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## Ames Fire Department Standard Operating Guidelines

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Book: 2 – Routine Operations

Section: V – Equipment Operations

Chapter: 1 – **Knox® Fire Department Connection Program**

Date Approved: 02-20-2008    Revision No.: New    Approved by: 

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### **PURPOSE:**

This procedure establishes the proper installation, maintenance, and requests for Knox® Fire Department Connection locking caps.

### **POLICY:**

The International Fire Code (Chapter 912.3.1) and International Building Code (Chapter 912.3.1), both adopted by the City of Ames, authorize the installation of locking caps in local jurisdictions.

The code reads as follows: *“Locking Fire Department Connection Caps: The fire code official is authorized to require locking caps on fire department connections for water-based fire protection systems where the responding fire department carries appropriate key wrenches for removal.”*

### **PROCEDURES:**

In an effort to protect fire department connections (FDCs) against vandalism and from foreign matter from entering sprinkler systems, the Knox® Fire Department Connection program authorizes use of locking FDC caps to eligible property owners throughout the City.

### **Key Wrenches**

Specialized wrenches, called key wrenches, are required to lock/unlock FDC caps.

- Key wrenches can be accessed in the following locations:
  - On all first-out fire apparatus.
  - In both the engineer’s compartment of trucks and engines and in a designated spot of the cab.
  - In the cab of all rescue vehicles, Car 1, and Car 2.
- Key wrenches in Car 2 are available for use by mutual aid companies.
- In the event the Ames Fire Department is asked for additional key wrenches:
  - Requests by local contractors for key wrenches should be routed through appropriate Fire Department Knox® representatives.
  - The Knox® Company will provide the Ames Fire Department with a special Contractor registration form authorizing local contractors to obtain Knox® key wrenches.
  - Key wrenches will be delivered to the Ames Fire Department after the FDC registration form has been completed and submitted to Knox®.
  - Key wrenches are provided free of charge for fire department use, but remain the property of the Knox® Company.

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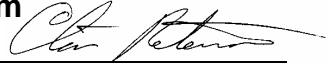
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**Locking FDC Caps**

- Maintenance of the locking FDC caps is the responsibility of individual property owners.
- Requests by property owners for additional locking FDC caps should be routed through appropriate Fire Department Knox® representatives.

**REFERENCES:**

International Fire Code, International Code Council, Inc., (2006).

International Building Code, International Code Council, Inc., (2006).

[www.knoxbox.com](http://www.knoxbox.com), Knox Company.