

WALNUT STREET FIRE COMPANY # 4

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

SOP : 001

Title : Personal Protective Equipment

Date Approved By Company : 09 / / 07

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this standard operating procedure (SOP) is to establish the responsibilities of the Company and the members in providing, using and maintaining of personal protective equipment (PPE) to ensure the safety of members during training, response to emergencies and other appropriate times.

2.0 Scope

This procedure applies to all members of the Company who participate in training, emergency response or other activities requiring the use of PPE. Further, the portions of this procedure requiring use of PPE shall apply to other persons who may respond or function with the Company in situations requiring the use of PPE.

3.0 Company Responsibilities

3.1 It shall be the responsibility of the Company to purchase and provide to members, at a minimum, PPE as follows :

- Helmet with shield or NFPA – approved goggles
- Nomex hood or equivalent
- Bunker coat
- Leather gloves
- Bunker pants with suspenders
- Steel – toe and shank, rubber or leather fire boots

3.2 The Company shall also make available for members self – contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) with personal alert safety system (PASS) devices for the use of those members who are qualified to wear it as defined in the Madison Fire Department Respiratory Protection Policy which is adopted by reference herein.

3.3 PPE provided by the Company shall meet NFPA, OSHA and other applicable regulations. It is the responsibility of the Company to maintain PPE other than cleaning. The Captain shall be responsible for maintaining records of each item of PPE, including serial number, date of issue, to whom issued, etc.

4.0 Member Responsibilities

4.1 It shall be the responsibility of members receiving PPE from the Company to use it in a responsible manner and to keep it clean and good condition. Equipment needing repairs or replacement shall be presented to the Assistant Engineer for action. Members leaving the Company shall return all company-owned PPE

4.2 Members may purchase and use their own PPE that meets NFPA requirements and is compatible with Company PPE in features and appearance. In addition to providing protection, PPE serves as a uniform to identify members of the Company and members may not wear PPE from another fire company except in emergencies or if otherwise approved by the Captain.

4.3 Members shall inspect Company-issued and personally-owned PPE after each use.

5.0 Procedures

5.1 Except for the driver / operator, members riding the apparatus in response to an alarm shall don bunker pants, boots, bunker coats and helmets before boarding the apparatus. All members shall be seated with seat belts fastened while enroute to alarms and members shall not don gear while the apparatus is in motion.

5.2 Members shall wear whatever PPE is required to afford complete protection while operating at an incident that could present a hazard to personal safety.

5.3 Members shall use full PPE when entering a structure fire or other hazardous area.

5.4 When SCBA face pieces are not being worn such as when operating hand or power tools, fighting trash or grass fires, etc., shields or goggles shall be worn.

5.5 At a minimum, gloves and helmets shall be worn when using or training with ladders, hose, rope and tools. Gloves and helmets shall be worn during hose tests.

5.5 The company officer in command will be responsible for determining when any part of the PPE may be not worn or removed.

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