



Connecticut Alarm & Systems Integrators Association

TESTIMONY
JOHN YUSZA, JR.
CONNECTICUT ALARM & SYSTEMS INTEGRATORS ASSOCIATION
(CASIA)
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 18, 2010

RE: SB-150, AN ACT CONCERNING REPEATED FALSE ALARMS

The Connecticut Alarm & Systems Integrators Association (CASIA) **supports the intent of SB-150**, which looks to reduce the incidence of false alarms in areas served by resident state troopers, **but urges lawmakers to amend the bill to establish a more effective means of reducing the incidence of false alarms.**

CASIA and its national organization, the National Fire & Burglar Alarm Association (NBFAA), work with law enforcement officials and towns to reduce the incidence of false alarms which are a drain on law enforcement resources. In fact, national organizations have developed industry standards for the design and manufacture of security alarm panels and equipment to accommodate inadvertent alarm activation.

In addition, a Model Cities Alarm Ordinance has been developed which has been tremendously successful in many towns across the country in reducing false alarms. Recently, the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association approved the model ordinance as a key component of its efforts to reduce repeated false alarms.

Electronic security can provide an additional layer of security and peace of mind for homeowners and businesses. The responsible management of alarm signals by electronic security companies and customers is an important step which helps ensure that our law enforcement officers can focus their attention on actual emergencies.

We hope to meet with representatives of the state Department of Public Safety and members of this committee to discuss these issues and look forward to working with them to develop a meaningful program for reducing the incidence of false alarms.

CASIA, a statewide trade association established in 1974, is comprised of alarm companies working together to protect lives and property through the responsible use of electrical security and fire alarm systems. Our members are professional and technically skilled and experienced in integrated systems for intrusion and fire systems, closed circuit television, telephone, intercom, home theater, access control systems and computer wiring.