



## **Model States Reaches Successful Conclusion June 1, 1999**

Bethesda, Md. The Alarm Industry Research and Education Foundation (AIREF) False Alarm Reduction Coalition today announced the successful conclusion of the Model States Program, and expressed its profound appreciation for the support provided by the alarm industry.

Model States, a joint program with the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), was conducted in Illinois, Florida, Washington and California, and again demonstrated that with proven techniques, the rate of false dispatches could be substantially reduced. Chief Mike Shanahan, Co-Chair of the IACP Private Sector Liaison Committee, and one of the leading proponents of both Model Cities and Model States, declared "the Model States Program was a complete success. Our sincerest compliments to those in both law enforcement and the alarm industry who proved that false alarms are manageable."

The final report of the Program will be published in IACP magazine, Police Chief, and will be provided to industry trade journals shortly thereafter. Major conclusions:

- 80% of False Alarms are triggered by 20% of alarm users. Thus, solving the problems in only 20% of the alarm population has the potential to eliminate up to four out of five false dispatches.
- An alarm ordinance is a highly effective tool in managing false dispatches.
- The major source of false activations continues to be user error. Therefore, initial and ongoing training is essential in maintaining a low dispatch rate.

Bob Ohm, chairman of the AIREF False Alarm Coalition, with membership from the four major North American alarm associations (CANASA, CSAA, NBFSA, and SIA), noted that the Program generated unprecedented levels of cooperation between enforcement authorities and the industry, and has led to a positive spirit of teamwork as we jointly seek to resolve this nagging problem.

Ohm went on to say "Among the major factors in the success of the Program were the efforts of the full-time coordinators who were present in each state, working closely with each municipality. These four dedicated individuals worked tirelessly to ensure that the cities received the assistance they needed in tracking the level of the problem and provided valued advice and support to law enforcement." Support of the four coordinators was provided by the donations of the benefactors listed on the attached page.

The Coalition drew particular attention to the contributions of Pittway and ADI, who allowed Stan Martin, their VP of Industry Relations, to serve as the Model States Coordinator. In this capacity, Stan provided day to day supervision of the coordinators, and conducted numerous meetings with law enforcement and industry groups nation-wide. Ron Spiller, Executive Director of SIA, noted that "Stan's contributions to Model States continue in the fine tradition of service to the industry for which both he and ADI are so rightly noted."

Bob Bonifas, False Alarm Chair of the CSAA, which developed and provided False Alarm Analysis software to participating police agencies at no charge, noted that "Model States showed clearly that the lessons on what worked from Model Cities will work everywhere they are implemented." He went on to note that "clearly where the



public/private relationship was strong and effective ordinances were enacted and enforced, reductions in false dispatches were substantial. Where these elements did not exist, false dispatches increased."

Brad Shipp, Executive Director of NBFAA, which provided administrative and accounting services to support the effort at no charge, indicated: "The industry does not intend to rest on its laurels, but instead, has kicked off the Coordinated Alarm Reduction Effort (CARE) Program. This program, also funded entirely by the alarm industry, seeks to conduct up to forty 'summit meetings' in locations around the US and Canada, bringing together the leadership of law enforcement and the alarm industry in those areas, to explain the lessons learned to date, and suggest methods for implementing them in each jurisdiction."

Ivan Spector, former President of CANASA, and their representative to the Coalition, observed that "although Model States was a US program, the lessons learned transcend national boundaries. In Canada, we have taken these lessons to heart and are looking forward to incorporating them as the CARE Program rolls out."

The CARE program, said Ohm, is off to a good start. "We have substantial pledges, there have already been six summits, all of which were well received, and we are moving fast to make contact with as many law enforcement agencies as possible. In addition, we are reaching out to organizations of city and county administrators, to ensure that they are aware of the efforts in progress and successes to date."

For more information about the Coordinated Alarm Reduction Effort, contact Jennifer Gehring, CARE Program Manager, at 301-907-3202 x 109 or visit the AIREF website at [www.airef.org](http://www.airef.org)

The Alarm Industry Research & Educational Foundation (AIREF) is a tax exempt foundation that functions under the supervision of the National Burglar & Fire Alarm Association, to receive, invest and reinvest money exclusively for the charitable, scientific and educational purposes, including, but not limited to promoting and funding research and granting scholarships to determine ways to reduce false alarms and determine ways to make homes, offices and other buildings safer from intruders and fires and disseminating such information to the public.

#### Model States Contributors Organization Amount Contributed

- ADI
- Stan Martin and Program Support \$ 300,000 Est.
- Checkoff (by Dealers) \$ 79,000
- Security Industry Association \$ 278,000
- ADT \$ 131,000
- Digital Security Controls Cash \$ 6,000 & DSC Advertising \$ 28,000
- Honeywell \$ 27,000
- Brink's Home Security \$ 24,000
- Entergy Security \$ 11,250
- Dynawatch \$ 11,000
- Westec \$ 10,500
- Protection One \$ 7,500
- Washington State BFAA \$ 4,000
- ITI \$ 3,500
- Dynamark Dealers \$ 2,040
- Cahners Publishing \$ 300
- Alert Security \$ 250