



ADMINISTRATIVE COMPILATION

BY-LAW NO. 113-2003

**BY-LAW NO. 113-2003 GOVERNING THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS AND THE
OPERATION OF SECURITY ALARM SYSTEMS**

Passed by the Municipal Council on July 8, 2003

Effective date: July 11, 2003

As amended pursuant to the following by-laws:

By-law Number	Date of Approval by Council	Effective Date
113-1-2007	2007 05 08	2007 05 16
653-2010	2010 03 30	2010 04 07
113-2-2015	2015 06 09	2015 06 17

FOREWORD

The reader is hereby notified that any error or omission that may appear in the following text does not impede the enforceability of the by-laws and amendments referred to herein, as passed in their original version.

A publication by the Service du greffe



BY-LAW NO. 113-2003

BY-LAW NO. 113-2003 GOVERNING THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS AND THE OPERATION OF SECURITY ALARM SYSTEMS

WHEREAS the Council may enact by-laws concerning security alarm systems;

WHEREAS the Council deems it appropriate and in the public interest to revise the current by-laws respecting security alarm systems adopted by the former cities of Aylmer, Buckingham, Gatineau, Hull and Masson-Angers, which have become the Ville de Gatineau;

WHEREAS Notice of Motion No. AP-2003-657, which must precede the adoption of the by-law, was given at the Council meeting held on June 17, 2003:

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GATINEAU DECREES AS FOLLOWS:

CHAPTER 1 **INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION**

1. In this by-law, unless the context indicates a different meaning, the following expressions and words have the meaning set out below:
 - 1^o “**Activation of an alarm**” means the activation of a security alarm system and direct or indirect notification to the Police Service that the alarm is activated.
 - 2^o “**Calendar year**” means the period from January 1 to December 31.
 - 3^o “**City**” means the City of Gatineau.
 - 4^o “**Director**” means the Director of the Police Department or his substitute.
 - 5^o “**False alarm**” means the activation of a security alarm when there is no evidence that an unauthorized entry or a criminal offence has been attempted or has taken place in, on or with respect to a building or any place; it also refers to the activation of a security alarm for which there is no evidence of the presence of smoke or fire and includes
 - a) the activation of a security alarm system during testing;
 - b) the activation of a security alarm system due to defective or inadequate equipment;

- c) the activation of a security alarm system due to atmospheric conditions, vibration or power outage; and
 - d) the activation by the user of a security alarm system by mistake, unnecessarily or from negligence.
- 6° **“Firefighter”** means a firefighter or officer employed with the Gatineau Fire Safety Department. (By-law No. 113-2-2015)
- 7° **“Fire Safety Department”** means the Gatineau Fire Safety Department.
- 8° **“Officer responsible”** means the shift captain or shift officer in the Police Department or the Fire Safety Department officer during a response. (By-law No. 113-2-2015)
- 9° **“Permit”** means a permit issued by the Police Department certifying that the alarm system in question has been registered in the security alarm control log.
- 10° **“Person”** means a natural person or a corporation.
- 11° **“Person in charge of false alarms”** means the Director of the Police Department or his authorized representative.
- 12° **“Police Officer”** means a police officer employed with the Gatineau Police Department.
- 13° **“Police Department”** means the Gatineau Police Department.
- 14° **“Protected premises”** means a property, a building or a work that is protected by an alarm system.
- 15° **“Security Alarm Permit Holder”** means a person who holds a permit for a security alarm system that has been duly registered with the Police Department.
- 16° **“Security Alarm System”** includes
- a) an automatic device for the detection of an intrusion or attempted intrusion into a place;
 - b) an automatic device for the detection of smoke or fire in a place;
or
 - c) a manual device activated by a person to signal that a fire has broken out or that a burglar or intruder is present.
 - d) the manual or automatic activation of any fire alarm system, such as any equipment required and installed in compliance with the requirements in effect during the construction or transformation or, where appropriate, with the more restrictive provisions applicable to certain buildings provided for in division IV of chapter VIII of the Safety Code, which sounds an alarm with the system’s audible warning devices, following activation of a manual trigger, a water flow sensor or a fire detector. (By-law No. 113-2-2015)

Such devices may be linked to a central monitoring station or to a bell, chime, whistle, siren or other device to produce a noise intended to alert nearby persons thus requiring the intervention of the Police Department or the Fire Safety Department.

A security alarm system does not include a device installed in a road vehicle or a device designed to send a signal in case of a medical emergency.

A security alarm system also does not include an alarm system provided by the "SAUVER" program and intended for domestic violence victims under the protocol in force.

17^o "**User**" means a person who owns or occupies protected premises.

2. This by-law applies to every security alarm system installed in protected premises within the City of Gatineau and includes a security alarm system installed in such premises prior to the effective date of this by-law.

CHAPTER 2

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

3. Every person wishing to install a security alarm system in a building shall comply with the requirements of this by-law.
4. No security alarm system shall be installed and no existing security alarm system shall be modified or maintained in service unless the Police Department has issued a permit for this purpose.
5. To obtain a permit without cost the applicant shall present to the Police Department a duly completed application on the form prescribed for this purpose.
6. An application for a permit shall contain the name, address and telephone number of the applicant, the address of the protected premises and the name, address and telephone number of the alarm company to which the building is connected.

The applicant shall provide the names, addresses and telephone numbers of three contact persons who, in the event that the security alarm system is activated, can be reached and can go to the protected premises.

7. Upon issuance of the permit, the Police Department shall register the security alarm system.
8. The permit shall remain in force until it has been cancelled or withdrawn. A permit is not transferable. A new permit shall be obtained by a new user or when a change is made to the alarm system.
9. The Police Service, when issuing the permit, shall provide an identification label that shall be posted in a location visible from outside the protected premises for which the permit was issued.
10. The user of protected premises for which a security alarm permit has been issued shall notify in writing the person in charge of false alarm management of any change to the information required by section 6.

11. The alarm company, the user or the persons whose names have been provided under section 6 shall
 - 1° be able to answer telephone calls from the Police Department or of the Fire Safety Department where an alarm is activated. (By-law No. 113-2-2015)
 - 2° be able to go, at the request of the Police Department, to the address where the alarm has been activated in less than forty-five (45) minutes or in less than thirty (30) minutes at the request of the Fire Safety Department. (By-law No. 113-2-2015)
 - 3° be able to give the police or to the Fire Safety Department access to the protected premises where the security alarm system is installed. (By-law No. 113-2-2015)
 - 4° be able to reset the security alarm system and adequately secure the protected premises.

CHAPTER 3

TURNING OFF THE AUDIBLE SIGNAL

12. Where the audible signal of a security alarm system has not been turned off within forty-five (45) minutes from the time the call referred to the Police Department or thirty (30) minutes, from the time the call comes in to request the presence of Fire Safety Department to in paragraph 2 of section 11 is received and the signal is disturbing to public peace and quiet, the officer responsible is authorized, after trying to reach the user and the contact persons, to have the signal turned off. He may, for this purpose, enter into protected premises if no one is there, at the expense of the owner or the user. (By-law No. 113-2-2015)
13. The officer responsible may take steps that are reasonable in light of the circumstances to gain access to the protected premises and to call a qualified person to
 - 1° enter into the protected premises.
 - 2° neutralize the alarm system in order to turn off the audible signal.
 - 3° correct the situation causing the false alarm.
 - 4° reset the alarm system to ensure the protection of the protected premises.
14. Such activity shall cease as soon as a contact person has been contacted or appears at the protected premises to take charge of the situation in order to correct the problem with the alarm system, unless the contact person indicates that the Police Department or the Fire Safety Department should continue the activity, at the expense of the owner or the user. (By-law No. 113-2-2015)

CHAPTER 4
FEES FOR FALSE ALARMS

15. A fee is imposed to pay for all or part of the expenses incurred as a result of an intervention by the Police Department and/or the Fire Safety Department arising from a false alarm.
16. The fees applicable to each response by the resources of the Police Department and the Fire Safety Department, in the event of an unfounded security alarm for a same building in the same calendar year, are those stipulated in the by-law establishing applicable fees for the goods, services or activities provided by Ville de Gatineau and their amendments approved from time to time by Gatineau's municipal council. It is understood that the response is not cumulative from year to year. (By-law No. 653-2010)
17. The person in the Police Department or to the 911 emergency call centre assigned to security alarm management shall transmit to the administrateur, Section gestion des ressources matérielles et financières the information necessary for the issuance of false alarm assessments to the permit holder. (By-law No. 113-1-2007) (By-law No. 113-2-2015)
18. False alarm assessments are payable by the alarm system user or permit holder whether or not that person is responsible for activating the false alarm. (By-law No. 113-1-2007)
19. A false alarm assessment is payable within thirty days from the date the assessment is issued that is referred to in section 17.
20. False alarm assessments that are unpaid within the time provided for in section 19 shall bear interest at a rate decreed by the City Council.
21. Expenses incurred to collect a false alarm assessment under this by-law shall be added to the amount owing.

CHAPTER 5
INFRACTIONS

22. Persons who commit one or more of the following acts are in violation of this by-law:
 - 1^o The user of protected premises who uses a security alarm system without first obtaining a permit.
 - 2^o The user of protected premises where a security alarm has been activated and the user or one of his contact persons cannot get to the place at the request of the Police Department within forty-five (45) minutes or at the request of the Fire Safety Department within thirty (30) minutes, as provided for in subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph of section 11. (By-law No. 113-2-2015)
 - 3^o The user of protected premises where a security alarm has been activated and the user or one of his contact persons cannot give access to the location where the alarm system is installed, as provided for in subparagraph 3 of paragraph 1 of section 11.
 - 4^o The user of protected premises where a security alarm system has been activated and the user or one of his contact persons cannot

reset the security alarm system and adequately secure the protected premises, as provided for in subparagraph 4 of paragraph 1 of section 11.

- 5° Every one who uses or permits the use of a security alarm system or any automatic calling system so as to instigate an automatic call to the Police Department or to the 9-1-1 emergency call centre.

CHAPTER 6 **FINES**

23. Every natural person who contravenes a provision of this by-law commits an infraction and is liable, in addition to the payment of costs, to pay a fine, as follows:
 - 1° For the first infraction, to a fine of \$200 to \$1,000
 - 2° For a subsequent infraction, to a fine of \$400 to \$2,000.
24. Every corporation who contravenes a provision of this by-law commits an infraction and is liable, in addition to the payment of costs, to pay a fine, as follows:
 - 1° For the first infraction, to a fine of \$500 to \$2,000
 - 2° For a subsequent infraction, to a fine of \$1,000 to \$4,000.

CHAPTER 7 **REPEAL AND COMING INTO FORCE**

25. The by-laws listed below concerning false alarms are repealed:
 - 1° By-law No. 418-88 of the former City of Aylmer.
 - 2° By-law No. 0049-00-96 of the former City of Buckingham
 - 3° By-law No. 822-94 of the former City of Gatineau.
 - 4° By-law No. 2022 of the former City of Hull.
 - 5° By-law No. 283-94 of the former City of Masson-Angers.
26. This By-law shall come into force according to law.

BY-LAW ADOPTED AT THE MEETING OF JULY 8, 2003

PAUL MORIN
COUNCILLOR AND COUNCIL
CHAIRMAN

M^e SUZANNE OUELLET
CITY CLERK