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MISUSE OF E-911 #238

238.01 Prohibit the Misuse of E-911238.01

WOOD COUNTY ORDINANCE #238
MISUSE OF E-911

Section 1. The Wood County Misuse of E-911 Emergency Telephone System is hereby created to read as follows:

238-01 Prohibit the Misuse of E-911

(1) Application and Enforcement

- a. The provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to all of Wood County.
- b. This ordinance shall be enforced by the Wood County Sheriff's Department.

(2) Intent

The intent of this ordinance is to prevent the misuse of E-911

(3) Definitions

The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning.

Emergency means a situation in which a person reasonably believes that immediate response by public safety personnel is essential due to the risk of:

- a. Death or great bodily harm;
- b. Property damage;
- c. Any other situation which mandates the immediate response of public safety personnel.

(4) Prohibited Use

No person shall utilize the 911 emergency telephone system for any purpose other than to report an emergency.

(5) Improper Use

It shall be a violation of this section for any person to do any of the following:

- a. Dial the telephone number 911 to report an emergency knowing that the fact or facts of the situation, which he or she reports, does not exist.
- b. Dial the telephone number 911 for a reason when the caller has been advised by a dispatcher that the reason is not an appropriate one for use of the 911 system.
- c. Dial 911 and hang up two or more times without reporting an emergency if, in fact, no emergency exists.
- d. Knowingly permit any telephone under his or her control be used for any purpose under this section.

(6) Penalties

Whoever violates any provision of this Ordinance shall pay a forfeiture not to exceed \$1000 plus costs of prosecution thereof. Sworn deputies of Wood County within the unincorporated areas of the county have the authority to issue citations for violations of this Chapter. The bond amount shall be \$250 plus costs.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be effective upon passage and publication and supersedes any ordinances or provisions thereof in conflict herewith.