March 18, 2010

To whom it may concern:

Alarm systems play an important role the security of our homes and businesses. They are an everyday part of the business of protecting many of you. Currently less than 1% of the alarms we received are created by an actual emergency in Calhoun County. Because of the false alarms law enforcement agencies spend a lot of valuable time and agency resources responding quickly when it is not necessary.

We have been made aware of a new generation of intrusion alarms known as enhanced video alarms. The newer technology provides the monitoring company with a short video clip of the actual intrusion. The security company can then immediately forward the video of what caused the alarm to our dispatch center when they alert us of an intrusion.

While Calhoun County Sheriff’s Deputies will continue our current policy of responding immediately to all intrusion alarms, we believe that enhanced video alarms offer enhanced protection to you and help us in our efforts to keep Calhoun County citizens safe and protect their property. We believe that the delivery of a video of the specific event that triggered the alarm is a tremendous improvement in alarm technology that will lead to a reduction in false alarms saving valuable budget dollars.

While we are not endorsing a specific provider or brand of product, we support the efforts of the security industry to provide their customers with the best protection possible and we look forward to being able to use enhanced video alarms to improve the safety of our county.

Sincerely,

Larry Amerson
Sheriff