

SPRINGFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT

Series 300

Title:	Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment	309
Category:	Health & Safety	7/2017

OBJECTIVE

- A. To ensure that all firefighters responding to an incident or training exercise maintains the highest degree of safety for personnel.
- B. This guideline shall apply to all departmental firefighters

EXPECTATIONS

It shall be the guideline of this department that all firefighters, when responding to an incident, be properly protected by wearing personal protective clothing and equipment as designated by this guideline, or the on-scene commander, or that protective clothing and equipment which is suitable for the tasks that the member is expected to perform in that environment as authorized by the on-scene commander.

REQUIRED PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- A. Defined: For the purpose of this guideline, full protective clothing and equipment shall consist of the following (as specified in MIOSHA Part 74) but not limited to;
 - Helmet with face shield and approved eye protection,
 - Protective hood,
 - Turnout coat,
 - Turnout pants,
 - Boots,
 - Gloves,
 - SCBA,
 - Hearing protection,
 - Pass alarm,
 - ID tags.
2. All clothing is to be properly fastened and closed with protective hood on, coat collar turned up and helmet earflaps down.
3. All clothing shall be issued or approved by the fire department. Removal of original liners or any alterations are prohibited unless performed by the manufacturer.
- B. Application: Protective clothing and equipment as defined herein shall be worn by all personnel according to the following guidelines:
 1. Under no circumstances shall any firefighter's safety be compromised in order to increase the speed of emergency operations. Emergency operations shall not commence until all involved personnel have donned necessary protective clothing and equipment as authorized by the on-scene commander.
 2. Full protective clothing and equipment shall be donned prior to entering the incident perimeter. Full protective clothing and equipment is optional for drivers and command officers during the response.

3. SCBA shall be provided for and shall be used by all personnel working in areas where:
 - the atmosphere is potentially hazardous,
 - the atmosphere is suspected of being hazardous,
 - the atmosphere may rapidly become hazardous.

In addition to the above, all personnel working below ground level or inside any confined space shall be provided with SCBA and shall use that SCBA unless the safety of the atmosphere can be established by testing and continuous monitoring.

4. Damage to personal protective clothing and equipment shall be immediately reported to the safety officer. The safety officer shall inspect the damaged article and order it replaced or repaired. Protective clothing and equipment damaged such that its protective ability is impaired shall not be used.
 5. Incident commanders may use their discretion to determine the appropriate level of protective clothing and SCBA required for personnel operating at incidents where no specific guidelines have been established. In all cases, personnel shall be required to wear all protective clothing and equipment necessary to protect against all potential hazards.
- C. Enforcement: As with any safety guideline, primary responsibility for adherence to this guideline rests with each individual. Fire department officers are responsible for enforcement of this guideline within their respective department. Authority to deviate from this guideline rests solely with the department officer that bears full responsibility for the results of any deviation.
 - D. PPE Inspections: Once annually, fire department officers shall personally inspect all personal protective equipment for each firefighter assigned to their fire department. The inspection shall be made in accordance with guidelines provided by the safety officer to assure that all personnel have all necessary clothing equipment.
 - E. PPE Cleaning: SCBA's shall be thoroughly cleaned and inspected after each use following the manufacturer's guidelines by personnel that have been trained and certified in this guideline. SCBA's shall be inspected once each month (In accordance with MIOSHA Part 74) following manufacturers guidelines.

REFERENCES: (1) NFPA Standard 1500, Chapter 5, Protective Clothing and Protective Equipment (2) MIOSHA, Part 74, Firefighting