



## Standard Operating Procedures

SOP # 2006-05

Effective Date: 7/1/06

**Subject:** Locking Fire Department Connections (FDC) caps, supersedes all previous S.O.P.s related to this subject unless otherwise stated herein.

**Purpose:** In an effort to improve Homeland Security, the vulnerability of automatic sprinkler and standpipe systems and the potential compromise of fire department connections (FDC's).

The locking FDC cap was developed to protect fire sprinkler connections from accidental damage, vandalism and physical attack. Installation of a locking FDC cap ensures sprinkler reliability and building safety by preventing foreign objects from entering the sprinkler system.

The locking caps are easily and quickly removed during an emergency with a keywrench. The keywrench engages a lock on the cap that is exclusive to the fire service nationwide. Keywrenches are controlled by each fire department that authorizes the program in their jurisdiction.

### **International Fire and Building Code**

The International Code Council has addressed the vulnerability of fire sprinkler systems via the Fire Department Connection (FDC). Effective January 1, 2003, the following language is included in both the International Building Code and International Fire Code:

IBC 903.3.7.1 & IFC 912.3.1 *Locking Fire Department Connection caps.*

*The fire code official is authorized to require locking FDC caps on fire department connections for water-based fire protection systems where the responding fire department carries appropriate key wrenches for removal.*

**Procedure:** All newly constructed and remodeled structures equipped with fire department connections (FDC's) for water-based fire protection systems shall be required to install locking FDC caps.

The Fire Chief shall designate the type of locking FDC caps to be installed within the City and shall have authority to require all structures subject to this section to install and use the designated system.

Approved Date:

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Building Official  
Building Department