DISTRICT OFFICE
609-582-8668
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WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, GLOUCESTER COUNTY
NEW JERSEY

Board of Fire Commissioners
P.O. Box 653
Turnersville, NJ 08012-0653

Fire Companies:
Grenloch
Hurffville
Whitman Square

FIRE DEPARTMENT POLICY # 31 – 99

ISSUANCE & USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE GEAR

It is the policy of the Washington Township Board of Fire Commissioners to issue personal protective gear to all personnel performing fire suppression or fire investigation activities to ensure that appropriate protection is provided from the hazards to which said personnel are likely to be exposed. Such equipment shall be provided and/or replaced when deemed no longer serviceable and at no cost to the recipient. For the purposes of this policy, the term "personal protective gear" shall consist of the following items:

- Helmet
- Protective hood
- Bunker coat
- Bunker pants with suspenders
- Boots
- Gloves

In addition, work uniforms shall be provided in accordance with "Fire Department Policy # 18 – 98, regarding Issuance and Use of Fire Fighters' Uniforms," the applicable contents of which are incorporated herein by reference, including any revisions to the original policy which may be adopted by the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Other protective garments and/or equipment may also be provided at the discretion of the Board of Fire Commissioners for specialized tasks, which require enhanced personal protection.

It is intended that this policy comply with the provisions of the New Jersey Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH) Act pertaining to personal protective equipment, so as to maximize the protection of personnel from the potential hazards associated with fire department services. To meet this objective, all new gear procured by the Washington Township Fire District shall comply with the most current edition of the following standards:

- NFPA 1972-1987, Structural Fire Fighters Helmets
- NFPA 1971-1986, Protective Clothing for Structural Fire Fighting
- NFPA 1974-1987, Protective Footwear for Structural Fire Fighting
- NFPA 1973-1988, Gloves for Fire Fighters
- NFPA 1975-1985, Station/Work Uniforms for Fire Fighters

As part of this policy a schedule of personal protective gear specifications shall be developed and maintained, which shall constitute the standard issue gear for use by Washington Township Fire Department personnel. Elements of the gear specifications will be updated or revised from time to time as

technological development results in improved protection. Such updates shall not constitute revisions or amendments to this policy thereby requiring re-adoption. However, each updated version of the schedule shall be signed, indicating its continued status as an official document in accordance with this policy. All new gear purchased by the Fire District shall comply with the standard specifications unless special conditions warrant deviation therefrom. The Board of Fire Commissioners shall make the determination that such special conditions exist.

Personal protective gear shall be used whenever personnel are exposed or potentially exposed to the hazards for which it is provided in accordance with the guidelines described in the Washington Township Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures. Only standard issue gear items issued by the Washington Township Fire Department or approved alternates, are authorized for use by said personnel.

Fire Department personnel, at the cost of the individual, may purchase alternate gear items for use, providing the alternate item has received the written approval of the Board of Fire Commissioners or their designee. Only gear meeting the applicable standards referenced above may be approved as alternate gear by the Board of Fire Commissioners. In addition, alternate gear shall be consistent with current color schemes utilized in the Fire District where applicable. Notation of approved alternate gear items will be incorporated into the schedule of personal protective gear specifications.

Fire Department personnel shall be fully trained in the care, use, inspection, maintenance, and limitations of the protective gear assigned to them and/or permitted for their use. The Fire Department shall provide for the cleaning of protective clothing as needed at no cost to the individuals to which it has been issued.

Personal protective gear issued by the Washington Township Fire Department is intended solely for use while performing tasks on behalf of the Fire Department. The personal use of such gear is prohibited unless prior approval is obtained from the Board of Fire Commissioners, District Chief, or applicable Company Chief.

Upon separation from the Washington Township Fire Department, individual personnel shall be responsible for the return of all personal protective gear issued by the Fire Department. If still serviceable, said gear shall be returned to the Fire Department inventory for re-issuance as needed. Gear determined to be past its useful service life shall be removed from the inventory and disposed of appropriately.

This policy was adopted at a regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners on March 11, 1999.

BY:

Edwin L. Etschman, Chairman

Attest:

Donald C. Brown, Secretary

Distribution:

Commissioners
Grenloch Fire Company
Whitman Square Fire Company
Hurffville Fire Company

Adoption Record:

Original: July 18, 1992
Revised: March 11, 1999

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

Personal Protective Gear Schedule

In accordance with Fire Department Policy #31-99 of the Washington Township Board of Fire Commissioners, the following constitutes the standard schedule of Personal Protective Gear:

Helmet

Standard issue:

- Cairns & Brother Classic 1000 with Kevlar shell.
- 4" Tuffshield or Cairns Goggle eye protection.
- Standard flannel liner.
- Nomex Earlap.
- NFPA approved.

Optional individual purchase:

- Cairns & Brother Houston Leather.
- 4" Tuffshield or Cairns Goggle eye protection.
- NFPA approved liner.
- NFPA approved Earlap.

NOTE: **Bourke flip up lens is prohibited.**

Color Scheme:

- Junior Fire Fighters – Black with blue frontice and blue tetrahedrons.
- Probationary Fire Fighters – Black with red frontice and red/orange tetrahedrons.
- Fire Investigators/Fire Marshals – Red with red frontice and lime/green tetrahedrons
- Fire Fighters – Black with black frontice and lime/green tetrahedrons.
- Lieutenants – Yellow with yellow frontice and lime/green tetrahedrons.
- Captains, Assistant Chief & Deputy Chiefs – White with white frontice and lime/green tetrahedrons.
- Chiefs – White with gold frontice and lime/green tetrahedrons.

Frontice Lettering: WASHINGTON
TWP
10 (10-1, 10-2, or 10-3)
TITLE

NOTE: **Last name of the fire fighter or officer shall appear on the rear brim of the helmet with a minimum of 1" letters in contrasting color.**

Safety Glasses

Standard issue:

- ANSI approved safety glasses.

Gloves

Standard issue:

- NFPA approved all leather with wristlets.
- Leather work glove for rescue work and non-structural fire fighting duty.

Protective Hoods

Standard issue:

- Long PBI.

Turnout Coat

Standard issue:

- 32" Gold PBI 7.5-ounce ripstop outer shell with lime/green reflexite New York trim.
- Fireflite II thermal barrier.
- Stedair 3000 vapor barrier.
- Velcro inner and Hook & D ring outer closure system.
- Right side D ring.
- Secure Flashlite holder.
- Optional left side SCBA mask pocket.
- Optional left side radio pocket.
- PBI/kevlar 4" wristlet.
- Arashield cuffs.
- Lettering on back: WASHINGTON (arched)
  TWP

  NAME OR TITLE

Turnout Pants

Standard issue:

- Gold PBI 7.5 ounce ripstop outer shell with lime/green reflexite 3" trim.
- Fireflite II thermal barrier.
- Stedair 3000 vapor barrier.
- Velcro with Hook & D closure.
- Bellows pockets.
- Heavy-duty suspenders, H style.
- Arashield knee reinforcement.
- Arashield cuffs.

- Optional back pocket.

Optional:
- NFPA integrated Class II harness system

Boots

Standard issue:
- Warrington Pro NFPA approved leather boot.
- NFPA approved rubber bunker boots (alternative to above)

Optional:
- NFPA approved leather boot.

APPROVED: _____ ATTEST: _____

DATE: 4/1/04