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SERVING ALL OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SINCE 1967





INSTALLATION HALLUCINATION



"Ninety percent of being smart is knowing what you are dumb at." If I am going flying I want to do it with a guy who makes a living working for an airline and flying every day of his life. Also, I leave electrical work to licensed electricians. I get a shock changing light bulbs! And unfortunately for me everyone knows the story of the time I decided to trim some length off a bathroom door to facilitate being able to close the door after we had purchased new carpeting. After several futile efforts I realized I had cut the wrong end three times and we now had a Dutch door. Call the carpenter early. It is cheaper.

To properly research this article I called upon Boyd & Associates' long time veteran of burglar alarm installation and maintenance. Mike Csillag he has been with Boyd & Associates for 21 years and has seen it all.

The most common call for Mike is to bail out homeowners when the homeowner changes telephone service providers. If the homeowner fires Sprint and replaces the telephone service with Pacific Bell then there is no alarm service until someone reprograms the alarm system to handle the Pac Bell equipment. One erstwhile do it yourselfer decided upon trouble shooting the alarm system to repair this condition. He reversed the wires on the batteries and shorted out the entire system as well as other electrical functions in his home. The alarm panel was then useless and incurred the cost of repairs.

All of our installers have made service calls to residences where a Do it Yourself Burglar Alarm Kit has been purchased. These kits advertise "Easy Installation". Easy they are not. Most do it yourself purchases are stored under a bed somewhere in the house with the promise that it will be installed soon. Soon stretches out for a long time and of course a burglar alarm stored under a bed does not foil the burglar.

All of our alarm installers tell of the number of calls to research a false alarm problem that have been solved when they detect a door or window contact that had been moved and then re-glued by the homeowner at a different location.

Boyd & Associates can do all those esoteric things like the Closed Circuit Television systems that saves pictures of everyone who came to your door while you were out. The security system of today is more than just a "burglar alarm".

The lesson to be learned here it is cheaper and better to get a professional alarm installed by a veteran installer.

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Raymand G. Boyd, C.E.O. Boyd & Associates

PERMIT REMINDER

If you own a monitored security alarm system, you may need to obtain a valid alarm permit. An alarm permit is mandatory in many cities and counties.

In cities that require permits, there are often increased penalties and fees for false alarms where alarm owners have not obtained an alarm permit. It is very important to know your city's alarm permit requirements to avoid unnecessary fees.

The website of your city or local police department should have information regarding alarm permits. Oftentimes, the websites will have forms to download and contact information for more information.

If you have any questions, call us at 1-800-381-BOYD.

GET THREE MONTHS OF FREE MONITORING WHEN YOU REFER A FRIEND!

When you refer your friends to Boyd and Associates, you will receive three months of free monitoring when your friend signs up for our service. So, pass the word and get free monitoring!

THINKING ABOUT A CAMERA SYSTEM?

With almost endless uses, camera systems are an excellent way to monitor your home or business, and provide an extra layer of protection to your security system. This practical investment can protect those you love from harm and catch the perpetrators of crimes that occur on your property.

In most systems, the cameras are linked together and stream video to a digital video recorder (DVR). The DVR will save the file in a digital format that can be read on a computer. The files can then be transferred to CD, memory cards or other digital media. The DVR can be set up so that you can access the system remotely and view images via personal computer, tablet or smart phone.

When selecting cameras you should consider exactly what you are hoping to capture. For example, some cameras aid in facial or license plate recognition, while other cameras are designed to provide a general overview of the area. A wide angle lens will provide greater coverage but in less detail than a narrow angle lens that focuses on a smaller area. There are also cameras designed for particular purposes, such as hidden cameras, bullet cameras, and dome cameras. In low light situation you may need a camera equipped with infrared (IR) technology. Camera systems are one of the most important components of a security system, whether residential or commercial. These systems will help you keep a close watch on your property, as well as offer the ability to record as well as view live streams, and more. While it's important to install the best possible system on your property, it's also vital that you keep it working at optimum levels. And one of the big aspects of doing this is to perform regular maintenance on your system. Choosing to have it done will help ensure maximum performance and, in many cases, may even improve the overall functionality of your system.

Boyd & Associates offers Interactive Video Monitoring (IVM). IVM is technology that allows our dispatchers to view the cameras system at your home or business from our central station. In the event of alarm activation we are able to verify that an actual event occurred. Through this technology, we can provide alarm verification and suspect description when dispatching law enforcement. IVM technology can also be utilized by our central station to conduct virtual guard tours of your facility anytime, night or day.

Our security consultants will utilize the latest camera technologies to custom design a system to suit your particular needs. Call 800-381-BOYD to schedule a no-obligation security survey of your home or business.



Your alarm system sends signals to our central station through your telephone service. **Before you change** your phone service provider, it is imperative that you contact Boyd & Associates to advise us of the impending change and request a service call. A technician will need to install a device on your alarm system and reprogram the system to enable it to send a signal via the specific type of service you choose.

You may want to consider using a cellular connection to enable your alarm system to signal our central station in the event of an alarm activation. Another option is adding cellular back-up, which enables your alarm system to signal the central station in the event of a phone service outage.

Boyd & Associates provides the most up to date security, fire, access control, and CCTV systems, as well as alarm and Interactive Video Monitoring from our local 24-hour central station. If you would like more information about our services, give us a call at 1-800-381-BOYD.