

KNOX RAPID ENTRY SYSTEM

DATE: January 2, 2020

INFORMATION BULLETIN: B-19-004

APPROVED BY: J. McDowell

2019 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 – All new commercial and multi-family residential buildings and any existing buildings where the fire department deems access is restricted shall be required to install a key box or key switch in an approved location.

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

506.1.2 – Key boxes provided for non-standardized fire service elevator keys shall comply with section 506.1 and all of the following:

1. The key box shall be compatible with an existing rapid entry key box system.
2. The front cover shall be permanently labeled with word “Fire Department Use Only – Elevator Keys.”
3. The key box shall be mounted at each elevator bank at the lobby nearest to the lowest level of fire department access.
4. The key box shall be mounted 5 feet 6 inches above the finished floor to the right side of the elevator bank.
5. Contents of the key box are limited to fire service elevator keys.
6. In buildings with two or more elevator banks, a single key box shall be permitted to be used where such elevator banks are separated by not more than 30 feet. Additional key boxes shall be provided for each individual elevator or elevator bank separated by more than 30 feet.

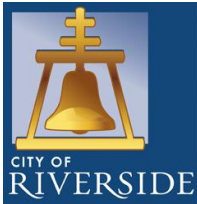
506.2 – The operator of the building shall immediately notify the fire code official and provide the new key(s) when a lock is changed or rekeyed. The key to such lock shall be secured in the key box.

Knox box 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.

Electric gates for emergency vehicle access shall include an “Infrared Automatic Gate System” that opens the gates automatically. These devices shall be installed on all electric fire access gates.

As of January 1, 2019 the Knox products can only be purchased online, no paper application will be available after January 1, 2019. To order online go to:

www.knoxbox.com

Click on < **BUY**

Enter Department name: Riverside City

Select “Building Access Only” or “Gate Access Only”

“Search by Product Number” click drop down

“Commercial Knox Boxes” 3200 Series, select the type of Knox box needed, tamper switch not required

Complete product installation address information

Fire Prevention

3900 Main Street 3rd Floor * Riverside, California 92522 * (951) 826-5737

Fax: (951) 826-2539 * www.RiversideCa.gov/fire