

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DAVIE COUNTY, NC</b>  <b>FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE</b>  STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES</p>	REVISION DATE  6/4/2018
<p style="text-align: center;">SUB DOCUMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)</b></p>	SAFETY PAGE 1 OF 4
<p style="text-align: right;">DCFM #</p>	200-002

1. **Purpose:** To provide direction to the use and care of the Turn Out Gear.

2. **Scope:** All personnel

3. **Policy:**

3.1 The Davie County Fire Marshal Office (DCFMO) shall provide each member with the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) to provide protection from the hazards of the expected work environment to which the member is or may be exposed. Such PPE shall be suitable for the tasks that the member is expected to perform in that environment. (NFPA 1500)

**3.1.1** Fire safety gear for entering a structure fire shall consist of;

- ONE BUNKER COAT
- ONE PAIR OF BUNKER PANTS
- ONE FIRE HELMET
- ONE PAIR OF STRUCTURAL FIREFIGHTING GLOVES
- ONE PAIR OF BOOTS
- ONE PAIR OF SUSPENDERS
- ONE NOMEX HOOD
- ONE S.C.B.A.
- All turn out shall meet or exceed *NFPA Standard 1971*

**3.1.2** Fire safety gear for Extrication Incidents & While Operating on ANY ROADWAY shall (in lieu of structural FF gear) consist of;

- Traffic Safety Vest (see SOG 200-005)

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- Extrication Coat
- Extrication Pants
- Extrication Helmet
- Extrication Goggles or Protective Eyewear
- Extrication Gloves
- USAR Boots
- Personnel performing Traffic Control Duties may (in lieu of the above gear) wear:
  - ANSI Class 2/3 Jacket or Bunker Coat (May be dispensed with during hot weather)
  - Traffic Safety Vest if not using ANSI Jacket
  - Helmet (Fire, Rescue or Fire Police)

**3.1.3** Our extrication ensemble meets all requirements for wildland firefighting operations and therefore shall be approved for such operations.

**3.1.4** Turnout gear shall not be worn by personnel involved in the water, in a water rescue.

**3.2** Fire Department personnel shall not respond to any calls without their full turnout gear.

**3.3** PPE shall be used whenever the member is exposed or potentially exposed to the hazards for which it is provided.

**3.4** Members shall be fully trained in the care, use, inspection, maintenance and limitations of the PPE assigned to them or available for their use. Members shall mark their name on the inside flap of all issued PPE.

**3.5** PPE shall be used and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. All turnout will be inspected and cleaned in accordance to NFPA 1851. Members shall be responsible for the routine inspection and maintenance of issued clothing and equipment.

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3.6 **Members shall wash issued protective clothing at least once every six months.** When washing use a mild detergent and **NO Chlorine** of any type, and hang to air dry.

3.7 When the gear is damaged, worn out, or does not fit properly, each fire fighter has the responsibility to report this condition to the Officer in charge of PPE, for repair or replacement.

3.8 **Members shall decon after any heavy exposure, including structural firefighting operations.** Lightly soiled turnout gear may be hosed off and scrubbed by hand, and left to air dry in the apparatus bay. Thermal liners may be laundered in a commercial washing machine. Heavily soiled or stained gear, or gear contaminated with possible blood or other body fluids should be professionally cleaned.

3.9 Dirty gear should be bagged in a trash bag.

3.10 Gear contaminated with blood, etc. should be placed in a red infectious disease bag, sealed, and will be sent to a professional cleaning service.

3.11 PPE shall be dried after washing.

3.12 All gear will be stored in the appropriate hanging area and not in direct sunlight.

3.13 If a member chooses to carry their gear in their POV, the gear must be stored out of direct sunlight, preferably in a Gear Bag.

3.14 The Fire Marshal shall be responsible for a yearly inspection of all PPE, and for any maintenance of PPE which is considered beyond routine. The Fire Marshal will maintain an equipment file on each member. The Fire Marshal is responsible for maintaining a surplus of expendable equipment (i.e. gloves, hoods, face shield, goggles, safety glasses, etc.).

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3.15 Fire fighters are permitted to utilize privately owned PPE (Helmets); however, it must meet or exceed NFPA specifications. The Fire Marshal shall keep a current description of DCFMO protective clothing specifications.

3.16 If a member chooses to use their own PPE, the following rules shall apply:

**3.16.1** The outer shell color of the turnout gear shall be natural color.

**3.16.2** Helmet Colors:

3.16.2.1 Black or Red

3.17 The member may choose to place identifying stickers on the helmet. Stickers should be limited to name, rank, department, EMS Certifications, etc. No stickers or nick names shall contain profanity.

3.18 Leather helmet front pieces shall be the approved DCFMO Front Piece.

3.19 Members shall wear emergency medical gloves when providing emergency medical care. Patient care should not be initiated without gloves in place. Rescue workers should consider placing emergency medical gloves under their fire service gloves at auto accidents. (This provides you with an extra level of protection, plus when you remove your leather gloves to perform patient care; your emergency medical gloves are already on!) The situation may require more protection and members may don face & eye protection as well as a medical gown which can be acquired from EMS.

3.20 All new PPE shall meet the requirements of the current edition(s) of the applicable NFPA standards. Existing PPE shall have been in compliance with the edition of the respective NFPA standard that was in effect when the PPE was purchased. The Fire Marshal shall have the authority to determine if a particular piece of existing PPE is capable of providing sufficient protection.