



False Alarm Reduction Association
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FARA Adopts Position on Verified Response

Rockville, MD. On Tuesday, February 4, 2003 the Board of Directors of the False Alarm Reduction Association adopted a Position on Verified Response.

The position reaffirms FARA's commitment to the involvement of all stakeholders in the development of local solutions to the false alarm problem. It also highlights many considerations and alternatives that should be examined as a jurisdiction evaluates the verified response option.

"The position was adopted because over the past few months the numbers of inquiries about our position have increased", said Norma Beaubien. "I have also been surprised by the number of people who assumed that we had endorsed verified response over other alternatives. I felt and the Board agreed that it was important to clarify our stance. To quote from the Position Paper: "FARA believes that communities have a right to enact whatever false alarm solution best meets its needs. FARA also believes that communities benefit from a full exploration, conducted in the open with all stakeholders as participants, of the advantages and disadvantages of verified response before such a policy is implemented.""

Verified response requires an independent eyewitness verification that a criminal act either is occurring or has occurred prior to requesting law enforcement dispatch. This usually applies only to burglar alarms and exempts human activated alarms such as robbery, duress and panic from the verification process.

To find out more about the False Alarm Reduction Association or the Position on Verified Response contact Norma Beaubien, FARA President, at (301) 279-1917, email Norma.Beaubien@co.mo.md.us or visit the web-site at www.faraonline.org.

The False Alarm Reduction Association is an association primarily of persons employed by government and law enforcement agencies in charge of, or working in, False Alarm Reduction Units. Our goal is to assist these individuals in reducing false alarms for their jurisdiction. We do this by facilitating the exchange of information, influencing legislation and establishing relationships and partnerships with other groups interested in false alarm reduction. Established in 1997, FARA currently serves more than 250 members in the US and Canada through newsletters, conferences and educational programs.