



**GLASTONBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES**



SOG NUMBER: FDO-102

ISSUED DATE: 04-20-06

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CATEGORY: EMERGENCY OPERATIONS - GENERAL

SUB-CATEGORY: DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVE

SUBJECT: PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT

Section I – Introduction

A. Objectives

To provide a standard relative to the proper personal protection, in the form of structural fire fighting protective clothing and protective safety equipment, that will be utilized by fire department members exposed to dangerous situations and hazardous atmospheres and/or environments.

B. Applicability

Fire Department members shall utilize and wear protective clothing and protective safety equipment as prescribed by the guidelines contained herein. Use of fire fighting protective clothing and protective safety equipment as defined and prescribed within this guideline shall be considered mandatory during emergency operations and/or whenever the chance or risk of personal injury to fire department members may exist.

C. References

Town of Manchester Fire – Rescue – EMS General Operating Guidelines

Section II – Responsibility

Department Officers (and/or the Incident Commander) will have the overall responsibility to insure that members of the department (and other department working in concert with Glastonbury Fire Department) abide by fire department guidelines regarding the use of fire fighting protective clothing and protective safety equipment. All fire department members are directly responsible for their personal safety and shall utilize proper firefighting protective-clothing and protective safety equipment as prescribed within this guideline.

Section III – Definitions

All fire department personnel shall wear and utilize fire fighting protective clothing as defined herein:

Full Protective Clothing

- Helmet
- Gloves

- Turnout Coat
- Hood
- Turnout pants (with suspenders)
- Turnout boots – short boots
- SCBA face piece

Protective Safety Equipment

- Eye Protection Safety Glasses
- Traffic safety vest
- Personal work gloves

Section IV – Guidelines

Responding to an Emergency

Those members responding to alarms in enclosed vehicles are not required to wear helmets during response but must have all their assigned protective clothing available once they reach the scene.

If, during a response to an alarm, an unusual condition or hazard presents itself the officer may at his/her discretion order all personnel into any level of protective clothing which may be necessary to protect said personnel from injury or death.

Emergency Operations:

All members shall wear and utilize appropriate clothing during emergency operations.

Personnel actively engaged in fire fighting shall wear full protective gear. Any person without proper gear shall not enter the fire building or engage him/herself in activities in the immediate area of the "Hot Zone".

If the officer in charge deems the fire building or adjoining buildings safe, individuals (fire fighters and civilians) may be permitted to enter without full protective gear.

Members shall not remove their protective clothing until such time as their company officer or the officer in charge determines that such protection is no longer necessary or that a reduced level of protective clothing will be sufficient.

If, in their opinion, operating conditions warrant a change, company officers may increase or decrease the level of protective clothing which is required for themselves and their personnel but the responsibility to protect their personnel from injury remains with that officer.

If, during multiple company operations, the Incident Commander specifies a certain level of protective clothing, then company officers shall not decrease that level for themselves or their personnel unless they are given authorization to do so by the Incident Commander.

During Training:

Members engaged in training sessions shall wear full protective clothing where applicable. Officers or members conducting training sessions are responsible to insure that all personnel involved utilize adequate protective clothing properly.

Full protective clothing shall be worn during simulated hazardous environments.

When conducting driver training, the protective clothing to be worn by those participating in the exercise shall be at the discretion of the company officer or member responsible for the training.

Routine Operations:

Members shall use appropriate safety gear and/or protective clothing when engaged in routine activities which may present a personal safety hazard. If members have questions regarding the need for safety gear for such routine activities or if they wish to obtain such gear they shall contact their immediate supervisor prior to beginning said activities.

Members involved in building inspections, pre-planning activities or tours shall, when necessary, wear proper and adequate protective clothing during such inspections, activities or tours so as to provide protection from any hazard which may be present in the area.

Members involved in fire company inspections, tours or pre-planning activities shall, when not wearing it, have full protective clothing available should the need for it arise.

When working a charged hose that is being tested, all members shall wear protective helmets and gloves.

Section V- Approval

Fire Chief Michael P. Tracy

Date of Approval: 1/11/10