

CITY OF BALTIMORE

SHEILA DIXON, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor
101 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

May 30, 2008

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Attn: Karen Randle, Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 08-0040R – Informational Hearing – False Alarm
Reduction Program

Dear Madame President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 08-0040R for form and legal sufficiency. The resolution requests that the Baltimore City Police Commissioner and officials of Affiliated Computer Services, Inc., brief the Council on the current status of false alarms in Baltimore City, update the Council as to whether the current fees imposed for false alarms have resulted in a reduction of false alarms in Baltimore City, and discuss the current contract situation for the False Alarm Reduction Program.

In general, a City Council resolution is “an expression of opinion or mind concerning some particular item of business coming within the legislative body’s official cognizance.” *Inlet Assocs. v. Assateague House Condominium Assoc.*, 313 Md. 413 (1988) (quoting *McQuillin Municipal Corporations* § 15.02 (3rd ed. 1981)). City Council Bill 08-0040R is an appropriate resolution to express the Council’s request to the Baltimore City Police Commissioner and officials of Affiliated Computer Services, Inc. for an informational hearing regarding the effectiveness and status of the False Alarm Reduction Program.

Therefore, the Law Department approves City Council Bill 08-0040R for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Ashlea Brown
Special Assistant Solicitor

cc: George Nilson, City Solicitor
Angela C. Gibson, Mayor’s Legislative Liaison
Linda C. Barclay, Chief Solicitor
Elena DiPietro, Senior Solicitor
Deepa Bhattacharyya, Assistant Solicitor

