



### **Knox Rapid Access System**

The Knox Rapid Access System is a secure emergency access program developed for property owners and fire departments. When a fire or an emergency occurs, the Knox Box Rapid Access System allows firefighters and paramedics immediate access into buildings and properties without forced entry damage or delay. Property owners store keys and access cards in high security Knox Boxes mounted near building entrances and fire sprinkler riser rooms. Each Knox Box purchased by a property owner is keyed to a master key controlled by the Denton Fire Department. In addition to key boxes, Knox padlocks and gate switches are operated by the same master key.

### **Where Required**

In accordance with the International Fire Code Section 506, a key box is required to be installed where access to or within a structure or area is restricted because of secured openings or where immediate access is necessary for life-saving or firefighting purposes. Knox is the only approved key box system for the City of Denton. Knox Boxes shall be installed at all main entrance doors and exterior fire sprinkler riser room doors.

### **How to purchase a Knox Box**

Knox maintains strict security control by only allowing the Denton Fire Department to authorize the purchase of each Knox product in the City of Denton. A Knox Box can be purchased on the company's website at [www.knoxbox.com](http://www.knoxbox.com) by clicking "BUY," then entering your location as "TEXAS" and selecting "Denton Fire Dept" as the local fire department/agency. The website shows approved boxes only when "Denton Fire Dept" is selected. Once your order has been approved by the Denton Fire Department, you will receive an email confirmation.

### **General Knox Box Installation Requirements**

Knox Boxes shall be mounted near the main entry door to the building and at the fire sprinkler riser room (if applicable). Depending on the type of Knox Box, the Denton Fire Department typically recommends that the box be mounted on the right side of the door, between 48" and 60" above the ground. For large developments, additional key boxes may be required as determined by the Denton Fire Department. Once the Knox Box has been installed, call Fire Prevention at (940) 349-8118 to request a fire inspector to secure your master key and/or access card the box.

### **Gates Across Fire Apparatus Access Roads**

The Building Safety Department issues permits for the installation of fences and gates. Gates across fire apparatus access roads shall meet the following requirements:

- Opticom-compatible receivers are the only approved automated entry systems for access gates across fire apparatus access roads.
- Electrically-operated gates shall be opened using Opticom transmitters, which shall override all other operating systems. The gate control shall be operable by an approved Knox gate switch located on the entrance side of the gate. In the event of power failure, the gate shall be automatically transferred to a fail-safe mode allowing the gate to be pushed open without the use of special knowledge or equipment.
- Manually-operated gates shall be approved by the Denton Fire Department (through review of the building permit) and shall include an approved Knox padlock system.