

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE to authorize reimbursement of costs from responding to terrorism hoax incidents, bomb threats, and malicious activation of fire alarms in Section 13-1-42 Chapter 1 (GENERAL OFFENSES) of Title 13 (MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Chapter 1, Title 13 of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be, and the same hereby is, amended by adding a new Section 13-1-42 to read as follows:

Sec.13-1-42. Reimbursement of costs from responding to terrorism hoax incidents, bomb threats, or malicious activations of fire alarms.

(a) A person shall be liable to the City of Alexandria, the Virginia State Police, any volunteer emergency medical services agency, or any combination thereof for the reasonable expense of an appropriate emergency response at the time of sentencing or in a separate civil action if:

- (1) That person is convicted of a violation of subsection B or C of Va. Code § 18.2-46.6, a felony violation of § 18.2-83 or 18.2-84, or a violation of § 18.2-212 or 18.2-461.1,
- (2) Their violation of such subsection or section is the proximate cause of any incident resulting in an appropriate emergency response by the City of Alexandria, the Virginia State Police, any volunteer emergency medical services agency, or any combination thereof, and
- (3) The incident occurred in the City of Alexandria.

(b) Costs

- (1) In determining the reasonable expense of an appropriate emergency response, the City Manager or their designee may bill a flat fee as provided in Va. Code § 15.2-1716.1 or bill a minute-by-minute accounting of the actual costs incurred.
- (2) As used in this section, "appropriate emergency response" includes all costs of providing law-enforcement, firefighting, and emergency medical services.
- (3) Unless otherwise provided in Va. Code § 15.2-1716.1, a person's liability may not exceed \$2,500 in the aggregate for a particular incident that has occurred pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

Section 2. That Chapter 1, Title 13 pursuant to Section 1 of this ordinance, be, and the same hereby, is reordained as part of the Code of the City of Alexandria.

Section 3. That this ordinance shall become effective upon the date and at the time of its final passage.

JUSTIN WILSON
Mayor

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Introduction: February 13, 2024
First Reading: February 13, 2024
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Final Passage: February 24, 2024