



Standard Operating Guidelines  
Section 90.0

SECTION:		GUIDELINE:	
90.0		Protective Clothing	
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Purpose:

## Protective Clothing

It is the policy of the Fire District to provide personnel with the appropriate protective clothing and equipment. This protective clothing and equipment shall be used whenever an individual is exposed or potentially exposed to workplace hazards. The protective clothing and equipment purchased by the department shall meet or exceed the requirements of NFPA 1971-Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting and department specifications in effect at the time of purchase. Each individual is responsible to utilize and maintain their protective clothing when soiled or body fluids encountered (clean immediately) and equipment consistent with the manufacturer's instructions and department policy or guidelines.

Protective clothing shall not be modified in any manner without written approval from the Department and manufacturer. Only personal protective clothing or equipment issued by the fire department is authorized for use. Personal items such as hand lights, wire cutters, small tools, etc. may be utilized provided they do not reduce the level of protection provided by issued clothing/equipment.

Personnel shall not remove their protective clothing until such time that their company officer or the Incident Commander (IC) determines that such protection is no longer necessary. If operating conditions warrant, company officers may increase or decrease the required level of PPE but the responsibility to protect their personnel from injury remains with the officer.

### Training:

All personnel shall have a working knowledge of their assigned Personal Protective Equipment (PPE.) They shall be able to identify when the PPE is necessary, what PPE is necessary, how to properly don, doff, adjust, and wear the PPE, the limitations of the PPE, and how to properly care for, maintain, and dispose of the PPE.

### Storage of PPE:

Protective clothing and equipment shall be stored in the appropriate location at the fire station. Protective clothing shall not be worn or stored in the living or office areas of the fire station. This includes the kitchen, dayroom, bunkroom, washrooms, or other areas.

### Cleaning, Maintenance, and Inspection:

It is the responsibility of the company officer to ensure that their assigned personnel maintain clean turnout gear. Frequent cleaning may be required based on exposure to fire products or blood borne contamination.

Washing of turnouts is to be done at a station equipped with a turnout gear washer. Turnout gear shall not be washed at home, at a Laundromat or dry cleaned. Turnout gear with blood borne contamination may be first sprayed/rinsed with an approved product to help in removal of any stains, and then washed in a turnout gear washer.

For other than regularly scheduled inspections, if assigned gear becomes unserviceable, the individual shall notify an Officer. Any unserviceable turnout clothing is to be cleaned, removed from service, and repaired or replaced.

The following personal protective equipment assessment was completed and certified by \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Level 1 Protective Clothing:**

Department issued fire fighting boots, bunker pants, coat, hood, helmet with chinstrap fastened and equipped with helmet shield or goggles, firefighting gloves, and SCBA.

**Level 2 Protective Clothing:**

Department issue fire fighting boots, bunker pants, coat, hood, helmet with chinstrap fastened and equipped with goggles or safety glasses and helmet shield, and firefighting gloves.

**Level 3 Protective Clothing:**

Department issue fire fighting boots, bunker pants, coat, hood, helmet with chinstrap fastened and equipped with goggles or safety glasses with helmet shield, and firefighting gloves or approved extrication gloves.

**Level 4 Protective Clothing:**

Department issued firefighting boots, bunker pants, coat, traffic safety vest and helmet with chinstrap fastened.

TASK	REQUIRED PPE
CO	1
EMS Assists	4 and Body Substance Isolation
HAZMAT(Fuel, LP, Natural Gas, Ammonia, etc.)	1
High Dust (Hay, Grain, Woodworking)	1
Hose Test	4
Hybrid Vehicle Operations	3 and High Voltage Gloves
Ladder Operations, Fire	1 and Ladder Belt
Ladder Operations, Rescue	2 and Ladder Belt
Landing Zone	2
Pump Operations/Drivers	4 and Safety Vest
Saw Operations	2
Smoke/Gas Environment	1
Structure Fire, Attack/Back Up	1
Structure Fire, Support	2
Structure Fire, Ventilation	1
Technical Rescues	2
Traffic Control	4
Training	Set by Training Center
Vehicle Fire	1
Vehicle Rescue with Tools	3
Wildland Fire	2

Traffic safety vests shall be stored on each vehicle/apparatus so that they are readily accessible by

personnel. The vest shall be worn whenever personnel are operating in areas of vehicular traffic. The vest shall be donned immediately upon exiting the vehicle or apparatus and includes instances when turnout gear is worn. Turnout coats alone are not acceptable as high-visibility highway safety apparel. The exceptions to this requirement are:

- A. When SCBA is worn
- B. When wearing hazardous materials personal protective equipment
- C. When wearing technical rescue personal protective equipment



