISTRATION OF AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS:**

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to install an automatic fire alarm system or to own, have, rent or maintain the same on a premises without registering the same with the Fire Department within seven (7) days after the installation of said fire alarm system. Said registration shall provide the following information:

Name, home address and telephone number of the owner(s);

If said company is not a natural person, the name, address and home telephone numbers of all shareholders, partners or owners; and

Name, make, model serial number and specifications of said automatic fire alarm system.

B. It shall be unlawful for any person not to maintain such automatic fire alarm system with regular on—site inspections at least every six (6) months and upon conducting said inspection to fail make any modifications, alterations, or repairs as necessary. Upon the conducting of said maintenance or service check and within one week thereafter the company shall file a written report as to the condition of the system with the Fire Department indicating the current condition of the automatic fire alarm system, whether any repairs were necessary and if so when they were made.

4. **FALSE ALARMS:**

A. Within seven (7) days of the occurrence of the first false alarm issued by an automatic fire alarm system from a premises the chief of the fire department shall notify, in writing by regular mail, the owner and company of the issuance of a false alarm by the automatic fire alarm system at the premises.

B. Within fourteen (14) days of the date of said written notice of said false alarm the owner and company shall cause an inspection of the premises and the automatic fire alarm system to occur and to cause whatever maintenance or repairs to prevent future false alarms. Within one (1) week of making said inspection and repairs, if necessary, the company shall notify, in writing, the fire department of whatever actions have been taken as well as why a false alarm, in the company's opinion, occurred. It shall be the obligation of the owner to cause any and all repairs or maintenance to occur as needed.

C. Second or subsequent false alarms: In the event that there occurs a second or subsequent false alarm from the automatic fire alarm system following the notice required in section "4A" above, within any twelve (12) month period the owner shall be guilty of a violation of this Local Law.

5. **PENALTIES:**

A. A violation of section "3" pertaining to registration, inspection and inspection following false alarms shall be an offense punishable by a fine of not more than \$100.00.

B. A violation of section "4B" pertaining to the occurrence of a second or subsequent false alarm shall be an offense punishable by a fine of not more than \$250.00 for each occurrence.

6. **SEPARABILITY CLAUSE:**

Should any section or provision of this Law, as contained herein or as hereafter amended, be declared by a court of competent Jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the law as a whole or of any part thereof other than the part so declared to be invalid.

7. **EFFECTIVE DATE:**

This Local Law shall take effect upon its enactment and filing with the Secretary of State.