

§ 167-26. {High – Rise Building}

Knox fire-lock boxes. [Amended 08-18-2004, effective 09-15-2004

- A. Fire lock box location switch key (fire lock box) shall be installed on the exterior of all buildings. Compliance shall include but is not limited to those buildings having a fire alarm system or fire suppression system, commercial buildings, businesses, mercantile occupancies and multifamily structures having three or more dwelling units.

For specific box type, location and contents property owners should be directed to The City of Buffalo, Bureau of Fire Prevention, Room 321 City Hall, Buffalo, New York 14202 at 851-5707.

All Knox – Box Installations Shall:

- Be installed on the exterior of the building within 10 feet of the entrance door normally used by the Fire Department to access the building.
 - The top of the box shall be installed no higher than 6 feet or lower than 5 feet from the adjacent ground level.
 - The box must be installed in such a manner as to be clearly visible and free from any obstruction {including trees, bushes, etc.}
 - If the box is equipped with a tamper switch, the letter “A”, in either yellow or white shall be placed on the door of the box.
 - The box shall not be painted, as this hampers and in some cases, prohibits entry into the box. {Boxes that have be painted must be replaced}
 - The red reflective Knox – box decal shall be placed on the entrance door of the site normally used by the Fire Department, 5 feet above the adjacent ground level.
 - All keys placed inside the box must be marked with a metal tag or stamped identification on the key identifying access or which device it operates. The Commissioner of Fire or his designee shall approve all fire lock box locations. Owners of existing installations which need to be retrofitted with switch key (fire lock box) must complete the retrofitting within one year after the effective date of this section.
- B. The fire lock box shall contain keys for access to the following areas:
- (1) All points of ingress and egress, whether doors are on the interior or exterior of the building;
 - (2) Keys for the main entrance to suites;
 - (3) Padlock keys for personnel and vehicular gates;
 - (4) Keys for mechanical, plumbing, and electrical equipment rooms;
 - (5) Keys for control valves;
 - (6) Keys for breakaway pad locks;
 - (7) Keys for fire alarm panels;
 - (8) Keys for roof hatches;
 - (9) Keys for Phase I and II firefighter service;
 - (10) Keys for hoistway access;
 - (11) Keys for hoistway locking devices;
 - (12) All common areas of the building which may be secured; and
 - (13) Any other areas deemed necessary by the Commissioner of Fire or his designee.