

Safety Memorandum

To: All personnel
From: Engine Co. 1/Battalion #2
(Lt. xxxxxx, FF xxxxxx)
Date: XXXX
Ref: Potential Forcible Entry/Egress Problem
@ XXXX NoName St

All personnel should be made aware of the following potential forcible entry and firefighter/occupant egress problem that we recently observed at the NoName store located @ XXXX NoName St

The emergency exit door on Side C of the building (exits to the rear alley from the parking lot to Other Street) has been seriously modified with home-grown security devices in response to several burglaries. This would be near the C-D Corner of the store from the interior. The modifications include:

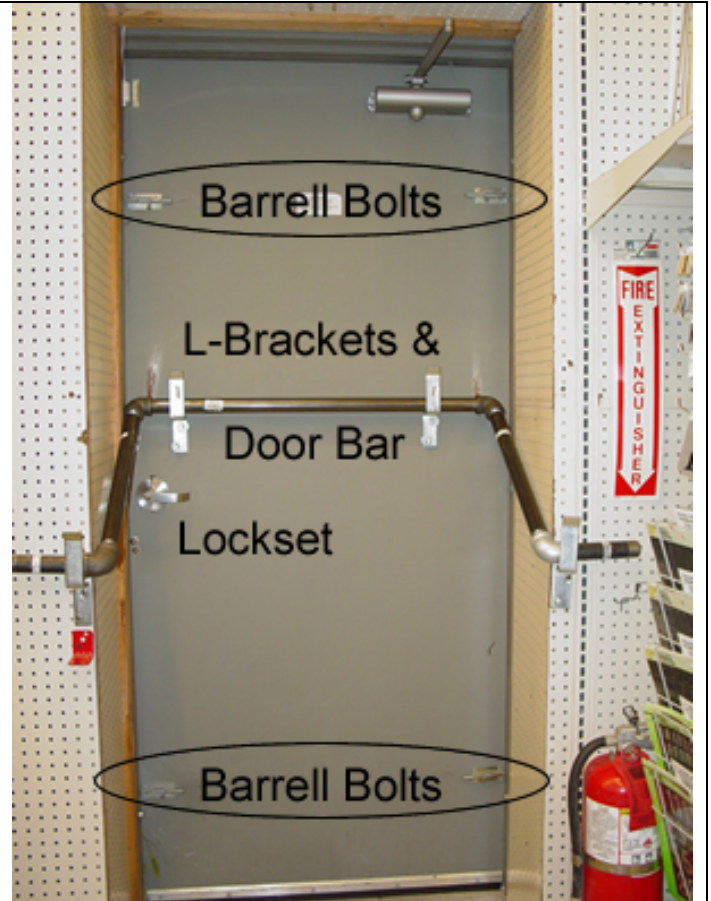
- The original lockset and door handle has been removed and replaced with an interior-only type lockset
- An exterior security plate has been added over the strike-plate area
- A barrel-bolt has been added in each corner of the door (total 4 additional locks) approximately one foot up from the bottom or down from the top of each corner of the door
- L-brackets have been carriage bolted to the center of the door and to the wall on either side of the door. Rather than the traditional 2 x 4 wooden door bar, the occupants have fabricated a very elaborate door-bar system out of schedule 40 black iron pipe. The door-bar is not only very heavy and strong, but also only slides into and out of its brackets at one specific angle.

Personnel should be aware of this locking system. In case of emergency response, the Side C door is not the best option for forcible entry. It is likely to also cause egress problems for any occupants if the door does happen to be locked at the time of an incident. We should also be aware of this system in case of a firefighter Mayday or rapid intervention situation in this building. In the event of a fire with interior crews working, it may be advisable for the Rapid Intervention Team to force this door early in the incident.

From a forcible entry perspective, the most efficient way to force this door will be to use a circular saw with metal cutting blade to remove a large triangle from the center of the door, and then attempt to remove the door bar and unlock the cylinder lock on the lockset through the hole. It may also be possible to cut the door bar in half with the saw, if it is not easily dislodged by hand. Traditional forcible entry methods can then be applied at the top and bottom of the door to force the barrel bolts.

The clerk we spoke with was happy to show us the locking systems and allowed us to take some photos, which are attached. She assured us that the door bar is removed and auxiliary locks are unlocked any time the building is occupied. This type of locking system is probably not atypical in Concord, and is worth the time to take a look at if you happen to be in the area.

**NoName Store, XXX NoName Street, Concord, NH
Side C Door**



Exterior view with door closed. Note 4 visible carriage bolt heads, indicating the possible presence of a door bar. Also note the lack of exterior doorknob and added strike plate protection.

Interior view with door secured. Note 4 barrell bolts and iron pipe door bar in position. This door bar can only be removed at one specific angle due to the approx. 16-inch thick walls.



Detail of door without security devices installed.

Detail of door with security devices installed.