

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

September 15, 2026

WHEREAS, Section 5-3-307 of the Codified Ordinances of the Orange County establishes that the Sheriff-Coroner shall collect costs from any subscriber or user of an alarm system for which is not maintained in accordance with the requirements, by reason thereof, signals a false alarm.

WHEREAS, Section 5-3-308 of the Codified Ordinances of the Orange County establishes that no person shall intentionally initiate a false alarm except for purposes of testing an alarm system and then only after having given the Sheriff-Coroner prior notice thereof. Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be required to pay the County of Orange the cost of a false alarm.

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 88-527, the Board of Supervisors established a fee in the amount of \$30.00 for the Sheriff's Department's response to false security system alarms; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 91-179, the Board of Supervisors increased said fee to \$56.00 to reflect full cost recovery; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 00-336, the Board of Supervisors increased said fee to \$64.00 to reflect full cost recovery; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 08-157, the Board of Supervisors increased said fee to \$85.00 to reflect full cost recovery; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 20-106, the Board of Supervisors increased said fee to \$141 to reflect full cost recovery; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 25-081, the Board of Supervisors increased said fee to \$209 to reflect full cost recovery; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Department is proposing to further increase the fee charged for response to the third and subsequent false security system alarms at the same residence or

business in a calendar year or response to an intentionally set false alarm so as to effect full recovery of the direct costs of responding to such false alarm;

WHEREAS, the Sheriff Department has conducted a cost study showing that the current cost for responding to such false alarms is \$226; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff requests authorization of an annual fee adjustment for the fee charged for response to the third and subsequent false security system alarms at the same residence or business in a calendar year in this Resolution effectively July 1st of each year, starting in 2027, that adjusts the fee by an amount not to exceed the annual percentage of the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim “all items” Consumer Price Index, provided that the amount does not exceed the actual costs to the Sheriff as determined by additional cost studies prepared for the fee adjustment. This will allow Sheriff to have cost recovery for response to the third and subsequent false security system alarms at the same residence or business in a calendar year.

WHEREAS, a Notice of Public Hearing with respect to the proposed revised fee was given according to law; and

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing pertaining to said proposed revised fee was held on September 15, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors does hereby

1. Find that adoption of this Resolution approving the fee is statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 21080(b)(8) of the Public Resources Code and Section 15273 of the CEQA Guidelines as the establishment or modification of rates, fees and charges which are for the purpose of meeting operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits, and purchasing or leasing supplies, equipment or materials.
2. Find that the fee meets the requirements set forth in subdivision (e)(2) to Section 1 of Article XIII C of the California Constitution, and is therefore exempt from the definition of a tax as used therein.

3. Find that the revenue resulting from the fee established pursuant to this Resolution will not exceed the Sheriff's reasonable cost to respond to the third and subsequent false alarm at the same residence or business within a calendar year, or an intentionally set false alarm.
4. Approve, effective September 15, 2026, a fee of \$226 will be charged for the third and subsequent false alarm at the same residence or business that is responded to by the Sheriff's Department within a calendar year or for any intentionally set false alarm. The fee is only in effect in the unincorporated areas of the County.
5. Authorize Sheriff to make an annual fee change effective July 1st of each year, starting in 2027, that adjusts the fees set forth in this Resolution, by an amount not to exceed the annual percentage of the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim "all items" Consumer Price Index, provided that the amount does not exceed the Sheriff's costs as determined by additional cost studies prepared for the fee adjustment.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution supersedes all previous resolutions on the subject.