CARVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Guidelines

Section 3.02 – Personal Protective Equipment **June 15, 2013 - Amended Feb 2019**

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to establish the standard for Personal Protective Equipment that will be worn by members of the Carver Fire Department.

1.1 SCOPE

The Carver Fire Department will provide each member with the appropriate protective clothing and protective equipment to provide protection from the hazards of the work environment to which the member is or may be exposed. Such protective clothing and protective equipment shall be suitable for the tasks that the member is expected to perform in that environment.

1.2 GENERAL

01. Protective clothing and equipment shall be used in accordance with fire department standard operating procedures whenever the member is exposed or potentially exposed to the hazards for which it is provided.

02. Members are responsible for the care, use, inspection, maintenance and limitations of the protective clothing and protective equipment assigned to them or available for their use.

03. Protective clothing and protective equipment will be used and maintained in accordance with manufacturers' instructions. Specific responsibilities will be assigned for inspection and maintenance.

1.3 STRUCTURAL FIREFIGHTING & RESCUE OPERATIONS

01. All protective coats and protective trousers purchased by the Carver Fire Department shall meet the requirements of the latest NFPA Standard on Protective Clothing for Structural Firefighting. Members may purchase their own structural gear provided it meets the latest NFPA Standard and fit into the departmental color scheme.

02. Our Standard Protective Coat & Protective Trousers color scheme is:

Firefighter -	Tan coat and pants with 3 " NYC lime yellow / silver triple trim
Captain & Lieut. -	Tan coat and pants with 3 " NYC lime yellow / silver triple trim
Chief & Deputy -	Tan coat and pants with 3 " NYC orange / silver triple trim

03. All structural helmets purchased by the Carver Fire Department shall meet the requirements of the latest NFPA Standard on Helmets for Structure Firefighting. Members may purchase their own helmet providing they it meets the latest NFPA Standard when purchased.

04. Nothing shall be affixed to the helmet that does not conform to department specifications. Helmet mounted video cameras are not permitted. The Fire Chief and Deputy Chiefs are allowed to wear helmet video cameras to be used for training and critique purpose.

05. Our Standard Protective helmet color scheme is:

Firefighter -	Black helmet
Lieutenant -	Yellow helmet
Captains / Safety Officer -	Red Helmet
Chief & Deputy -	White helmet

06. Name tag, Accountability numbers and American flag stickers shall be affixed to the rear of all helmets. Exact positioning shall be uniform to all CFD helmets and done by a Chief Officer. A CFD provided EMT sticker will be allowed to the left of the American flag, provided it is approved by a Chief Officer. No other stickers shall be affixed to the helmet unless approved by Chief Officer.

07. Types of Hand Protection for Members of the Department will be at the determination of the Fire Chief and based on the recommendations of current NFPA Standard, if applicable, as well as recommendations from the Departments Health and Safety Officer (HSO). The Fire Chief, or his designee, shall be the only authority to approve Carver Fire Department gloves for use by its members

A. Structural – All Structural gloves shall be supplied and purchased by Carver Fire Department. They shall meet the requirements of the latest NFPA Standard on Gloves for Structural Firefighting

B. Rescue - Extrication-type gloves may be worn by personnel directly involved in technical rescue activities (Motor vehicle extrication and special extrication tasks) in lieu of structural firefighting gloves. They shall not be worn by members involved in/assigned to Fire Suppression operations. Members desiring to purchase Rescue/Extrication gloves must have the gloves approved

by the Fire Chief or his designee prior to use at any Training activity or Fire Incident within the Carver Fire Department.

C. Wildfire – Leather-type gloves shall be supplied by the Carver Fire Department and may be worn by personnel involved in wildfire activities in lieu of structural firefighting gloves

08. All footwear purchased by the Carver Fire Department shall meet the requirements of the latest NFPA Standard on Protective Footwear for Structural Firefighting.

1.4 WILDLAND FIREFIGHTING

01. All protective clothing for wildland firefighting purchased by the Carver Fire Department shall meet either the latest NFPA or Cal-Osha Standard for Wildland Firefighting Clothing. Members may purchase their own wildland firefighting clothing provided it meets the latest NFPA or Cal-Osha Standard for Wildland Firefighting Clothing and meets the departmental color scheme

02. Our Standard Wildland Protective Clothing color scheme is:

Jackets, pants, or coveralls -	Tan/Khaki for all ranks
Helmets -	Black for Firefighters Yellow for Lieutenants Red for Captains /Safety Officer White for Chief Officers

1.5 CARE OF PPE

01. Storage of Equipment

A. All protective gear should be stored in a neat and orderly fashion as to allow for immediate use when called for an emergency.

B. Gear should be dried completely prior to storing to prevent mold, mildew and dry rot.

C. PPE Gear should be stored in CFD supplies Gear bag. Gear bags will help prevent dangerous particulates from escaping to clean areas and help against UV degradation.

D. It is very important not to store gear in an area where it will be in direct contact with sunlight. Ultraviolet rays damage the fibers of nomex material, which will decrease the flame-retardants and strength of the material and ultimately destroy the clothing.

02. Cleaning and Laundry Instructions

A. Helmet outer shells should be cleaned with all-purpose cleaners such as "409" to remove tar, carbon and smoke residue. The inner suspension system shall be cleaned with PPE cleaning detergent. Helmet liner should be thoroughly dried prior to storing.

B. Hoods and gloves should be laundered in in the CFD extractor according to directions posted on machine. Dry hood and gloves the CFD Air cooled dryer.

C. Coats and pants outer shells should be laundered in in the CFD extractor according to directions posted on machine. The inner liner and outer shell should be separated when laundered. Outer shells should be turned inside out and refasten all snaps, hooks and dies and Velcro prior to placing in machine, this helps to prevent damage to fasteners and the washing equipment.

D. Coat and pant inner liners should be laundered in in the CFD extractor according to directions posted on machine. After removing from outer shell, turn liners inside out and place in machine together. If inner liners are not soiled but are wet they can be dried only. Place liners in dryer together along with a fabric softener sheet to provide clean, fresh scent and dry on permanent press cycle.

****** ***Whenever washing protective clothing, do so separately from normal street clothes.*** ******

03. Repairs of Protective Clothing

A. Any rips, burn holes or damage of protective clothing should be reported immediately to that Firefighter's Captain or Lieutenant.

B. Protective clothing issued to you is for your protection. This equipment is expensive but is also of great value in protecting your life. For your own safety, take the time to clean and prepare your equipment

1.6 HEARING PROTECTION

The Carver Fire Department shall strive to identify and reduce potentially harmful sources of noise in the work environment.

1.7 TYPES OF EYE PROTECTION

01. Carver Fire Department issued Helmet Face Shield – Secondary eye/face protection to be used in conjunction with prescription glass, safety eyeglasses, goggles or SCBA mask

02. Carver Fire Department issued Safety Eyeglasses – Prescription or plastic eye glasses

with clear lenses that meet ANSI Z87.1 standards, which the NFPA 7.17.1.1 refers to. Primary eye protection used for protection from ordinary hazards

03. Carver Fire Department issued Safety Goggles – Primary eye protection used for additional protection from flying liquids, debris and used when working with tools producing excessive dust and/or flying particles

04. Carver Fire Department issued SCBA Mask – While wearing SCBA, the face piece is considered primary eye protection

1.8 EXAMPLE OF ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE EYE PROTECTION

01. Operation of Power Saws – The operator and all personnel in the vicinity involved in operating powers saws shall wear a minimum of goggles or safety glasses when an SCBA Mask is not in place

02. Operation of Rescue Equipment – The operator and all personnel in the vicinity of operating the Jaws of Life tools or working at an MVA shall wear a minimum of safety glasses

03. Working with Striking Tools (axes, hammers, battering rams, etc.) – The operator and all personnel in the work area shall wear a minimum of safety glasses

04. Overhaul Activities - During overhaul activities, when SCBA Mask is not in place (pulling ceiling, walls, etc.) a minimum of safety glasses is required

05. While working off the back of a Brushbreaker a minimum of safety glasses should be worn, with goggles strongly preferred

06. The previously listed activities represent only the most common activities which may cause eye or facial injury. Common sense and the proper protective equipment shall be used during any activity which may create a hazardous condition.

1.9 PERSONAL PURCHASE OF EYE PROTECTION

Members desiring to purchase their own eye protection shall be permitted as long as it meets Carver Fire Department Departmental standards and is approved by the Fire Chief

2.0 STRUCTURAL / WILDLAND PPE OLDER THAN 10 YEARS IN AGE

01. PPE older than 10 years of age (dated on garment) shall be considered out of service and not worn for any reason within Fire Department, unless an Emergency Exemption is granted by a Chief Officer. A very small quantity of "2008 Spec" gear is *less* than

10 years old. This gear is considered out of service, and only 2019 gear is to be worn unless an exemption is granted.

02. Emergency Exemption shall only be for a specific timeframe and with the following conditions only:

A. Current NFPA Compliant PPE is being laundered, is out for repair or is damaged

B. Officer/Firefighter granted an Emergency Exemption will be restricted to exterior firefighting operations only, no interior attack or Mutual Aid responses will be allowed.

C. Permission to wear older PPE shall be approved by a Chief Officer prior to donning the PPE, no exceptions.

D. Any PPE older than 10 years of age will no longer be serviced/repaired by the Fire Department.