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| ***REPLACE WITH YOUR MASTHEAD*** |
| **VFIS logo black JPG** | **SOG Title:** |
| **SOG Number:** |
| **Original Date:** | **Revision Date:** |
| **ABC Fire Department General Operating Guideline** |

**Security Gates**

***This is a sample of a standard operating guideline (SOG) on this topic. You should review the content, modify as appropriate for your organization, have it reviewed by your leadership team and if appropriate your legal counsel. Once adopted, make sure the SOG is communicated to members, implemented and performance monitored for effective implementation.***

**Purpose:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as long recognized that certain properties have installed security gates especially in apartment complexes. These gates can cause significant delays, impede fire and rescue truck placement, and generally reduce the efficiency of all emergency responders---fire, police, and EMS. However, it is the property owner's decision to install their security systems, and they have accepted the responsibility of hindering operations.

**Procedure:**

Depending on the particular facility, there are Knox Box locks on 91l boxes or switches activated by the\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ key. They may have entry codes that allow for gate entry. There is concern of damage to vehicles to possible malfunctions of gate controller systems and the size of fire equipment. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ personnel shall not cause damage to gate systems unless it is absolutely necessary for emergency operations. Personnel should take necessary steps to block open gates, but not damage them, if possible.

Swing gates may be held open manually by relocating the drive arm over center, or by using a heavy object. Slide gates may be held open by using a solid object (pry bar) between the gate pickets, or the drive chain may be derailed or cut. Certain gates may be manually forced open by personnel, apparatus SHALL NOT force open gates.

It is recommended that at least one member shall remain with the gate as it opens. This person should monitor the gate progress and stop movement with appropriate tools if imminent damage to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ personnel or equipment is likely. The gate will be manually held open as described in the paragraph above. Considerations will be given for POV's. The same guidelines shall be followed during gate exits.

It is noted that in the event of major events, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ may render security gates inoperative by whatever means are necessary. Consideration must be given to minimize damage to gates or fire-rescue apparatus.

It is imperative that members maintain key integrity by assuring all keys are accounted for. NEVER allow the key to remain in the lock/switch -TAKE IT WITH YOU.

***This is a sample guideline furnished to you by VFIS. Your organization should review this guideline and make the necessary modifications to meet your organization’s needs. The intent of this guideline is to assist you in reducing exposure to the risk of injury, harm or damage to personnel, property and the general public. For additional information on this topic, contact your VFIS Risk Control representative.***

**References:**

Ponderosa (TX) Fire Department, Security Gates SOG