



# RAPID ACCESS

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### Route To:

- Chiefs
- Fire Prevention
- Station Captains
- EMS
- Haz-Mat Team
- Other



## Providing a Sense of Security

SOUTH DAYTONA, FL

South Daytona Fire Department has been using the Knox System for many years. Recently they expanded their Knox Program to include a residential program. While commercial businesses must purchase their own boxes, the department decided to offer the residential boxes at no cost to participants. These residential boxes are owned by the department and are lent to the resident on a temporary basis.

South Daytona was able to obtain the residential boxes for their loaner program with the help of several different organizations. "First, South Daytona's Citizen's Alert Council, a volunteer organization of community members working towards the betterment of our community, raised the funds to buy some boxes. Then the Fire Union and City each provided funds to purchase a box for the program," explained Lieutenant David Giles. With the help of these organizations, the department was able to purchase a dozen boxes.

The department promoted the residential program in the city's quarterly newsletter sent to all residents. In the article, the residential program was outlined and residents were encouraged to contact the fire department if they believed they needed a box.

When a box is available, the department contacts the resident to arrange a time to meet them at their home. While at the home, the resident completes a form providing basic contact information. "We have a form that is completed at the residence's home that asks for their name, address, contact information, etc. We also record the Knox-Box serial number and the date the box was installed. There is a disclaimer on the form that states the Knox-Box is the property of the fire department and that if they



L to R - Lt/PM Giles, Capt. Liskovec, FF/PM Jarvis of the South Daytona Fire Department

move out or don't need the box any more, to return the box to the fire department," Giles said. The resident signs this form.

While at the house, the department installs the box and locks the resident's key inside. "We work with the home owner. They don't always want the box on their front door. In particular, if they have a

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# EDITORIAL

*In this New Year, there is much excitement coupled with a lot of uncertainty. As budgets are shrinking, departments are looking for ways to continue to provide quality service to their customers with ever decreasing funds. In this issue, we've outlined the federal grant program and how it can benefit your department. If you haven't thought of applying for a grant, now may be the time. Additionally, you'll learn about a department who offers a residential box lending program at no cost to the resident or the department. If you haven't checked out what is new at Knox, I'd suggest you stop by our booth at an upcoming tradeshow in your area. You'll find a list of upcoming shows on page 7. The Knox newsletter is the fire department's voice as well as ours. If you would like to share how your department has solved issues by instituting the Knox program, or if you have some valuable pointers for departments just implementing the system, let's spread the word in the newsletter. Please contact me at 800.552.5669 ext 505 or [cjones@knoxbox.com](mailto:cjones@knoxbox.com). Thank you for your support of the Knox System. We look forward to serving your department for years to come.*

*Cynthia Jones*



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## 2009 Authorization Order Forms

The 2009 Authorization Order Forms were mailed to each registered fire department in December 2008. We appreciate your diligence in making sure that only the newly formatted 2009 order forms are being used and that all forms from previous years have been discarded.

**If you need additional forms, please call Knox at 800.552.5669 and we will get them sent out.**

You may have noticed that the Residential Knox-Box Series 1650 is not on the 2009 Authorization Order Form. Over the past few years as our product offering increased and the Authorization Order Form has grown in size, we have received requests for an order form targeted specifically to residents that did not contain any commercial products. Many departments had residential customers who found the Authorization Order Form a little overwhelming or confusing. Therefore, we made the decision to produce two Authorization Order Forms in 2009 – a commercial version containing only commercial grade products and a residential form with only the 1650 Series product. The supply of forms sent to departments in December contains our commercial grade products.

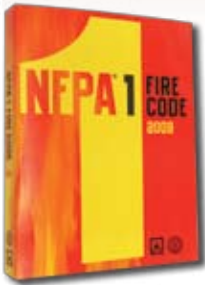
**If your department would like a supply of Residential Authorization Order Forms in addition to the Commercial Authorization Order Forms, please call Knox at 800.552.5669 and request the Residential Order Form.**

Thanks for your help and cooperation!





# NFPA Fire Code Acknowledges Value of Knox Locking FDC Cap



During the 2008 NFPA code hearings held in Las Vegas, a proposal to include a provision allowing Locking Fire Department Connection plugs/Caps code was passed under unanimous consent.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) a non-profit organization, tasked with the goal of fire and life safety, is recognized as one of the world's leading authorities on issues related to public safety. NFPA, with over 80,000 members around the world, develops and distributes more than 300 detailed codes and reference guides with the sole purpose of minimizing the possibility and negative impact of fire and other significant risks. NFPA is recognized and enforced the world over.

One of the premiere publications that NFPA develops is NFPA 1, Fire Code. Formerly referred to as the Uniform Fire Code, NFPA 1 is an inclusive model fire code. The scope of NFPA 1 includes: Inspection, Investigation, Plan Review, Access Requirements, and Fire and Life Safety, among many others. The new proposal to allow AHJs the authority to require locking fire department connection caps reads as follows:

**Code Substantiation:** Given the vulnerability of sprinkler/standpipe connections and their susceptibility to the introduction of foreign matter from both accidental and malicious actions, a methodology to secure the FDC connections is vital... These (Locking) caps and plugs represent advancements in current technology available to protect these vulnerable connections. The code change gives provisional authority to require these caps/plugs to the local AHJ.

As communities look for ways to improve Homeland Security, the vulnerability of automatic sprinkler systems and the potential compromise of fire department connections (FDCs) merit attention. The NFPA code change mirrors this sentiment and underscores the importance of protecting sprinkler system integrity.

Knox locking stainless steel FDC plugs, large diameter Storz connection protection StorzGuard, and hydrant/standpipe SecureCap, help protect FDC openings from miscellaneous foreign objects to ensure overall fire sprinkler system reliability and building safety.

The code change has been a long-term project that has involved many people at various levels of local government and


**UNPROTECTED**



**KNOX PROTECTED**



model code organizations. In particular, we want to take this opportunity to thank Jim Everitt, code consultant and Chair of the NFPA West Regional Code Development Committee for his guidance and support of this important fire code enhancement. In 2006, Mr. Everitt and the development committee carefully evaluated and sponsored the initial proposal introduced by Knox Director of Public Affairs, Larry Pigg. The proposal went through the NFPA review and public comment process before being included in to the 2009 Fire Code.

This code addition is not an endorsement by NFPA of Knox locking FDC products. It is the understanding that this new technology can be a significant enhancement to the integrity of fire sprinkler and standpipe systems. In these times, it is mandatory for fire and life safety officials to explore every available technology to assure the integrity of structures and survivability of occupants. 

## 2009 NFPA 1 Fire Code of the National Fire Protection Association 2009

### Chapter 13 Fire Protection Systems

13.1.12. *“The AHJ (Authority Having Jurisdiction) shall have the authority to require locking fire department connection (FDC) plugs or caps on all water-based fire protection systems.”*

*Note: Jim Everitt's code consulting and advisory service can be contacted at [codewise@myexcel.com](mailto:codewise@myexcel.com)*

# Federal Grants



Since the very beginning of the Republic, the states and the federal government have fought over the issue of rights, responsibilities and authority. The framers of the Constitution opposed a strong central government, choosing to let the authority fall to each state or territory. Out of necessity and over time, the states have given over much of their authority to the federal government. One way the federal government distributes funds back to the states is through inter-governmental monetary transfers or "Grants". Federal grant programs go back to the late 1700s where Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton proposed a federal aid program to assume state Revolutionary War debt. Federal grant programs run the gambit of needs and interests. There are education grants and economic revitalization grants. Everyone has heard of land grants, but did you know there are even sea grants, that award money to projects that affect coastal areas and the fragile wetlands? Over the years, the dependency of state and local governments on federal agencies has grown to the point where the money that is distributed has become standard operating procedure. In the new paradigm of security and continuity of government that is post September 11th America, the federal government has recognized the need to send a strong message that addresses emerging needs.

As we enter a new year, it is time to prepare for the FEMA/Department of Homeland Security Aid to Fire Grant and Fire Prevention & Safety Grant Programs. For several years the AFGP has proven to be a powerful tool that local governments can utilize to upgrade equipment and fund new fire prevention and arson abatement programs. Since 9/11 there has



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been over 10 billion dollars allocated for the enhancement of Homeland Security. The current AFG and FP&S have proven to be so successful that they are funded through 2010. According to the official 2008 DHS FP&S Program Guidance, lock-box installations are listed as eligible projects. (Source: 2008 FP&S Program Guidance, Appendix 1 Allowable Expenses, A.1.1 General Prevention/Awareness)

Most federal grant dollars go directly to individuals in the form of entitlements. The largest being Pell Grants, college assistance grants named in honor of former Rhode Island Senator Claiborne Pell. Regarding states and

local governments, federal grant money can comprise as much as 15% of their annual fiscal budget. Over 25% of all new roads and sewage treatment plants are constructed with matching federal grants. At one point a few years ago, there were over 500 active federal grant programs in action, all at the same time. There is no free lunch. With a slowing of the economy the dollars that are going to the states is dropping significantly. Conversely, the competition for these dollars is growing, with cities employing professional grant administrators to try to give them an edge. All grant programs will make certain requirements of the recipients and there will be mandatory audits to ensure program continuity. In the case of the FP&S, the local jurisdiction, among other things, will have to participate in National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). There will also be a matching funds component where communities have to match the federal share based on population served.

## **Some of the current grants administered by FEMA are:**

- UASI Security Grant Program
- Buffer Zone Protection Program (BZPP)
- Competitive Training Grants Program (CTGP)
- Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)
- Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program
- Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP)
- Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP)
- Port Security Grant Program (PSGP)
- Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP)

## Retrofitting Knox® key boxes on existing buildings

Several communities have used grant money to initiate a retrofit program that insures all structures meet intent of the fire codes. The benefits of a retrofit program as it relates to Knox products will be evident in several ways. Some are tactical for the responding crews and others will be realized in reduced operating costs to the public.

- All structures will be at the same level of protection
- Older or abandoned buildings are readily accessible to emergency crews
- Retrofitting a rapid entry system into a gated complex will lower the response times
- Elevator override keys near elevators corridors allow immediate control by firefighters
- Enhanced firefighter safety
- Lower damage to structure during forcible entry
- Improved loss control to risk managers and property owners



### Knox® FDC

As communities look for ways to mitigate against potential threats, the vulnerability of automatic sprinkler systems and the potential compromise of fire department connections are emerging as areas that merit attention. You can go

to almost any major airport in America and find FDC caps missing, making the terminal and adjacent structures vulnerable to attack. Open “uncoupled” FDCs are also vulnerable to even accidental/ incidental physical contact that can damage the threads and make them unserviceable. Blocked FDCs have been responsible for many catastrophic fires in recent years. The Knox FDC locking cap can lessen the threat, while maintaining the highest level of overall sprinkler reliability.



*The current federal grant programs put a priority on EMS related products and services.*


### MedVault™

With the growing risk to providers, Narcotic/Controlled Substance security is an ever-increasing concern for both fire departments and independent EMS providers. Drugs such as Morphine and Valium require top security, while at the same time Paramedics need immediate access during an emergency. The current federal grant programs put a priority on EMS related products and services.



### Residential Box Program

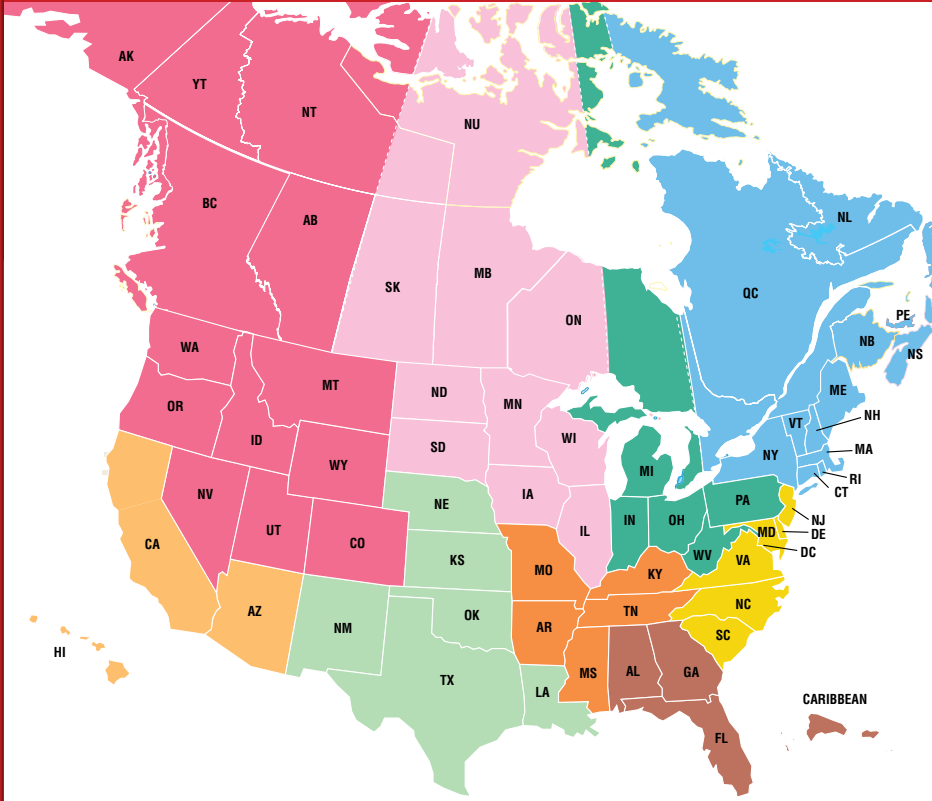
A Residential Box program is a cost effective way to reduce critical response times and can offer residents a level of security and independence knowing that first responders can assist them should the need arise. Applications for a residential box program include medically dependent and limited mobility individuals along with seasonal residents or those that live in large multi-unit assisted living centers. One of the primary stated target goals of the current FP&S grant program are programs geared toward senior citizens. Grant requests that focus on these groups will be given a higher priority. A Residential Box Program could be beneficial.

Federal grants have long been a part of the way money is passed through the various levels of government. The federal government uses grants to affect public opinion and to advance social policy. In this age of Homeland Security and heightened attention to eliminating risk, the wise application of grant money can have a positive impact on any fire department. While you are looking at new fire equipment, training, and prevention programs remember to look for ways to strengthen your department and improve your level of service through Knox products. 





# Knox Contacts



## FIRE SERVICE MANAGERS

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## SUPPORT CONTACTS

### FIRE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT

This department provides customer service to fire departments.

**800-KNOX-BOX  
(800-566-9269)**

### ELECTRONIC SUPPORT

This department deals exclusively with technical questions regarding KeySecure® and Sentralok® units.

**866-KNOX-BOX  
(866-566-9269)**

### PROPERTY OWNER SUPPORT

Property Owners & General Inquiries to Knox should be directed to our main number.

**800-552-KNOX  
(800-552-5669)**

# Master Key Care

The Knox Master Key is a high security key with many security features built into the actual key. Normally you should not encounter any problem with your Knox Master Key, particularly if it is kept in a master key retention device. Unfortunately, not everyone uses a master key retention device. This leaves master keys vulnerable to additional wear and tear. Due to the security features of the key, additional wear and tear on the key can result in difficulty in the locking and unlocking of a Knox box.

The Knox Company recommends you test your existing master keys on a regular basis to ensure they operate correctly. If you encounter a master key that does not consistently open a box, we suggest you follow the steps below to determine if it is the master key that is damaged or if the lock core has been contaminated with grit.

1. Try three, or more, different master keys to determine if it's the key or the keyway.
2. If all keys have difficulty opening the box, it is most likely an issue of the lock core having been contaminated with grit. Complete the annual maintenance steps listed below and retry the keys.

## Medeco® Lock Annual Maintenance

- Spray lock mechanism with a dry Teflon lubricant such as Key Lube or LPS-1.  
**CAUTION:** Do not use oil-based products such as WD40.
- Operate lock several times to check operation and spread lubricant.

If the lock still does not open consistently, perform the following procedure:

- Spray the lock cylinder generously with a good carburetor cleaner such as Gum Out, Poxylube or LPS-1. These products leave no residue that may interfere with

the moving parts of the lock. **CAUTION:** Keep lock cleaner off building wall as it may cause discoloration to the building's paint.


- Take the Knox master key and work it in and out of the lock several times.
- Spray the lock cylinder with a dry Teflon lubricant a second time.
- With a rubber mallet lightly tap the lock (if rubber mallet unavailable, place a piece of wood against the lock core and lightly tap it with a wrench or hammer). This sends a vibration through the lock core to help free the pins.
- Re-try all three keys. If all three keys still experience problems, contact Knox Fire Service at 1-866-566-9269.

3. If one or more keys function properly, i.e., has no difficulty in opening the box, then the keys that have difficulty are most likely damaged and need to be replaced.

In line with Knox key security policies, fire department requests for master keys must be written on department letterhead, signed by an authorized signer and mailed to the Knox Company. In the letter, please state that you are replacing a damaged master key.

Please mail the original letter when making key requests. We cannot accept faxes or copies when you are requesting keys. In addition, keys are shipped to your department's physical address via FedEx and require a signature acknowledging receipt. Please provide your street address rather than a post office box.

The original master key being replaced must be returned to the Knox Company for evaluation. Once our evaluation is complete, the key will be destroyed.

Again, problems are very rare with the master key. To reduce the likelihood of there being a problem, the Knox Company highly recommends you store your master key in a master key retention device. 

# KNOX NEWS

## 2009 Tradeshow Schedule

Show	Location	Dates
CO ICC	Denver, CO	March 2-6
California Fire Prevention Institute (CFPI)	Buellton, CA	March 18
EMS Today	Baltimore, MD	March 27-28
Southeastern MI Fire Chiefs	Novi, MI	April 8
SC EMS Symposium	Myrtle Beach, SC	April 15-18
Oregon Fire Chiefs	Bend, OR	April 16-18
FDIC	Indianapolis, IN	April 20-25
Saskatchewan Fire Chiefs	Prince Albert, SA	April 23-26
Ontario National Fire & Emergency Expo	Toronto, ON	May 2-6
Fire-Rescue Med	Las Vegas, NV	May 4-6
Idaho Fire Chiefs	Idaho Falls, ID	May 7-9
Northwest Fire & Rescue Expo	Portland, OR	May 15-16
Fire Expo	Harrisburg, PA	May 15-17
Winnebago CO Fire Chiefs	South Beloit, IL	May 20
Washington Fire Chief	Spokane, WA	May 27-26
NY Fire 2009	Verona, NY	June 10-13
Wisconsin Fire Chiefs	Wisconsin Dells, WI	June 18-21
New England Fire Rescue	West Springfield, MA	June 25-28

## The Key to a Secure System

Knox System security is always important. Protecting the Knox® Master Key and documents listing installation addresses helps ensure that the Knox System is solely for the benefit of your department.

The four security steps listed below are the ways your department contributes to the security of the Knox program in your community. Thank you for following these simple yet important rules.

- 1. Keep all Knox keys in a secure place.**
- 2. Do not release the Knox provided keys to any non fire department or law enforcement personnel.**
- 3. Do not provide Knox installation database access to any non fire department or law enforcement personnel unless required by law.**
- 4. Notify Knox immediately of loss, theft or attempted duplication of any key.**



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# Sense of Security...

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security door it makes it difficult to install the box on the front door. If they want it on a side garage door, we'll put it there," Giles stated.

"We had a lady who had a six foot fence around her house with a locked gate. We attached the Knox-Box to the fence. Had we put it on the door, the locked gate would have defeated the purpose of the box. The box at this residence had a key to the front gate and the front door," explained Giles. Elaborating further, "Whatever works for them (resident), works for us."

"Then working with dispatch, we have the Knox-Box information included on the premise tab. This tab tells us exactly where the box is located at the residence and gives us a heads up on where to look for the Knox-Box when responding to a call to the residence," shared Giles.

Each residential box has a sticker affixed to the box with the South Daytona name and telephone number. Additionally, the department also engraves its initials and an assigned number on each box. This number is in addition to the serial number

located on the box's tag. This information on the box serves as a reminder that the box belongs to the department and not the resident and helps the department retrieve the box once a resident moves or passes away.

"We don't have any disqualifying criteria for getting a box. While we had a waiting list at one time, we were able to obtain a few more boxes and currently no one is waiting for a box," shared Giles.

South Daytona Fire encourages residents to request a box when they recognize a need. "If we see there is a need for a box during a call, we tell them about the program and encourage the resident to contact the fire department to be placed on the waiting list for a box," explained Giles.


Lt Giles shared an example of why the department believes the residential program is needed: "Two months ago, a neighbor called asking us to respond to the house next door. When we arrived the house was locked up. An ambulance automatically responded with the fire department. As we checked all the doors

SOUTH DAYTONA, FL



and windows, one of the paramedics starting checking potted plants and rugs on the front porch and found a key to the front door. This underlines that people need to have a secure way for us to get in. If we can find the (hidden) key, then anyone trying to break into the house can find it. The box gives people a nice sense of security."

While South Daytona Fire is looking at adding additional boxes to their program, they're very pleased with the program so far. "People are amazed that the program is available and it's free. They're not used to getting something for free," said Giles.

South Daytona Fire Department serves a community of 15,000 with 13 firefighters working out of 2 stations. 



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