

## PRESS RELEASE

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## **Town of Cramerton Passes Burglar Alarm Ordinance**

Cramerton Board of Commissioners passed a Burglar Alarm Ordinance at their August regular meeting. The Ordinance will become effective at midnight on November 1, 2007. The Cramerton Police Department will administer the Ordinance through its newly formed Code Enforcement Unit. The Ordinance was passed in response to a rise in the number of false burglar alarm calls that are being responded to by the police department. "False alarms place an undue burden on police resources and affects the department's responses to more serious calls," said Cramerton Police Chief Greg Ratchford.

The Ordinance includes provisions for registration of current and future residential and business burglar alarm systems, graduated fine structures for excessive false alarms, new equipment standards, and suspension of police response to chronic false alarms. Residents and business owners will have until November 1<sup>st</sup> to register their alarm at no cost. Alarm systems registered after November 1<sup>st</sup> will be subject to a \$25.00 fee. Officers responding to alarm calls after November 1<sup>st</sup> will be issuing citations to alarm system owners who have not registered their alarm. Failing to register an alarm system will result in a \$50.00 penalty being assessed.

The complete Town of Cramerton Burglar Alarm Ordinance is available for download at the Cramerton Police Department website at <a href="www.cramertonpd.org">www.cramertonpd.org</a>. Click on Crime Prevention and follow the link for the False Alarm Reduction Program. A paper copy of the new Ordinance can be obtained at Cramerton Town Hall. For more information contact the Cramerton Police Code Enforcement Officer at 704.824.7964.