Dear property owner,

 It is the goal of our Lower Township Fire Departments and the Lower Township Bureau of Fire Safety to provide the most current, safe, and efficient services to the citizens and businesses within our community. With that in mind, the Bureau of Fire Safety and the Township of Lower have adopted Ordinance 2017-02 requiring the installation of Knox Boxes on specific buildings:

* Residential rental properties protected by an automatic alarm system or automatic suppression system.
* Commercial and industrial structures protected by an automatic alarm system or automatic suppression system.
* Multi-dwelling unit structures that have restricted access through locked doors and have a common corridor for access to dwelling units.
* Government owned structures, assisted living or nursing care facilities.
* Other structures including but not limited to: airport hangars, gated nature trails, gated sportsman’s clubs, water towers, solar fields or utility enclosures, educational facilities (public and private) and places of worship that have been determined to be secured in a manner that restricts access during an emergency.

 The Knox system is nationally known and utilized in over 13,000 municipalities across the US.

 The current system of notifying a building key holder and waiting for entrance keys to arrive causes the departments’ unnecessary and often prolonged delays. In addition, maintaining keys to alarmed buildings has become unmanageable.

 The use of the Knox system will allow the fire company to access the building quickly, minimize forced entry damage and protect firefighters from injury.

 The Knox system utilizes a single master key that is pin code locked inside of each Fire Department vehicle. Only authorized Fire Department personnel will have access to the master keys that are secured inside of the Fire Department vehicle.

 As of September 15, 2017 these types of buildings will be required to install the Knox Box Rapid Entry System within 90 days. **To order Knox Boxes, go to** [**www.knoxbox.com**](http://www.knoxbox.com) **and click the red BUY button. Enter the State of your property then choose Lower Twp Bureau of Fire Safety as your department.** Knox will ship your order directly to you. Each Knox Box is shipped without keys, locked in an open position and is ready for mounting. Contact the Lower Township Bureau of Fire Safety once the box is mounted and the contents are ready to be placed inside the box.

 Please feel free to call the Lower Township Bureau of Fire Safety at (609) 889-0404 for more information or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Embs

Fire Official