

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

PURPOSE:

- To establish a guideline to indicate the proper use of firefighter protective clothing in order to ensure the safety of the fire department personnel

GUIDELINE:

1. Personal Protective Equipment, better known as turnout gear will be issued to all members upon completion of orientation to the department and completion of the Oswego County Insurance cards.
2. Personal Protective Equipment shall include the following.
 - a. Helmet including eye protection and liner
 - b. Nomex Hood
 - c. Turnout Coat
 - d. Turnout Pants
 - e. Boots
 - f. NFPA/OSHA Gloves
 - g. Rescue Gloves
3. All members responding to alarms are expected to have all issued Personal Protective Gear available for use.
4. Personnel are expected to wear turnout gear at all alarms unless allowed to dress Down by command at which time the minimum allowable gear to be worn is Helmet, Gloves, Bunker Pants, and Boots when hoselines, ladders, or rescue tools are in use. **This includes Training**
5. Apparatus Operators may choose not to wear turnout gear while operating the Vehicle but must don it before undertaking emergency scene operations.
6. All turnout gear shall be donned prior to entering the apparatus as all members are expected to be seated prior to apparatus operation.
7. All personally owned equipment must be approved by the Chief before it can be Worn.

EMS ALARMS

1. All members responding to EMS calls are expected to have their turnout gear Available for use and to wear it if personal clothing is inappropriate. (Swimsuits, shorts, sandals, no shoes or shirt)
2. Members responding to Motor Vehicle Crashes are expected to have all Issued Turnout Gear with them, if not they will stay out of the action zone.

FIRE POLICE

1. Members will be issued necessary reflective wear for both summer, winter, and adverse weather, and shall utilize it when performing traffic or crowd control

INSPECTION:

1. It is the responsibility of each firefighter to inspect his/her gear. The inspection shall be done after each incident and once a month. Once a year the chief shall inspect the gear and note the condition.
2. Inspections shall include looking for:
 - Dirt,
 - Wipe off, brush off, hose off, or scrub off and then wash in department washer machine if needed.
 - Contamination---blood, hazardous materials, and/or hydrocarbons, The bunker gear shall be checked over by the chief or infectious control officer and handled appropriately.
 - Tears, holes, or wear, if necessary the personal protective clothing shall be taken out of service and repaired.

STORAGE

1. Personal protective clothing shall be stored whenever possible in the members issued locker.
2. Members that are allowed to take personal protective home will ensure it is stored in a clean, dry, location **out of direct sunlight**.

IDENTIFICATION & PERSONALIZING:

1. Helmets shall have a minimum of reflectivity when issued; reflective may be added but not removed.
2. A Scriba Fire Dept Front Sticker will be applied to all department owned helmets and a leather front will be provided for awarded New Yorkers
3. Red Stripes will be applied for rapid identification to all probationary and interior firefighters in training.
4. Orange reflective stickers will be placed on all the helmets of support members upon completion of probation.

MAINTANACE, CLEANING and DRYING:

1. Helmets shall be maintained reasonably clean. Eye shields, chin straps, and suspension shall be kept in good condition. Helmets shall be cleaned with warm tap water and mild detergent (dish soap). Other cleaners that can be used are rubbing alcohol, non-ammoniated window cleaner and household detergent. Industrial strength cleaners and petroleum-based cleaners will damage the helmets.
2. Hoods shall be cleaned with warm water and mild detergent then air-dried.
3. Bunker coat and pants can be machine washed with liners removed, one set of gear at a time. If the gear is heavily soiled, wash in utility sink first, with warm water and mild soap. **Do not machine dry gear air-dry only.**
4. Boots shall be cleaned with warm water and mild detergent.
5. Gloves shall be washed with warm water and mild detergent then air-dried inside and out.