



## PROTECTIVE CLOTHING SOG

### SCOPE

This guideline shall apply to all members of the Stoney Point Fire Department (SPFD) and shall be adhered to by all members.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this SOG is to provide guidance to members of the SPFD and to establish an acceptable level of member personal protective safety during station duties, emergency operations, medical response and training activities.

Policy Number  
**7A.024A**  
Page 1 of 5

### GUIDELINES

#### **Personal Protective Equipment**

Each employee shall be furnished at least one complete set of structural fire fighting turnout gear consisting of:

- One Fire helmet with face shield
- One turnout coat
- One pair turnout pants with suspenders
- One pair structural fire fighting gloves
- One pair turnout boots
- One flash hood

#### **Structural Firefighting Gear**

- Shall not be permitted in any living space or sleeping area of any fire station.



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The use of interior structural firefighting PPE is mandatory during the following:

- When responding to fire related emergencies or alarms.
- **Exception:** Driver may don gear upon arrival at fire scene.
- Additional **Safety Reflective vests** must be worn when operating near or around traffic and hazards associated with traffic control.
- Does not include medical emergencies. **Exception:** Gear may be worn if extra protection is needed as not to cause any respiratory discomfort to the patient (IE, while engaged in PT, during nighttime hours.)
- Must be worn at working vehicle extrications.
- **Complete gear shall be worn in all open cab apparatus** when responding to and from emergency calls, including helmet and chin strap.
- **During non-emergency runs** must be used when in conjunction with members riding on open cab apparatus shall wear their helmet and secure the chin strap.

SCBA anytime a respiratory hazard may be present, including but not limited to:

- Interior firefighting
- Salvage and overhaul
- Ventilation
- Search and Rescue
- **Exception:** Hazardous Material Officer may oversee the apparel chosen specifically designed for Hazmat mitigation and stabilization.

NFPA Approved Wildland and Jump Suits are permitted instead of structural turn out gear, *when using as it is intended*. (IE, brush fires and *no structure fires*.)

Technical Rescue incident may call for specific PPE and equipment. Incident Commander and/or Rescue Officer may oversee the apparel chosen specifically designed for the Rescue Incident. (IE., high angle, swift water, confined space rescue.)

### **WATER RESCUE INCIDENTS**

Turn out gear shall not be worn at **ANY** water related incident.

Anyone in structural gear may not be with in 10 feet of the water. This includes *fire* helmet.

Anyone within 10 feet of the water should have approved personal flotation device on and securely fastened. **Exception:** Incident Commander, at his discretion, may allow the operation near water if there are reasonable circumstances allowing for the removal of a PFD. (I.E. very shallow water, no potential inherent dangers, etc.)

Policy Number  
**7A.024A**  
Page 2 of 5



Incident Commander at his/her discretion may allow the removal of PPE.

Gear must adhere to the following:

- Only fire fighting turnouts issued by department may be used unless approved in writing by the Fire Chief.
- Shall be kept clean and free of defects.
- Exterior Shell should be extracted after heavy use and soiling.
- Interior Liner should be cleaned as needed, and after heavy use.

No modifications may be made to gear unless approved by the Fire Chief.

Attachments to the helmet are allowed if they meet the following conditions:

- They serve to assist the firefighter in the duties of emergency operations (IE, flashlights, bands to hold items such as door chocks.)
- They do not pose a safety hazard.
- Questionable items shall be approved by the Fire Chief.
- Any Safety concerns should be addressed to the Training and Safety Division for final approval.

**Policy Number**  
**7A.024A**  
**Page 3 of 5**

### **Helmet Stickers**

The following helmet sticker rank insignia's and creditalling indicators shall be followed;

- Star of Life emblem – State certified EMT's or higher on back right of helmet
- Hazmat Creditalls – State certified Hazmat Operations or higher back left of helmet
- Firefighter rockers shall be worn by State certified Firefighter II's
- Engineer rockers shall be worn by State certified Driver Operator's
- Appropriate rank insignia rockers shall be worn by all department officers.

No other stickers or labels shall be placed on a department helmet above the brim line.

Personally owned helmets to be worn while performing duties for Stoney Point Fire Department will be in compliance with the sticker policy or they will not be worn during department functions.

Stickers will be allowed to be placed below the brim line on the helmet provided that they meet ANY of the following conditions:

- They are of a reflective material and serve identification purposes.
  - They are not obscene or offensive in any way.
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- They are approved by the Fire Chief.
  - Questionable items shall be approved by the Fire Chief.
  - Any Safety concerns should be addressed to the Training and Safety Division for final approval.

#### Specific Incident Apparel:

Specific items may be required during special operations, haz-mat, and technical rescue incidents. Items must meet *or exceed* response specific safety requirements.

The Incident Commander shall oversee use and selection of incident specific protective equipment.

Purchased items may be allowed if the Fire Chief has given expressed written consent to the employee. If request is granted, it must be in a written memo form and placed in the member's personnel file stating type of purchased equipment allowed to be worn on duty. No further written approvals will be necessary for that type of equipment. **It shall be the responsibility of the turnout gear inspection/issuance officer to ensure compliance with the request and written correspondence is on file.**

**Policy Number  
7A.024A  
Page 4 of 5**

Purchased items may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Leather Helmets
- Leather Turnout Boots
- Flash hoods
- Firefighting Gloves
- Safety Glasses (ANSI Approved)
- Specialized Rescue Equipment
- Coveralls, over garments, etc.

#### Eye Protection

All protective eyewear shall meet the minimum *ANSI Z87.1* compliant standard.

Proper eye protection shall be used during activities that may cause eye injury. Examples given but not limited to:

- Checking underneath fire apparatus during morning safety inspection.
- Using hammers, axe or forcible entry tools.
- During overhaul in PPE with a CO level below 35 ppm.
- Checking or using hydraulic equipment.



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It will not be necessary to have both helmet shield and goggles. However, the use of a shield **will** require additional eye protection in the form of safety glasses or goggles to provide for adequate eye protection.

OSHA approved Bourke's are allowed to be installed on a department helmet at the individual's own cost. In the event the member resigns or is dismissed from the department **the installed Bourke lenses will remain as part of the department's helmet due to the damage incurred during the installation process.** If a member refuses to agree to the stipulation in this paragraph the Bourke lenses shall not be installed on a department's issued helmet but instead can be worn on a personally owned and approved helmet.

**Any other item to be installed on a department issued helmet where it is necessary to drill through the outer shell must be approved by the Fire Chief.**

Safety glasses used during medical calls shall be clear lens when used at night or used in the interior of a building. This is for safe movement in dark environments and for good customer service when used indoors. People have a sense of trust and comfort when they can see the rescuer's eyes.

**Policy Number**  
**7A.024A**  
**Page 5 of 5**