

Fire & Life Safety Bureau

"Excellence through Engineering, Education and Enforcement"



KEY ACCESS BOXES

Per the **Florida Fire Prevention Code (FFPC), 7th Edition, § 18.2.2.1; Access Box(es)**. The AHJ shall have the authority to require a key access box(es) to be installed in an accessible location where access to or within a structure or area is difficult because of security. The access box(es) shall be of an approved type listed in accordance with UL 1037.

FFPC § 16.3.4.3 – Where access to or within a structure or an area is unduly difficult because of secured openings or where immediate access is necessary for lifesaving or firefighting purposes, the AHJ shall be permitted to require a key box to be installed in an accessible location. [241:7.5.3]

FFPC § 16.3.4.4 – The key box shall be an approved type and shall contain keys to gain access as required by the AHJ. (See Section 18.2.) [241:7.5.4]

West Manatee Fire & Rescue District's local ordinance, Section 10.1 – 10.2.2 – Key Box/Lock Systems

10.1 Where a structure is equipped with a fire alarm system, sprinkler or standpipe system, or when required by the AHJ, an approved key box shall be required. The tumbler shall match the fire department key. The location of the key box shall be approved by the Bureau. Keys shall be provided to gain access to fire alarm panels, electrical room, sprinkler room, and any other area to which this department may require access. Where required, keys and locks shall be "mastered". Instructions for the key box may be obtained from the District.

10.1.1 Installation height of the key box shall be a maximum of six (6) feet above finished grade or as approved by the AHJ.

10.1.2 New buildings requiring a key box shall have a recessed style box installed, unless otherwise approved by the AHJ.

10.2 In the event manual vehicle gates are installed which would impede access to a building, or complex of buildings, the gate shall meet the minimum requirements for access and clearances as specified in Section 9.2.2 of this Code.

10.2.1 If determined by the AHJ that any installed gate would impede the access to a building, complex or a fire hydrant, the owner, occupant or property management shall supply an approved lock box or pad lock keyed to the Fire District in which it is installed in order to facilitate access to the building, complex or hydrant.

10.2.2 Penalty, see Section 17.

The owner or occupant of a structure or area shall notify the AHJ when the access is modified in a manner that could prevent fire department access.

CRITERIA

Approved Key Access Box Type:

Knox Company	Model 3200 or larger
Available from:	Knox Company
	1601 W. Deer Valley Road
	Phoenix, AZ 85027
	Phone: (800) 552-5669

Orders can be placed online at www.knoxbox.com for the approved products listed above.