

**ORDINANCE NO. 25-32-OAB**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BERKELEY, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER XIII, ENTITLED "FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION" OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BERKELEY SO AS TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS**

**July 21, 2025**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of Berkeley, County of Ocean, and State of New Jersey, as follows:

**SECTION 1.** The Township Code of the Township of Berkeley is hereby amended and supplemented so as to amend subsection a.1. of Section 13-2.3, entitled "Installation of Rapid Entry Boxes and Key Systems," which shall read as follows:

**§ 13-2.3          Installation of Rapid Entry Boxes and Key Systems**

a.        The following structures shall be equipped with a key lock box within 10 feet of the main entrance and no higher than six feet nor lower than five feet from the ground level immediately to the installation of the box, or such other location required by the Fire Official:

1.        All ~~new~~ commercial and industrial buildings. "Commercial and industrial building" shall mean buildings where any industry, trade or business is carried on or where any process or operation, directly or indirectly related to any industry, trade or business, is carried on and where any person is employed by another for direct or indirect gain or profit.

\*\*\*

**SECTION 2.** The Township Code of the Township of Berkeley is hereby amended and supplemented so as to amend subsection a.1. of Section 13-3.5, entitled "Installation of Rapid Entry Boxes and Key Systems," which shall read as follows:

**§ 13-3.5          Violations and Penalties; Administrative Inspection Fees for Excessive False Alarms.**

a.        The following administrative inspection fee shall be applicable as a result of excessive false alarms per occurrence within a calendar year:

1.        Zero to three: no fee.
2.        Fourth false alarm: \$250.

3. Fifth through seventh false alarm: \$500.
  4. Eighth and above false alarms: \$1,000.
- b. Failure to comply with any provision of this chapter shall be cause for court action against the responsible party or parties.

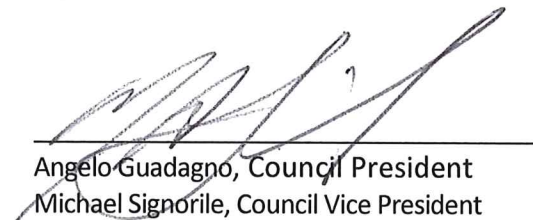
**SECTION 3.** Compliance with Section 1 of this ordinance is required by December 31, 2026.

**SECTION 4.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 5.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

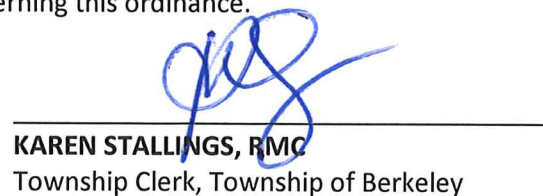
**SECTION 5.** This ordinance shall take effect after second reading and publication as required by law.

  
John A. Bacchione, Mayor

  
Angelo Guadagno, Council President  
Michael Signorile, Council Vice President

**NOTICE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the foregoing ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Berkeley, in the County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, held on July 21, **2025**, and will be considered for second reading and final passage at the regular meeting of said Governing Body to be held on the **18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025**, at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as this matter can be reached, at the meeting room of the Municipal Building located at 627 Pinewald-Keswick Road, Bayville, New Jersey, at which time all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning this ordinance.

  
**KAREN STALLINGS, RMC**  
Township Clerk, Township of Berkeley