



ABINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

OG - 200-104

Protective Clothing for Structural Fire Fighting

1.0 PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for the use Structural Fire Fighting clothing to reduce the risk of illness, injury or death that might result from a member's exposure to a hazardous environment. This document applies to all members who are expected to work in hazardous environments.

This guideline is written to comply with the NFPA 1500 Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program Section, Chapter 7.2 Protective Clothing for Structural Fire Fighting.

2.0 RESPONSIBILITY

The responsibility to ensure that the actions described in this procedure are carried out belong to the following.

2.1 Company Members

2.2 Company Officers

3.0 PROCEDURE

3.1 Each company is responsible for providing each member with the appropriate protective clothing and protective equipment to provide protection from the hazards to which the member is or is likely to be exposed. This protective clothing and protective equipment shall be suitable for the tasks that the member is expected to perform.

3.2 Prior to issue of protective clothing and equipment members shall be trained in the maintenance and use of the equipment.

3.3 Each member assigned to fight structure fires shall be issued protective clothing and equipment that comply with all applicable NFPA standards and local requirements.

These items shall include but are not limited to:

3.3.1 Helmet (NFPA 1972).

3.3.2 Boots (NFPA 1974).

3.3.3 Gloves (NFPA 1973).

3.3.4 Coat (NFPA 1971).

3.3.5 Pants with suspenders (NFPA 1971).

3.3.6 Hood (NFPA 1971).

- 3.4** No alterations shall be made to protective clothing without the approval of the fire chief.
- 3.5** Each member operating within a perimeter designated as hazardous by the incident safety officer shall wear his full protective clothing in the pre scribed manner. The incident safety officer shall determine when and if it is safe to remove some or all of the clothing
- 3.6** Members shall be fully clothed beneath their turnout gear.
- 3.7** To assist members with identifying rank at an incident scene, helmets are color-coded as follows:
- 3.7.1** White: chief officers.
- 3.7.2** Red: Probationary Fire Fighters and Juniors [Helmets for Juniors will be marked with the word "Junior"]
- 3.8** Each member will properly maintain the protective clothing and equipment that has been issued to him/her.
- 3.9** Any equipment or protective clothing that is found to be unsafe or inoperable should be taken out of service and reported to the designated person(s) in their company.
- 3.10** Protective clothing and equipment that has been identified as damaged or inoperable should be tagged out of service and not be used until repaired.

4.0 RECORDS

- 4.1** Training Records
- 4.2** NFPA 1500 Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program