

Ordinance No. 32

AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING STRUCTURES TO HAVE A KEY LOCK BOX INSTALLED ON THE EXTERIOR OF THE STRUCTURE FOR FIRE SAFETY PURPOSES.

Amended 4-12-04

1. Intent.

The Town of Greenville recognizes the importance and need of providing the fire department rapid entry into locked buildings. Delays in the fire department gaining rapid entry reduces the occupants chance of survival in a fire, the chances for substantial property damage increases because of delays in gaining entry to the structure and fire fighter safety and survival may be compromised because of said delays. Additionally, delays in providing prompt pre-hospital care to the sick and injured as a result of locked/secured structure may/will have a negative outcome on patient recovery.

To assist the fire department in gaining entry into locked/secured facilities/structure, the Town of Greenville hereby adopts a Rapid Entry System Ordinance utilizing the "Knox Box" rapid entry key box system.

2. Key Lock Box System.

a. The following structures shall be equipped with a key lock box at or near the main entrance or such other location required by the fire chief effective January 1, 2001.

- (1) **All Commercial and Industrial Buildings.**
Commercial and industrial building shall mean buildings where any industry, trade or business is carried on or where any process or operation, directly or indirectly related to any industry, trade or business, is carried on and where any person is employed by another for direct or indirect gain or profit.(4-12-04)
- (2) Multi-family residential structures comprised of four (4) or more units in which access to the building or common areas or mechanical or electrical rooms within the building is denied through locked doors.
- (3) Any building or facility containing a quantity of hazardous materials, which would require compliance with Title III of SARA (Superfund Amendment Reauthorization Act).
- (4) Governmental structures.

- (5) Nursing care facilities.
- (6) Educational facilities.
- (7) *All places of assembly.(4-12-04)*
- b. All newly constructed structures subject to this ordinance shall have the key lock box installed and operational prior to *final inspection* and occupancy. *All existing buildings subject to this ordinance shall have the key lock box installed and operational on or before January 1, 2005. (4-12-04).*
- c. The fire chief shall designate the type of key lock box system to be implemented within the town and shall have the authority to require all structures to use the designated system.
- d. The owner or operator of a structure required to have a key lock box shall at all times, keep keys in the lock box that will allow for access to the following:
 - (1) Keys to locked points of egress, whether on the interior or exterior of such buildings;
 - (2) Keys to locked mechanical equipment rooms;
 - (3) Keys to locked electrical rooms;
 - (4) Key to elevator controls;
 - (5) Keys to the other areas as directed by the Town of Greenville Fire Department.
- e. The fire chief shall be authorized to implement rules and regulations for the use of the lock box system.

3. Installation and Location.

All "Knox Boxes" (and or Knox Locking Vaults) shall be recess mounted into the building/structure at a height of not less than 6' above the ground (surface grade) nor more than 8' above the ground (surface grade). The "face plate" of the "Knox" box shall be flush with the exterior façade of the structure/building. All "Knox" boxes (and or Knox Locking Vaults) shall be located directly above (or as close as reasonably possible to) the main entrance to the structure/building.

4. **Enforcement.** Enforcement of this Ordinance shall be accomplished through citations issued by the Fire Chief or his/her designee or by the town of Greenville Building Inspector or Zoning Administrator.

5. **Fine and Forfeiture.**

Any violation of this Ordinance shall be punishable by a forfeiture of not less than \$100.00 "nor" more than \$500.00 plus costs of prosecution, including reasonable attorney's fees. Each day the violation exists/continues shall be considered as a separate offense.

Adopted this _____ day of April, 2004

Dean Culbertson, Chairman

Attest:

Deborah Wagner, Clerk