

**SUBJECT:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY ESTABLISHING A PROVISION WITHIN MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH CODE TO ADDRESS ABUSES OF THE 911 TELEPHONE SYSTEM BY ADDING SECTION 8.15.010 ABUSE OF 911 SYSTEM AND AMENDING MSB 1.45.100 SCHEDULE OF FINES FOR INFRACTIONS TO ADD FINES FOR VIOLATION OF MSB 8.15.010.

**AGENDA OF:** June 7, 2022

**ASSEMBLY ACTION:**

Adopted without objection  
6-21-22 (B)

**MANAGER RECOMMENDATION:** Introduce and set for public hearing.

**APPROVED BY MIKE BROWN, BOROUGH MANAGER:**

MB

Route To:	Department/Individual	Initials	Remarks
	Originator	DM	On behalf of Emergency Services
	Emergency Services Director	KB	
	Finance Director	CX	
	Borough Attorney	SM	
	Borough Clerk	Bent for JRM	

**ATTACHMENT (S):** Fiscal Note: YES X NO       
Ordinance Serial No. 22-073 (3 pp)

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** The 911 emergency system is designed to provide timely and efficient response in times of emergency. Unfortunately there are people who choose to abuse this system for non-emergent calls. In doing so, they are diverting valuable resources away from potentially life-threatening situations. The risk to responders increases and the frequent non-emergent calls take away these finite resources from the rest of the community. As an example, a single individual called 911 for non-emergent calls 145 times over a three-year period. Within the first two weeks of 2022, this individual had already placed eight non-emergent calls to 911. Each one of those times, EMS responded.

The purpose of this ordinance is to discourage the abuse of the 911 system. It is not intended to discourage normal calls to 911 but to address the situations where individuals are repeatedly using the 911 system as a phone directory, a ride service, and other such abuses. A 911 abuser would first be warned that their continued abuse of the system could result in an infraction. If the abuse continues, they would then be cited with an infraction and fined \$250 in order to discourage future abuse of the system.

There is presently no state statute under which a violator could be criminally cited or charged. The City of Fairbanks adopted a similar ordinance in 2012 with a \$250 fine. The City of Wasilla as well as the City of Palmer currently have ordinances regarding excessive police response to address specifically abuse of the system related to police calls within the city limits. The fine in Wasilla is \$500. The fine in Palmer is graduated from \$75 for the first offense to \$300 by the third offense.

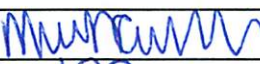
**RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:** Adoption of Ordinance.

# MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH FISCAL NOTE

Agenda Date: June 7, 2022

SUBJECT: An Ordinance of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly Establishing a Provision within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Code to Address Abuses of the 911 System by Adding Section 8.15.010 Abuse of 911 System and Amending MSB 1.45.100 Schedule of Fines for Infractions to Add Fines for Violation of MSB 8.15.010. The Fine is \$250

ORIGINATOR:

FISCAL ACTION (TO BE COMPLETED BY FINANCE)	FISCAL IMPACT YES NO
AMOUNT REQUESTED ***	FUNDING SOURCE FSA Operation Various funds
FROM ACCOUNT #	PROJECT
TO ACCOUNT: 25X.000.000.341.XXX	PROJECT #
VERIFIED BY: 	CERTIFIED BY:
DATE: 5/07/22	DATE:

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027
Personnel Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land/Structures						
Grants, Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING						

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING:


(Thousands of Dollars)

General Fund						
State/Federal Funds						
Other	***	***	***			
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

Full-Time						
Part-Time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary) Revenue dependent on number of occurrences

PREPARED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DEPARTMENT:  DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: 5/27/22