



June 23, 2025

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor
New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Re: Support for A.3343/S.4328 – Fines for False Alarms

Dear Governor Hochul,

On behalf of the Security Industry Association (SIA) and our members, I am writing to express our strong support for A.3343/S.4328 as passed by the Senate and Assembly, and to urge you to sign this important legislation.

SIA is a nonprofit trade association that represents more than 1,500 companies providing a broad range of safety and security-focused products and services in the U.S and throughout New York, including the leading providers of electronic security and alarm monitoring products and services.

False alarms are a serious issue for our industry, and for the local law enforcement agencies which must respond to these alarms. Our members support efforts to meaningfully reduce the occurrence of false alarms, and as an industry we are working to do our part. In fact, SIA has developed six different standards for false alarm reduction, which address the operation of motion and glass break sensors, system control panels and protocols for alarm communications that are integrated into modern security products.

Additionally, most cities in America have adopted some type of false alarm management program which are designed to encourage proper use of such systems. Unfortunately, several municipalities in recent years have enacted programs that punish the alarm company for their customers' false alarms, as opposed to the user generating the false alarm. The alarm company is then forced to recoup the cost associated with any fines from the user. This is the equivalent of sending an individual's speeding tickets to General Motors. It does little to change user behavior and denies the user the right to appeal fines if ever issued incorrectly.

Since its introduction, SIA has supported A.3343/S.4328 because it provides much needed guidance to municipalities that fines can only be issued to the party at fault for the false alarm while not requiring any municipality to change an existing ordinance. It simply preserves the status quo and ensures that any locally administered false alarm reduction program will meaningfully reduce false alarms.

In conclusion, SIA strongly supports the adoption of A.3343/S.4328 into law as it is a sensible approach which holds the appropriate party responsible for false alarms, rather than automatically placing the blame on the alarm company. This legislation will protect the rights of both the alarm

companies as well as the consumers, while also supporting meaningful false alarm reduction efforts without the disruption of existing local ordinances.

Respectfully,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Erickson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Don" and last name "Erickson" clearly legible.

Don Erickson
Chief Executive Officer
Security Industry Association
Silver Spring, MD
www.securityindustry.org