

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Police Code - Refunds of Police Emergency Alarm Fees]

Ordinance amending the Police Code to revise the procedures for alarm companies and alarm users to claim refunds or credits of overpaid alarm fees under the Police Emergency Alarm Ordinance.

Existing Law

Article 37 of the Police Code (Police Emergency Alarm Ordinance) requires businesses and individuals who have emergency alarms at their premises to obtain an annual license and pay a license fee. Alarm companies generally collect the license fees from alarm users and remit those fees to the Tax Collector's Office. Alarm companies may claim a refund or credit for overpaid fees. Alarm users may claim a refund of overpaid fees only if they directly paid the fees to the Tax Collector's Office, or if they paid the fees to the alarm company and are unable to get a refund from the alarm company.

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance would allow alarm companies to obtain a refund or credit for overpaid fees by filing a claim for refund with the Controller or a request for refund or credit with the Tax Collector's Office, within one year of payment of the overpaid fees. This ordinance also would allow alarm users to obtain a refund of the overpaid fees by filing a refund claim with the Controller or a refund request with the Tax Collector's Office, within one year of payment of the overpaid fees, if they paid the fees directly to the Tax Collector's Office or are unable to get a refund from the alarm company.