



"Model States Program" Wins Support of Alarm Industry

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Bethesda, MD. The Alarm Industry Research and Education Foundation (AIREF) would like to recognize those organizations that contributed both funding and staff to support the subcommittee on false alarms' "Model States Program" in 1997.

An effort to confront the problem of false alarms head-on, the "Model States Program" is a joint venture between the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the National Burglar & Fire Alarm Association (NBFAA), the Central Station Alarm Association (CSAA) and the Security Industry Association (SIA), to reduce the burden of false alarms on the law enforcement community. Funding for the project is derived from individual contributions from alarm companies in the participating states as well as contributions from the Chartered State Associations (CSAs).

"Without the support of the individual alarm companies who recognized the value of this program," stated Bob Ohm, Chair of AIREF's False Alarm Coalition, "'Model States' would not have been successful. With the help of organizations who contributed over \$1,000 like WestSec, Westec, Westar, ADI, Washington Burglar and Fire Alarm Association, ADT, Brinks, Dynamark, Dynawatch, Interactive Technologies, Protection One, and Digital Security Controls," Ohm continued, "the AIREF Coalition was able to raise over \$122,000 this past year."

Serving as a model to the industry, ADI graciously offered to administer a 1-% surcharge on hardware for those dealers who wished to voluntarily add that amount to their purchase to help pay for the False Alarm Reduction Program. This "check-off" program alone raised \$30,489. ADI's additional contributions in 1997 included the full-time use of Stan Martin, Vice President of Industry Relations, travel expenses to 46 false alarm related industry events, and the production and purchasing of instructional materials.

As part of the joint effort, CSAA has donated more than \$50,000 of software to the venture. NBFAA has donated accounting, administration and payroll services to the coalition, and SIA has contributed over \$40,000 in support of the coalition efforts. Other major contributors include ADEMCO Security Group whose Chairman, Leo Guthart, donates his time to serve as AIREF Chairman and active fundraiser for the program.

Ohm went on to thank all coalition members including representatives Bob Bonifas (CSAA), Ron Cain, (NBFAA) and Bill Moody (SIA), "all of whom contributed significant time and expense to the project."

"In order to develop a consensus and a working relationship between the alarm industry and the law enforcement community", Ohm stated, "the 'Model States Program' relies heavily on the support of the industry as a whole. With the continued support of companies and individuals like those we are recognizing now, 'Model States' will continue to work towards a significant reduction in the incidence of false alarms."