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False Alarm Update: Tracy, Shreveport

May 04, 2006, TRACY, Calif -- Police in the Northern California city of Tracy are looking to duplicate the work of their brethren in nearby Fremont and enact a form of verified response for burglar alarm calls. The Tracy police department wants the city's council to establish a new policy where police would not respond to alarms unless the alarm owner or alarm company with a key can confirm to police that they will be at the site when they arrive.

Police made the recommendation to the council during its May 2 meeting according to *The Record*. The council of the city, which lies between Fremont — where a [verified response policy was established in March 2005](#) — and Stockton. The council hasn't stated when they plan to debate and vote on the proposal.

Under the proposed policy, police will end all response to an alarm customer if they fail to meet police at an activated alarm twice within a calendar year.

The proposal would also establish an alarm permit system where residential and commercial alarm users would need to pay a \$10 to \$20 fee per year. After one response, police would no longer respond to nonpermitted systems.

Police also want the establishment of a set of false alarm fines.

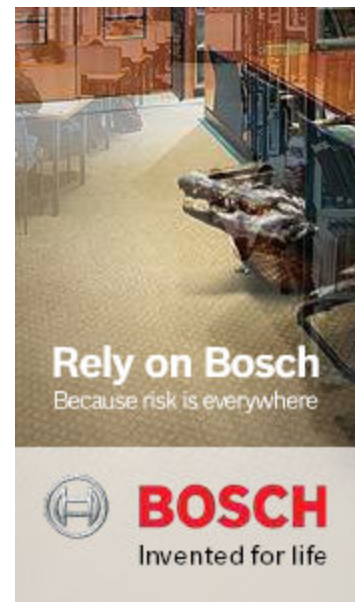
In other false alarm news ...

SHREVEPORT, La.: Police in the Louisiana city say false alarms there have gone down 14 percent since passing a new alarm ordinance where the number of “free” false alarms was reduced and false alarm fines were increased.

Shreveport police told television station KSLA that 79 percent of alarm calls were false for the first three months of the year. This compares to a 93-percent rate for the same period the year before.

In September, the Shreveport Council passed the new ordinance that allows just one “free” false alarm in a year and fined alarm users \$25 to \$100 for each false alarm after that.

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The new ordinance has [drawn criticism](#) from alarm companies in the area, including Bayou Security Systems, whose vice president is National Burglar and Fire Alarm Association (NBFAA) President Scot Colby.

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