

## McClellan, Lawrence

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**From:** Greene, Lori <Lori.Greene@allegion.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 9, 2018 7:59 AM  
**To:** Tierney, Michael; Bishop, Karen  
**Subject:** RE: A156.19 - Knowing Act

Hi Michael and Karen -

When we talk about modifying A156.19 to indicate whether an app to open an automatic door is a knowing act (email chain below), I just received a similar question that we should address:

If an exterior door is locked, has a low energy power door operator, intercom to communicate with front desk, person wishing to enter communicates with front desk via intercom, front desk pushes button which simultaneously unlocks door AND activates power door opener. Does this classify as a "knowing act" or would you have to install proper safety sensors onto the door?

I see that A156.19 will be discussed at the upcoming BHMA meeting. I'll be there and I'm looking forward to having an answer on this one. I talked to both the Access Board and the ICC and they both basically said that it's up to BHMA.

- Lori

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**From:** Tierney, Michael [mailto:MTierney@kellencompany.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 2, 2018 2:56 PM  
**To:** Greene, Lori <Lori.Greene@allegion.com>  
**Subject:** RE: A156.19 - Knowing Act

That's how I feel too. Thanks.

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**From:** Greene, Lori [<mailto:Lori.Greene@allegion.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 02, 2018 3:53 PM  
**To:** Tierney, Michael; Bishop, Karen; Woestman, John  
**Subject:** RE: A156.19 - Knowing Act

Thanks for the quick response! I hope this can be added to the definition because it would be a real shame to limit the use of a system like this by requiring control sensors and rails.

- Lori

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**From:** Tierney, Michael [<mailto:MTierney@kellencompany.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 2, 2018 3:51 PM  
**To:** Greene, Lori <[Lori.Greene@allegion.com](mailto:Lori.Greene@allegion.com)>; Bishop, Karen <[KBishop@kellencompany.com](mailto:KBishop@kellencompany.com)>; Woestman, John <[JWoestman@kellencompany.com](mailto:JWoestman@kellencompany.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: A156.19 - Knowing Act

We've been informally agreeing it meets the intent. Will be working on A156.19 this fall and will be a topic to address.

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**From:** Greene, Lori [<mailto:Lori.Greene@allegion.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 02, 2018 3:46 PM  
**To:** Tierney, Michael; Bishop, Karen; Woestman, John  
**Subject:** A156.19 - Knowing Act

Hi All –

I have a question that I hope you can help with. It has to do with the “knowing act” requirement of A156.19. Here's the definition from the standard, for reference:

*2.1 Knowing Act* *Consciously initiating the powered opening of a low-energy door using acceptable methods including: wall or jamb-mounted contact switches such as push plates; fixed non-contact switches; the action of manual opening (pushing or pulling) a door; and controlled access devices such as keypads, card readers, and keyswitches.*

I came across a system that allows a user who is unable to push the button to open the door using an app on their phone. As long as the app is open and running in the background, the door opens automatically when that person comes within a certain distance of the door. It's fabulous technology for those users. Here's a video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nViaOT58014&list=PLYJffitj7eHONh9qHT9e7oOPDiWbhhtnY&index=3>.

The question is this. Could that app be considered an access control device and qualify as a knowing act to open the door since it is only opening for that particular occupant? The doors that will open for them via the app are identified with a sticker. The follow-up question is, if you think that this app could qualify as a knowing act, is there a process to get an official opinion that could be used with an AHJ?

- Lori

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