



Burlington Fire Department



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Section: 03 - Safety	
SOG Number: 03.00	Effective Date: July 27, 2020
Subject: Protective Clothing	
By Order of Fire Chief Steven A. Locke	

I. Purpose:

The purpose of this guideline is to ensure that each member of the Department is protected from personal injury using the appropriate level of protective clothing.

II. Scope:

This document applies to all members of the Burlington Fire Department who are issued protective clothing.

III. Definitions:

Full Protective Clothing: Helmet with eye protection, turnout coat, turnout pants, firefighting boots, firefighting gloves, protective hood.

IV. Guidelines:

A). Use

1. Full protective clothing will be worn by firefighting personnel while responding to all fire alarms (optional for drivers, command personnel, etc.)
2. When responding from quarters, all member shall dress accordingly prior to response. Company officers may use their discretion to regulate “suit up” criteria in terms of unusual circumstances, such as, extremely long responses, out of quarters responses, or when the vehicle is moving at the time they are dispatched.

At no time shall employees be permitted to “suit up” without being secured by a seatbelt while riding in a moving vehicle.

3. It is the intent of this SOG that no member shall cause a delay in any firefighting operation by not being fully prepared to engage in firefighting activities in a safe manner.
4. While operating at EMS incidents, all members shall wear whatever protective clothing is required to afford complete personal protection.
5. While operating forcible entry equipment and tools, full protective clothing shall be worn.
6. Full protective clothing shall be worn at all times when operating on the fireground or other incidents requiring full protective clothing for personal protection, whether an actual or potential hazard exists.
7. The use of turnout coats during overhaul operations will be at the discretion of command.
8. The faceshield shall be utilized at any time the need for eye protection seems apparent, such as during overhaul and when operating hand or power tools.
9. Gloves shall be worn when engaged in firefighting, overhauling, training with hose and ladders, when using hand or power tools, and any other situation where injuries to the hand are likely to occur.

B). Additional Miscellaneous Guidance

1. In specific situations for which no guideline has been provided, the proper protective clothing to protect against all foreseeable hazards shall be worn.
2. Rings and similar jewelry items may cause serious injuries in many situations. Discretion shall be exercised while wearing these items while on duty.

V. Responsibility:

It is the responsibility of all members to read, understand and follow this Standard Operating Guideline

Revision History			
Revision Date	Section	Summary	Principal Author
		Reformatted version of SOG 03.1.2. Original release date of 1993.	Unknown