

# POUDRE CANYON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

ISSUED: July 9, 2014

SUPERSEDES: May 15, 2014

REASON FOR CHANGE: Add requirements for operations near bodies of water.

OBJECTIVE: This policy establishes district requirements for wearing personal protective equipment during emergency response situations.

#### REFERENCES:

NFPA 1851 STANDARD ON SELECTION, CARE, AND MAINTENANCE OF PROTECTIVE ENSEMBLES FOR STRUCTURAL FIRE FIGHTING AND PROXIMITY FIRE FIGHTING

NFPA 1977: STANDARD ON PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT FOR WILDLAND FIRE FIGHTING

ANSI Z89.1 American National Standard Safety Requirements for Industrial Head Protection

ANSI Z87.1 American National Standard for Occupational and Educational Eye and Face Protection Devices

ANSI S12 Hearing Protection

#### POLICY:

1. Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District (PCFPD) provides responders with the appropriate protective clothing and equipment to protect them from the hazards of the work environment for which they may be exposed. All protective clothing **shall** meet the applicable National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard at the time it is purchased. Only protective clothing issued or approved by PCFPD **shall** be worn during response activities.
2. Full protective clothing and protective equipment **shall** be used whenever the member is exposed or potentially exposed to the hazards for which it is provided.
3. It is the responsibility of each Firefighter, along with the Incident Commander (IC), to ensure the proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is used during an emergency operation or other fire department activity.
4. Personnel **shall** be responsible for using and maintaining PPE in accordance with manufacturers' instructions.
5. Personnel **shall** inspect their PPE after each use, along with cleaning and maintaining it when appropriate. Personnel must get repairs or replacement items, when needed, by following established procedures.
6. Protective clothing **shall not** be modified beyond standard issue.

7. If PPE is not serviceable, it is the responsibility of the user to get the equipment repaired or replaced as soon as possible. The user can make arrangements to get the equipment either repaired or replaced via his/her Station Captain. If this is not possible, the user should notify their Battalion Chief.

#### REQUIRED TRAINING:

- Personnel **shall** be trained in the care, use, inspection, maintenance and limitations of the protective clothing and equipment assigned to them or available for their use.
- Personnel should be aware of the potential hazards of wearing rings and jewelry while on duty.

#### PROCEDURE:

Personnel **shall** wear the required protective clothing that affords complete and appropriate personal protection while working at the different types of incidents listed below:

##### A. STRUCTURAL FIREFIGHTING PPE

- Fire helmet
- Nomex hood
- Bunker coat and pants with suspenders
- Structural firefighting boots
- Structural firefighting gloves
- Self-contained breathing apparatus **shall** be used for interior attack
- PASS device
- Eye protection (if conditions warrant)
- Ear protection (if conditions warrant)

##### B. WILDLAND FIREFIGHTING PPE

- Wildland helmet with Nomex shroud, chinstrap, goggles and headlamp
- Nomex long-sleeve shirt and pants
- Leather wildland firefighting boots
- Fire shelter with carrying gear
- Leather gloves
- Ear protection (if conditions warrant)
- In rare occasions, structural PPE may be worn based on climate conditions and with approval of the Incident Commander (IC). Crews need to be aware of the heat stress dangers of wearing structural PPE at a wildland fire.

##### C. VEHICLE ACCIDENT/EXTRICATION PPE

- Same as structural firefighting PPE
- High-visibility vest when operating on or near a roadway, except when assigned to a hoseline for fire protection.

#### D. TRAFFIC CONTROL PPE

- Department issued high-visibility jacket or
- Department issued high-visibility vest
- Head protection (one of the following):
  - Hard Hat
  - Rescue Helmet
  - Fire Helmet

#### E. EMERGENCY MEDICAL OPERATIONS PPE

- Personnel performing emergency medical care **shall** comply with PCFPD Exposure Control Plan (forthcoming).
- Personnel should select PPE that protects them against spills, splashes or exposure to body fluids. Disposable gloves and eye protection **shall** be worn when personnel could come in contact with patient blood, body fluids, non-intact skin or other infectious materials.

#### F. HAZMAT OPERATIONS PPE

- The IC **shall** determine the appropriate PPE personnel should wear in each of the zones associated with a HazMat incident
- 

#### G. SPECIALIZED-RESCUE OPERATIONS PPE

- Helmets (structural firefighting, wildland, water rescue or technical rescue)
- Primary eye protection (if conditions warrant)
- If operating within 10' of the Poudre or other large body of water, a life jacket must be worn.
- Harnesses and hardware utilized by personnel **shall** conform to applicable requirements of NFPA 1983.

#### OTHER PPE SAFETY MEASURES:

The IC **shall** determine the proper PPE for the types of incidents that may not be listed in this Standard Operating Procedure.

#### EYE AND FACE PROTECTION

- Approved eye and face protection is provided and required to be used by all personnel engaged in operations involving hazards to the eyes and face.
- PCFPD personnel **shall** use primary eye protection (safety glasses or goggles that meet ANZI Z87.1 standards) when there is a potential for injuries, or when operating tools or equipment that could cause injury.
- Secondary eye protection (fire helmet face shield or medical face shield) may be used in conjunction with primary eye protection devices when additional eye and face protection is desired.

#### HEARING PROTECTION

Approved hearing protection is provided by the district, and is required to be used by all personnel engaged in operations involving hazards to the ears and hearing