

ORDINANCE NO. 94-005  
PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
RELATING TO FALSE FIRE ALARMS AND AMBULANCE CALL CHARGES  
PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

IT IS ORDAINED by the Board of Trustees of Palos Fire Protection District, pursuant to the powers vested in said District under 70 ILCS 705, "AN ACT IN RELATION TO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS," as follows:

WHEREAS, the Illinois Compiled Statutes authorizes fire protection districts to enact and implement ordinances necessary to further the purposes of a fire protection district and promote fire prevention.

WHEREAS, Chapter 740 Illinois Compiled Statutes, Civil Liabilities Act 115, entitles fire protection districts to enforce liability imposed under Parental Responsibility Law against the parent or legal guardian of an unemancipated minor who resides with such parent or legal guardian for actual damages for the wilful or malicious acts of such minor which cause injury to a person or property not to exceed actual damages of \$1,000.00 for each occurrence in addition to taxable court costs.

WHEREAS, the District desires to adopt an ordinance imposing liability under the Parental Responsibility Law to impose service charges for false fire alarms and ambulance calls in order that the District may be reasonably compensated for the cost of responding to false fire alarms or ambulance calls and to discourage an unemancipated minor from wilfully or maliciously giving a false fire alarm or ambulance call.

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Board of Trustees of the Palos Fire Protection District as follows:

Section One: A false fire alarm or false ambulance call shall be referred to as a Class 1 False Alarm if given or caused wilfully or maliciously without a reasonable cause to believe a fire exists;

Section Two: A charge shall be assessed against the individual or individuals charged, or against the parent or legal guardian of an unemancipated minor who resides with such parent or legal guardian for actual damages.

Section Three: Actual damages shall be determined by the district using the currently established charges under 70 ILCS 705/11 for equipment and personnel responding to the false alarm or false ambulance call.

Section Four: The Chief and or Deputy Chief of the fire district shall be vested with the authority to issue a citation to be served upon the individual or individuals charged, or against the parent or legal guardian of an unemancipated minor who resides with such parent or legal

guardian describing the offense, the date of the offense, and the fine imposed, together with a copy of this Ordinance.

Section Five: Within 10 days of receipt of the citation a hearing may be requested by written notice to the district to consider any evidence and show any cause in mitigation. The Chief and or Deputy Chief shall have the right to consider all evidence and any cause in mitigation. The offense may be vacated in the discretion of the hearing officer.

Section Six: The Secretary of the Palos Fire Protection District is hereby directed to publish this ordinance in full at least once in a newspaper published within the District within thirty days. Publication shall take place at least ten (10) days prior to implementation of this ordinance.

Section Seven: The provisions of this ordinance section shall be in full force and effect from and after July 5, 1994, as provided by law.

ADOPTED THIS 13 day of June, 1994, by the Board of Trustees of the Palos Fire Protection District in the County of Cook, State of Illinois, by the following votes of its members:

AYES: Gene Williams, Robert Lottel, Glen Martin, Susan Carr

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: Patrick Henry

By: Glen Martin  
President, Palos Fire Protection District  
Cook County, Illinois

ATTEST:

By: Susan D. Carr  
Secretary, Palos Fire Protection District  
Cook County, Illinois