




MEMORANDUM
Austin Police Department
Office of the Chief

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Brian Manley, Chief of Police 

DATE: October 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Update on Resolution No. 20141211-108, False Alarms

On December 11, 2014, the City Council approved Resolution No. [20141211-108](#), directing the City Manager to implement several staff recommendations to reduce the occurrence of false alarms and return with ordinance revisions for Council approval.

Since December 2014, the Austin Police Department (APD) has conducted extensive reviews of these recommendations to evaluate for continued feasibility, as there have been significant technological advances in the alarm system industry, and changes in the State laws governing alarm systems.

There have been numerous delays in bringing an ordinance back before Council, including but not limited to, the highly complex process in ensuring the local ordinances amendments adhere to State laws related to alarms, ensuring alarm industry stakeholders are updated, and staff turnover within the Alarm Unit that is within APD's Financial Services, and staff turnover within the Law Department.

APD's Alarm Unit is currently being examined in response to the Reimagining Public Safety Initiative, to explore "...options for reallocating positions and roles currently assigned to the Austin Police Department that could be managed by other departments." Therefore, I have advised staff to pause this work until a determination is made on whether this function will remain in APD.

Please contact me should you have any questions.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager
CMO Executive Team