



TULARE COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

835 S Akers St, Visalia, CA 93277 - Phone (559) 802-9800 - Fax (559) 747-8242

Charlie Norman
FIRE CHIEF

RAPID KEY ENTRY SYSTEMS (KNOX BOX)

The KNOX rapid entry system is a secure emergency access program developed for property owners and fire departments to allow immediate access without forced entry, damage or delay.

KNOX BOX

Property owner's store entrance keys and cards used exclusively by the fire department during emergencies. When a fire breaks out or there is a medical emergency, the KNOX BOX allows immediate entry into a building and/or property by the fire department without forced entry which can cause damage and delay assistance.



2019 California Fire Code Section 506.1 Where access to or within a structure or an area is restricted because of secured openings or where immediate access is necessary for life-saving or firefighting purposes, the fire code official is authorized to require a key box to be installed in an approved location.

ORDERING PROCEDURES:

1. Fill out the KNOX BOX Authorization Order Form.
 - To order online, visit knoxbox.com, select department (Tulare Co Fire Dept), and product.
 - For a paper KNOX BOX Authorization Order form, call our office at 559-802-9807.
2. Submit KNOX BOX Authorization Form online or by mail with payment to:
Knox Company
1601 W. Deer Valley Road
Phoenix, AZ 85027

(Note: The Tulare County Fire Department does **NOT** process paperwork or receive shipments).

INSTALLATION SPECIFICATIONS:

1. The KNOX BOX shall be installed no lower than 5' feet and no higher than 6' feet above finished grade, adjacent to the main building entrance that fronts the public street access unless designated at a different location by the Tulare County Fire Department.
 - It must be installed in plain view, as you approach the building, in a location not likely to be hidden with landscape growth or other obstructions.
2. Follow the manufacturer's installation instructions.

INSTALLING KEYS AND BOX COVER:

1. Have key(s) made that will provide access to the interior of the building, and the interior secured areas and any specific keys requested by the Tulare County Fire Department. (Note: Multi-tenant buildings should provide access keys for each tenant space as above. A Master Key for all tenant spaces are preferred).
2. All keys must be labeled using a substantial key identification tag that will withstand exposure to moisture.
3. Test all Keys in lock mechanisms before contacting the Tulare County Fire Department (559) 802-9807 to install the box cover.
4. Contact the Tulare County Fire Department for an appointment to install the keys and box cover.

KNOX KEY SWITCH:

The key switch is primarily utilized for secured premises where gates or key pad security entrances have been installed.

2019 California Fire Code Section 506.1.1 An approved lock shall be installed on gates or similar barriers when required by the fire code official.



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Phoenix, AZ 85027

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INSTALLATION SPECIFICATIONS:

1. Once the Knox Key switch arrives, it will need to be installed by the owner or owner's representative on the gate/key pad post or where otherwise specified by the Tulare County Fire Department.
(Note: Follow the manufacturer's installation instructions).
2. Once the installation has been completed, contact the Tulare County Fire Department (559) 802-9807 to test and verify the operations of the key switch.



KNOX PADLOCKS:

The KNOX Padlock is primarily utilized where gates have been installed restricting access to fire department access roads or fire lanes.

2019 California Fire Code Section 506.1.1 An approved lock shall be installed on gates or similar barriers when required by the fire code official.

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INSTALLATION SPECIFICATIONS:

1. Once the KNOX Padlock arrives, contact the Tulare County Fire Department (559) 802-9807 to secure the padlock to the gate.



**If you have any questions, please contact the
Tulare County Fire Department at (559) 802-9807.**