

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AND IMPLIMENTING A GENERAL ORDINANCE OF THE WOLF CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT IN THE COUNTIES OF ST FRANCOIS AND STE GENEVIEVE, TO REQUIRE KNOX BOXES AT NEW COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS, EXISTING COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS WITH IMPROVEMENTS, EXISTING COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS, RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES, BOARDING HOMES AND CERTAIN MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

WHEREAS, an ordinance is necessary to require certain commercial and residential buildings to install Knox Boxes; and,

WHEREAS, the benefits of installing Knox Boxes include providing immediate emergency access to firefighters leading to increasing Fire Department efficiency; preventing costly forced entry damage and allowing undamaged doors to be re-secured after the emergency; and protecting property, inventory, equipment and supplies as well as firefighters against possible injuries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE WOLF CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1:

Knox Boxes.

- A. Knox Box Required for New Commercial Buildings.** All new commercial buildings shall have installed a Knox Box, of a UL type and size approved by the Wolf Creek Fire Protection District Fire Chief or Official designated by the Fire Chief, in a location specified by the Wolf Creek Fire Protection District prior occupancy.
- B. Knox Box Required for Existing Commercial Buildings with Improvements.** All existing commercial buildings constructing improvements shall have installed a Knox Box, of a UL type and size approved by the Wolf Creek Fire Protection District Fire Chief or Official designated by the Fire Chief, in a location specified by the Wolf Creek Fire Protection District prior to completion of construction.
- C. Knox Box Required for Existing Commercial Buildings.** All existing commercial buildings equipped with automatic fire detection and/or suppression system shall have installed a Knox Box, of a UL type and size approved by the Wolf Creek Fire Protection District Fire Chief or Official designated by the Fire Chief, in a located specified by the Wolf Creek Fire Protection District within six (6) months of the effective date of this Ordinance.

- D. Knox Box Required for Multi-Family Residential Structures/Residential Care Facilities/State or Federal Regulated Boarding Homes.** All multi-family residential structures, residential care facilities and state or federal regulated boarding homes that have restricted access through locked doors and have a common corridor for access to the living units shall have installed a Knox Box, of a UL type and size approved by the Wolf Creek Fire Protection District Fire Chief of Official designated by the Fire Chief, in a location specified by the Wolf Creek Fire Protection District within six (6) months of the effective date of this Ordinance.
- E. Knox Box Contents.** All Knox Boxes shall contain labeled keys, easily identified in the field to provide access into the property and/or building, and to any locked areas within the said building as the Wolf Creek Fire Protection District may direct.
- F. Penalties.** Any property or building owner failing to comply with, or in violation of the terms of this Ordinance after notice from the Wolf Creek Fire Protection District, shall be subject to a fine of One Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$100.00).
- G. Definitions.** “Knox Box” means a secure rapid entry system that is designed to be used by Fire District Personnel in the event of an emergency to gain entry into a structure by using the enclosed owner provided key(s). This box is usually mounted on the exterior of the building in a location that is specified by the local Fire Official. All boxes shall be UL (Underwriters Laboratories) certified and approved by the Wolf Creek Fire Protection District.
- H. Knox Box Location.** The Knox Box shall be installed and located to the right of the main entry door to the required structure. The Knox Box shall be located five (5) feet from the ground.

Section 2:

Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage according to law.

WOLF CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

KEN NASH, Chairperson/President

ATTEST:

COLIN ROGERS, Secretary
(SEAL)

APPROVED:

KEN NASH, Chairperson/President

COLIN ROGERS, Director/Secretary

CHARLES FARR III, Director