

**TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH HACKENSACK
COUNTY OF BERGEN**

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-06

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 75 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH HACKENSACK ENTITLED "RAPID ENTRY BOX SYSTEMS"
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WHEREAS, the South Hackensack Volunteer Fire Department and the South Hackensack Fire Official have advised that it is in the best interest of the public health, safety and welfare to require all commercial property owners as described herein to install a rapid entry box system; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee agrees with the recommendations of the Fire Department and its officials that a rapid entry system will protect the health and safety of the certain business owners, patrons, firefighters and first responders.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of South Hackensack that Chapter 75 of the Municipal Code is hereby created and established.

SECTION I: Chapter 75 of the Code of the Township of South Hackensack entitled "Rapid Entry Box Systems" be and is hereby created and shall read as follows:

Chapter 75 RAPID ENTRY BOX SYSTEMS.

75-1 Purpose.

The Governing Body of the Township of South Hackensack finds that in order to better protect the property and welfare of certain businesses, business patrons and Fire Company members, a uniform system for rapid entry into certain buildings in the event of a report of a fire emergency is required. (

75-2 Applicability.

- a. The following structures or buildings shall be required to have installed a rapid entry box system.
 1. Any industrial or warehouse building or structure.
 2. Hotels, motels or multiple dwellings which have locked main entrances at any time during the day or night or which have locked boiler rooms, electrical rooms, basements, sprinkler control rooms or elevator control rooms.
 3. All educational and day-care buildings or structures.
 4. All mercantile buildings and structures including shopping centers.
 5. All office buildings and structures.
 6. All buildings and structures of public assembly including houses of worship and restaurants.

75-3 Definitions.

- a. The following words used in this section shall have the meanings set forth below unless the context in which it is used clearly requires a different meaning:

Affected structures or affected buildings shall mean any of the structures or buildings described in subsection 75-2 above.

Multiple dwellings shall mean a residential building containing three (3) or more dwelling units.

Rapid entry box system shall mean a locking vault-like container permanently mounted into the affected structure or building and accessible from outside of such structure or building.

75-4 Type of Rapid Entry Box Required.

Each affected building or structure shall cause an appropriate rapid entry box to be permanently mounted into the structure or building and accessible from outside the structure or building. Each rapid entry box shall be of sufficient size and configuration to allow the required contents as set forth below to be conveniently stored therein. In order to assure acceptability of the rapid entry box chosen, each owner, tenant, or other responsible party of each affected structure or building shall receive approval from the South Hackensack Fire Official as to the size, type and configuration of the proposed rapid entry box.

75-5 Location Requirements.

The location on the outside of the building or structure at which the rapid entry box is to be located must be, as nearly as possible, uniform in order to promote quick accessibility upon arrival of fire personnel at the scene of an

emergency. Given differing structural characteristics of different types of structures and buildings, the location of the rapid entry box on the exterior of each building or structure shall be submitted to and approved by the Township Fire Official.

75-6 Required Contents of Rapid Entry Box.

The rapid entry box for each building or structure shall contain a separately and clearly labeled key for each locked area within the building or structure (for example, boiler rooms, electrical rooms, sprinkler control rooms, elevator control rooms, etc.), the building plan of any structure or building in excess of thirty thousand (30,000) square feet, sprinkler keys, elevator keys, and information concerning any hazardous materials contained within the building or structure, and a clear indication as to the part of the building or structure within such hazardous materials are contained.

75-7 Compliance Deadline.

Compliance with the provisions of this section must be achieved on or before May 31, 2017.

75-8 Master Key Security.

As used herein, "master key" shall mean the instrument used to gain access to the various rapid entry system boxes to be utilized as a result of the provisions of this section. The Fire Department shall establish a system of security and procedures to limit access to any master key(s) to authorized personnel in times of emergency. The Fire Department shall, to the extent feasible and practical, use the latest technological advances available to preserve and enhance the security of the master key(s).

75-9 Violations and Penalties.

Violation of the provisions of this section shall be punishable by a one hundred (\$100.00) dollar fine for the first offense and a five hundred (\$500.00) dollar fine for each subsequent offense. All enforcement of this section will be conducted by the Fire Official or his designated Fire Inspectors, Fire Chief, and Fire Sub-code Official.

SECTION II: All ordinances or any part thereof that is inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of said inconsistency.

SECTION III: If any portion of this ordinance is found to be unconstitutional or in violation of law the remainder of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION IV: This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as required by law with initial compliance with same no later than January 15, 2017.

Introduction: October 13, 2016
Motion: Brugger
Second: Eckel
Absent: Regan
Roll Call Vote: Brugger, Cagas, Eckel & Stefano

Adoption: November 10, 2016
Motion: Brugger
Second: Eckel
Absent: Regan & Stefano
Roll Call Vote: Brugger, Cagas, & Eckel

Donna L. Gambutti, RMC
November 10, 2016