

**BOROUGH OF PERKASIE
ORDINANCE NO. 990**

**ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF PERKASIE ADDING
ARTICLE III: INSTALLATION OF KNOX BOX REQUIRED AT SECTION 92-9
THROUGH 92-11 TO THE PERKASIE BOROUGH CODE OF ORDINANCES
REQUIRING THE INSTALLATION OF KNOX BOXES**

WHEREAS, the Borough Code at 8 Pa.C.S.A. § 101 *et seq.*, authorizes the Borough Council of the Borough of Perkasia ("Borough Council") to make and adopt ordinances that are consistent with the constitution and laws of the Commonwealth when necessary for the property management, care and control of the Borough and the maintenance of peace, good government, health and welfare of the Borough and its citizens;

WHEREAS, Borough Council has met and will meet the procedural requirements for the adoption of the proposed ordinance; and,

WHEREAS, Borough Council, after due consideration of the proposed ordinance at a duly advertised public hearing, has determined that the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of Perkasia Borough will be served by the amendment of the Code of Ordinances of the Borough of Perkasia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Perkasia, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of same as follows:

SECTION 1. The Official Code of Ordinances of Perkasia Borough at Chapter 92 is amended to add Article III, Sections 92-9 through 92-11, as follows:

ARTICLE III: Installation of Knox Box Required

§ 92-9 Purpose.

- A. The purpose of this Part is to protect and promote health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Borough and particularly commercial businesses.
- B. An ordinance is necessary to require certain commercial buildings to install Knox Boxes.
- C. The benefits of installing Knox Boxes include providing immediate emergency access to firefighters leading to increasing Fire Department efficiency; preventing costly forced entry damage and allowing undamaged doors to be re-secured after the Fire Department's emergency response; and protecting private property,

inventory, equipment, supplies and preventing possible injury to firefighters and emergency responders from forced entry into property.

§ 92-10 Knox Boxes.

- A. **Knox Box Required for New Commercial Buildings.** All new commercial buildings shall have installed a Knox Box, of an Underwriters' Laboratories (UL) type and size approved by the Borough Fire Marshal, in a location specified by the Borough Code Enforcement Officer, prior to the issuance of the permit to occupy.
- B. **Knox Box Required for Existing Commercial Buildings with Improvements.** All existing commercial buildings constructing improvements that require any Land Use or Zoning approval shall have installed a Knox Box, of an Underwriters' Laboratories (UL) type and size approved by the Borough Fire Marshal, in a location specified by the Borough Code Enforcement Officer, prior to the issuance of a construction permit and/or certification of occupancy.
- C. **Knox Box Required for Existing Commercial Buildings.** All existing commercial buildings equipped with automatic fire-detection and/or suppression systems shall have installed a Knox Box, of a UL type and size approved by the Borough Fire Marshal, in a location specified by the Borough Code Enforcement Officer, within six (6) months of the effective date of this Chapter.
- D. **Knox Box Contents.** All Knox Boxes shall contain labeled keys, easily identifiable in the field, to provide access into the property and/or building and to any locked areas within the said building as the Borough Fire Marshal may direct.
- E. **Locked Gates or Driveways.** Any locked gates or driveways which allow access to a commercial business are required to place a Fire Department access lock on the access point to allow immediate emergency access to the commercial property. All locks are to be approved by the Borough Fire Marshal.

§ 92-11 Penalties.

Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provisions of this Chapter, upon conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days. Each day that a violation of this Chapter continues shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances that are inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed, it being understood and intended that all ordinances and the Borough Code, such

as are not otherwise specifically in conflict or inconsistent with this Ordinance, shall remain in full force and effect, the same being reaffirmed hereby.

SECTION 3. The Council of the Borough of Perkasio does hereby reserve the right, from time to time, to adopt modifications of, supplements to, or amendments of this Ordinance, including this provision.

SECTION 4. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional, by any court of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be separate, distinct and independent, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. The failure of the Borough of Perkasio to enforce any provisions of this Ordinance shall not constitute a waiver by the Borough of its rights of future enforcement hereunder.

SECTION 6. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately and be in force from and after its enactment as provided by law.

SECTION 7. Under the authority conferred by the Borough Code, 8 Pa.C.S.A. § 101, *et seq.*, and other relevant statutory law, the Council of the Borough of Perkasio in the County of Bucks, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania does hereby enact and ordain this Ordinance for the Borough of Perkasio this.

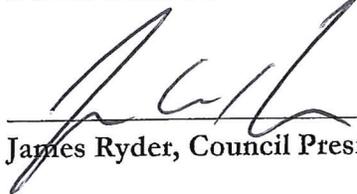
Approved by the Borough Council of the Borough of Perkasio, this ^{2nd} day of ^{November}, 2015.

Attest:



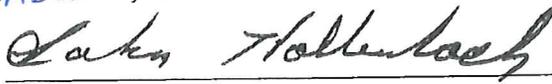
Andrea L. Coaxum, Secretary

BOROUGH OF PERKASIE



James Ryder, Council President

Examined and approved this ^{2nd} day of ^{November}, 2015.



John Hollenbach, Mayor