Smoke Detectors/Alarms connected to Monitored Security Systems

Information Guide for Residential Properties

Purpose of a Smoke Detector/Alarm

The purpose of any smoke detector/alarm in your home is to detect the presence of smoke and sound an alarm which in turn provides early warning of a fire so that you and your family can get out safely.

It is not designed to call the fire service.

Why have your Smoke Detectors/Alarms monitored by a security company?

Some people prefer that their smoke detectors/alarms are connected to their security system and monitored by a security company. This allows the security company to call you or a nominated person if a problem arises in your home. You may also request that your security company calls the fire service for you.

If you request this service the fire service may charge for attendance if it turns out that there is no fire.

The fire service may also have to force entry into your home if they suspect a fire.

What you need to know:

Fire Services may charge a fee for callouts initiated by security companies on your behalf if there has been no sign of fire when they arrive. In some states this fee is over $1000.

The legislative requirements for the installation of smoke alarms vary from state to state. Your local fire service and in some cases your local council can provide advice regarding the requirements. If you install a smoke detector/alarm connected to your security system, it must be in addition to the smoke alarms required to be installed to meet mandatory legislative requirements in your state.

For all consumer installation, monitoring and maintenance information, refer to the system manufacturer or your security service provider.