

March 26, 2003

To: Burglar Alarm Task Force

From: Kamton Joe, Assistant General Manager
Information Technology Agency

Subject: Request for Information Regarding ACO Numbers

At the March 21, 2003 meeting of the Burglar Alarm Task Force, the Information Technology Agency was requested to investigate the ability of using the Alarm Company Operator (ACO) number to identify alarm companies when they call LAPD dispatch.

ITA investigated the Tax and Permit System, LAPD Dispatch, and False Alarm System as they relate to ACO numbers. The current capabilities of those systems are as follows:

Tax and Permit System (TAPS)

Fields to enter both alarm company name and ACO number are present on the alarm permit application. A permit applicant is not required to fill in those fields. Even if filled in, the information is not transferred to TAPS.

LAPD Dispatch

If provided by the alarm company, the 4-digit ACO number can be entered and retained as part of the alarm incident. Note: The ACO number is not validated.

False Alarm System (FAS)

As part of its processing of alarm incidents, the FAS could also track occurrences of ACO numbers for reporting purposes.