KNOX RAPID ENTRY SYSTEM

DATE: January 26, 2010
INFORMATION BULLETIN: B-09-004
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California Fire Code Section 506

The California Fire Code Section 506 requires that Fire department personnel have immediate access to buildings in the event of an emergency. This requires that the business provide approved gate locks or key box(s) on buildings for entry to areas that are not readily accessible to fire department personnel.

506.1 - Where access to or within a structure or an area is restricted because of secured opening or where immediate access is necessary for life-saving or fire-fighting purposes, the fire code official is authorized to require a key box to be installed in an approved location. The key box shall be of an approved type and shall contain keys to gain necessary access as required by the fire code official.

506.1.1 - An approved lock shall be installed on gates or similar barriers when required by the fire code official.

506.2 – The operator of the building shall immediately notify the fire code official and provide the new key(s) when a lock is changed or rekeyed. The key to such lock shall be secured in the key box.

Knox box applications may be obtained at the Fire Prevention Bureau located at 3900 Main Street 3rd Floor. If you have further questions or concerns please contact Fire Prevention.

Knox box location – The location(s) shall be approved prior to installation:
General rules for locating a Knox Key Box.

A. The box shall be located outside the main front door of the building
B. The location shall be in a visible and accessible location.
C. The box shall be installed between 6 & 8 feet high and within 5 feet of the door.
D. If the building has an all glass front, the box may be located in a pillar next to the main front door.

After the Knox device has been installed, call the Fire Marshal's office at (951) 826-5737 to arrange to have the building keys locked in the box. Each key must have a waterproof tag identifying its use.

Keys required**:** Keys required in the box include points of egress, interior & exterior, or a master key if available. Other keys that may be required are: fire pump- sprinkler riser room, fire alarm control panel, mechanical and electrical rooms, stairwell doors, elevator control rooms, roof access doors, or other keys as directed by the Fire Marshal.

Knox gate locks: Electric or manual gates will be sub-mastered for Police Department access.