



Royal Canadian
Mounted Police

Gendarmerie royale
du Canada

Security Classification/Designation
Classification/désignation sécuritaire

"H" Division
3139 Oxford Street
Halifax, NS
B3J 3E1

Your File - Votre référence

Mr. G. MacDonald
Atlantic Chapter President, Canadian Security Association
46 Colby Street
Sydney, Nova Scotia
B1P 3P8

Our File - Notre référence

Date
May 20, 2011

Dear Mr. MacDonald:

Re: RCMP Alarm Response Strategy- June 15, 2011

This letter is to provide an update on the status of the RCMP Alarm Response Strategy and to thank you for your time, effort and feedback during our consultation process.

By consulting with Nova Scotians, and more specifically with you and your colleagues in the security industry, we were able to develop an informed and effective strategy. As a result, the RCMP Alarm Response Strategy will come into effect June 15, 2011.

An Alarm Response Strategy supports the RCMP Crime Reduction Strategy by providing an alternative way to efficiently manage the demand on police resulting from false alarm calls, while ensuring resources are effectively deployed.

In 2009, a analysis was conducted in the RCMP jurisdictions of Southwest Nova and Northeast Nova Districts and eight per cent of all calls were deemed false. This translated into RCMP responding to 12,000 false alarm calls. Consultation confirmed that the majority of false alarms are single contact and preventable. The disproportionate number of false versus actual validated calls brought to light that all stakeholders, including companies and owners, need to contribute to a more reliable and definitive alarm dispatching system.

Under the Alarm Response Strategy, RCMP will receive a verified response from your monitoring company. Under this strategy, verification is in respect to a single contact or audible alarm where additional steps are taken by industry or the alarm owner (key holder, technological confirmation, contact person, guard or witness) to verify the alarm is valid.

Once verified, alarm companies will dispatch a single contact alarm noting a "Verified Alarm Dispatch". Automated dialing does not meet this test. A verified dispatch will result in a police response. Our strategy also deems a multi-zone alarm or a glass breakage alarm as a "Verified Alarm". This strategy does not apply to panic alarms, hold-up alarms or like alarms which will continue to receive police response.

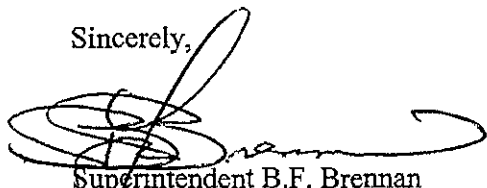
This strategy does not impact current 911 calls. It must be noted that the RCMP are fully aware there are municipalities, including the Halifax Regional municipality within Nova Scotia who have their own Alarm Bylaws and your protocol of dispatching alarms in those areas still remain your responsibility on how alarms in these areas are dispatched.

The RCMP are requesting the Atlantic CANASA Chapter and through your chapter inform clients, fellow stakeholders and your customers of these impending changes.

It is acknowledged there will be a transitional period and your assistance to ensure all companies, customers and agencies servicing Nova Scotians are fully aware of this new alarm response approach. It is anticipated the transitional period should be completed no later than September 1st, 2011.

Either Corporal Dave Lilly (1-902-893-6819) and or in his absence, Staff Sergeant Christie (1-902-896-3567) are available to meet with you and answer any further questions you or your colleagues may have on this matter.

Sincerely,



Superintendent B.F. Brennan
A Officer in Charge - Criminal Operations Branch
RCMP - "H" Division

C.C. District Policing Officers
District and Detachment Commanders
Cpl. D. Lilly
S/Sgt. J. Christie

Canada

NOVA SCOTIA AREAS WHERE RCMP PROVIDES FIRST RESPONSE

Rural Municipalities:

- Municipality of the County of Annapolis
- Municipality of the District of Digby
- Municipality of the District of Clare
- Municipality of the District of Shelburne
- Municipality of the District of Barrington
- Municipality of the District of Yarmouth
- Municipality of the District of Argyle
- Municipality of the County of Inverness
- Municipality of the County of Richmond
- Municipality of the County of Victoria
- Municipality of the County of Antigonish
- Municipality of the County of Colchester
- Municipality of the County of Cumberland
- Municipality of the District of Guysborough
- Municipality of the District of St. Mary's
- Municipality of the District of East Hants
- Municipality of the County of Pictou
- Municipality of the District of West Hants
- Municipality of the County of Kings
- Municipality of the District of Lunenburg
- Municipality of the District of Chester

Incorporated Towns:

- Town of Bridgetown
- Town of Clark's Harbour
- Town of Lockeport
- Town of Middleton
- Town of Digby
- Town of Yarmouth
- Town of Shelburne
- Town of Port Hawkesbury
- Town of Stewiacke
- Town of Canso
- Town of Mulgrave
- Town of Parrsboro
- Town of Antigonish
- Town of Pictou
- Town of Oxford
- Town of Hantsport
- Town of Berwick
- Town of Wolfville
- Town of Lunenburg
- Town of Mahone Bay
- Town of Windsor

First Nations Communities (CTA):

- Chapel Island First Nation
- Waycobah First Nation
- Eskasoni First Nation
- Millbrook First Nation
- Pictou Landing First Nation
- Wagmatcook First Nation
- Shubenacadie First Nation

Regional Municipalities:

- Region of Queens Municipality
- Halifax Regional Municipality (Shared with Halifax Regional Police)