

405 PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS (PPE)

PURPOSE:

To establish criteria for the wearing of PPE issued pursuant to **Section 255** as determined by membership classification. These requirements are further designed to assure fire department compliance with all state mandated regulations regarding this subject.

SCOPE:

This policy is applicable to all personnel as defined by their classification.

RESPONSIBILITY:

It shall be the responsibility of the appropriate Fire Line Officers and or Fire Company Trustees (non operational circumstances) to enforce the regulations of this Section.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

All PPE provided shall conform to N.F.P.A. standards

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE USE OF PPE:

Turnout gear shall be worn at all times that personnel are exposed to hazardous conditions, including training exercises. Hazardous areas are determined by the officer in charge of the incident. SCBA shall be worn per Policy 311 Respiratory Protection Program. In general these areas meet the following criteria:

- Pose a physical hazard to the firefighter
- Pose a possible physical hazard to the firefighter
- Areas where firefighters may be exposed to rapidly deteriorating safety conditions

Only the officer in command of an incident has the authority to declare any areas, or the entire scene, as safe or to declare the need for only limited components of protective gear (I.E. brush fires). All personnel shall wear all components of protective gear, until advised by an officer that it is not required.

Additional hazards that have been identified and other PPE shall be worn:

- Members operating on roadways shall wear high-visibility safety apparel. Members are not required to wear the apparel when performing firefighting operations. This decision will be made by the incident commander.
- Members operating at incidents where Bloodborne pathogens may be present shall wear PPE per the Policy 420 Bloodborne Exposure Plan.
- Members operating Marine 40 or on or near waterways shall wear a personal flotation device. Members shall follow policy 1185 Marine Guideline in the EMS Operations Manual.
- Members shall utilize chaps when utilizing chain saws while operating at non-fire incidents.
- Members working the Engine Room shall follow the posted safety signs.