

(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION — OCCURRENCES AS SINGLE ALARM.

AN ALARM SYSTEM THAT IS ACTIVATED MORE THAN ONCE WITHIN A 12-HOUR PERIOD WHEN A PREMISES WITH AN ALARM SYSTEM IS UNOCCUPIED AND THAT IS NOT IN RESPONSE TO AN ACTUAL EMERGENCY SITUATION OR THREATENED SUGGESTED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY CONSTITUTES ONE FALSE ALARM IF:

(1) ACCESS TO THE BUILDING IS PROVIDED TO THE ALARM SYSTEM CONTRACTOR; AND

(2) AN ALARM SYSTEM CONTRACTOR OR AN EMPLOYEE OF AN ALARM SYSTEM CONTRACTOR RESPONDS TO THE ACTIVATED ALARM SYSTEM.

(C) CIVIL CITATION AND PENALTY.

(1) A LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIT OR FIRE DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE A CIVIL CITATION TO AN ALARM USER FOR THE NEGLIGENT OR ACCIDENTAL ACTIVATION OF AN ALARM SYSTEM AS A RESULT OF FAULTY, MALFUNCTIONING, OR IMPROPERLY INSTALLED OR MAINTAINED EQUIPMENT OR FOR A FALSE ALARM IF THE NUMBER OF ACTIVATIONS OR FALSE ALARMS TO WHICH THE LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIT OR FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONDS EXCEEDS:

(I) THREE RESPONSES WITHIN A 30-DAY PERIOD; OR

(II) EIGHT RESPONSES WITHIN A 12-MONTH PERIOD.

(2) A CIVIL CITATION ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL ASSESS A PENALTY OF \$30 FOR EACH NEGLIGENT OR ACCIDENTAL ACTIVATION OR FALSE ALARM.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from former Art. 27, §§ 156C and 156A(g)(4)(i).

In subsection (a)(1) of this section, the former reference to "acts of God" is deleted as included in the reference to "causes beyond the control of the alarm user".

Subsection (a)(2) and (3) of this section is revised as two separate paragraphs, relating to Frederick County and Calvert County, respectively, to avoid the unintended consequence in former Art. 27, § 156C(a) that action by the board of county commissioners of either county would exempt both counties from this section.

In subsection (a)(3) of this section, the reference to Article 25, § "236D" of the Code is substituted for the former incorrect reference to "§ 237" for accuracy.

In subsection (b) of this section, the reference to an alarm system activated "more than once" within a specific period is substituted for the former reference to an alarm system activated "a second time" within a specific period for clarity.

Former Art. 27, § 156A(g)(4)(ii), which provided that failing to comply with